

2025 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Southwestern Bartholomew Water Corporation
PWS ID #5203008 Phone: 812-342-4421

What's the Quality of My Water? The Southwestern Bartholomew Water Corporation is pleased to share this water quality report with you. It describes to you, the customer, the quality of your drinking water. This report covers January 1 through December 31, 2024. Southwestern Bartholomew's drinking water supply met the strict regulations of both the State of Indiana and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which requires all water suppliers to prepare reports like this every year.

In 2024 our water department distributed 250,176,000 gallons of water to our customers. Our water source is pretreated purchased water from Columbus City Utilities, which relies on groundwater pumped from two well fields. Well field number one has six wells. Well field number two has eight wells.

Columbus City Utilities treats your water using disinfectant to remove or reduce harmful contaminants that may come from the source water. Southwestern Bartholomew treats the water with softeners before distribution.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Kimberly "Darlene" Keller or Doug Prather by calling 812-342-4421. For information from Columbus City Utilities, please call 812-372-8861. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. Board Meetings are generally held the 2nd Monday of each month at the water office at 4:30 P.M. Meetings are open to all Corporation members.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wants you to know:

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants - such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants - such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and Herbicides - which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical Contaminants – including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants – which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Lead and Copper

Definitions:

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Lead Service Line Inventory - SWBWC Website: swbwc.com/https://pws-ptd.120wateraudit.com/swbwc-IN

SOUTHWESTERN BARTHOLOMEW WATER CORPORATION – 2024 REGULATED CONTAMINANTS DETECTED

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2023	1.3	1.3	1.1	1	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2023	15	15	1.7	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2024	1.25 (RAA)	1.0 -1.25	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2024	12.1 (LRAA)	7.69 - 12.1	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2024	19.0 (LRAA)	16.1- 19.0	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

The Sodium content for Southwestern Bartholomew is higher because we soften the water. Sodium content in the water ranges 125 – 150 mg/l.

There is no state or federal MCL for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials that are concerned about sodium intake due to dietary precautions.

If you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician about the level of sodium in the water. The state requires sampling of sodium less than once a year because the concentration does not change frequently.

Violations - There are no required health effects violation notices.

WATER QUALITY TABLE								
Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Typical Sources
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
Chlorine	2024	1.3 (RAA)	1.2 - 1.3	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2024	7.7 (LRAA)	<2.0 - 10.0	N/A	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2024	22.5 (LRAA)	5.3 - 26.0	N/A	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium	5/25/2023	0.0639	0.0454 - 0.0639	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide, Total	5/25/2023	0.0081	<0.0050 - 0.0081	0.2	0.2	ppm	N	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Fluoride	5/25/2023	0.754	0.537 - 0.754	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2024	2.34	<0.500 - 2.34	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Radiological Contaminants								
Combined Radium (226 + 228)	3/7/2023	0.81	<0.63 - 0.81	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (Excl. Radon & U)	3/7/2023	4.98	<2.51 - 4.98	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-226	3/7/2023	0.55	<0.24 - 0.55	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-228	3/7/2023	0.81	<0.63 - 0.81	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	90th Percentile	# Sites over AL	MCLG	Action Level	Units	Violation	Typical Sources
Copper	2024	0.55	1	1.3	1.3	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead	2024	2.08	0	15	15	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Unregulated Contaminant	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Units	Violation	Typical Sources		
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	7/16/2024	0.0063	0.0031 - 0.0063	ppb	N	Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a large group of manmade chemicals that are resistant to heat, water, and oil. For decades, PFAS has been used in many industrial applications and consumer products such as carpeting, waterproof clothing, upholstery, food paper wrappings, personal care products, fire-fighting foams, and metal plating. PFAS can get into drinking water when products or wastes containing them are disposed of, used or spilled onto the ground or into lakes and rivers.		
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	7/16/2024	0.0061	0.0059 - 0.0061	ppb	N			
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	7/16/2024	0.0042	<0.0038 - 0.0042	ppb	N			
Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)	7/16/2024	0.0103	0.0067 - 0.0103	ppb	N			
Our system collected samples under the U.S. EPA Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) for 29 PFAS compounds and Lithium. This monitoring is being conducted so the EPA can receive occurrence data for these compounds to determine what additional compounds may need to be regulated in drinking water. We collected samples in July 2024 and detected the compounds show in this table. These compounds are not regulated at this time. If you would like to view our complete results, view our website columbusutilities.org or contact our office at 812-372-8861.								
Additional Parameters	Collection Date	Annual Average	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Additional Testing
Arsenic	2024	<0.0010	<0.0010 - <0.0010	0	0.010	ppm	N	Quality control and process sampling
Conductivity	2024	818	737 - 979	N/A	N/A	umhos/cm	N	Quality control and process sampling
Hardness as CaCO ₃	2024	333	316 - 344	N/A	N/A	ppm	N	Quality control and process sampling
Hardness as CaCO ₃	2024	19.4	18.5 - 20.1	N/A	N/A	grains/gallon	N	Quality control and process sampling
Iron	2024	0.02	0.00 - 0.10	N/A	0.30	ppm	N	Secondary Standard
Copper	2024	0.0047	0.0029 - 0.0063	1.3	1.3	ppm	N	Quality control and process sampling
Lead	2024	<0.0010	<0.0010 - <0.0010	0.015	0.015	ppm	N	Quality control and process sampling
Manganese	2024	0.03	0.00 - 0.05	N/A	0.05	ppm	N	Secondary Standard
Nickel	2024	<0.0020	<0.0020 - <0.0020	N/A	N/A	ppm	N	Quality control and process sampling
pH	2024	7.3	7.1 - 7.6	N/A	6.5 - 8.5	pH Unit	N	Secondary Standard
Total Dissolved Solids	2024	404	360 - 484	N/A	500	ppm	N	Secondary Standard