



DEPARTMENT of AGRICULTURE
and NATURAL RESOURCES

JOE FOSS BUILDING
523 E CAPITOL AVE
PIERRE SD 57501-3182
danr.sd.gov

March 18, 2024

Ms. Stacia Tallon
City of Hill City
PO Box 395
Hill City, SD 57745-0395
SENT VIA EMAIL ONLY TO finance@hillcitysd.org AND jasher@hillcitysd.org

RE: Annual Drinking Water Report for City of Hill City (EPA ID 0159)

Dear Ms. Tallon:

It is time again for all community public water systems to issue the annual *Drinking Water Report* to their customers. The intent of this requirement is to ensure that consumers using your system know about the quality of their drinking water. Each community public water system must make the drinking water report available to its individual customers by **July 1, 2024** for water quality data collected during or prior to calendar year 2023.

The Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources (DANR) has generated a drinking water report for your system. **Check the information in the attached report for accuracy and make changes as required. Distribute the report to your customers, and send a copy to DANR with the certification form as soon as possible but no later than July 1, 2024.** If you determine the attached report is correct you can use DANR's report to distribute to your customers. Be sure to indicate that you are using DANR's report by marking the check box on the certification form. ***By marking the check box, your system will not be required to submit a copy of the report to DANR.***

A Microsoft Word version of your 2023 Drinking Water Report has been sent to the finance officer and the utility manager. You can use this electronic link for electronic distribution of your 2023 Drinking Water Report: <http://danr.sd.gov/OfficeofWater/DrinkingWater/docs/WaterSystemMap/DWQPDFs/0159ccr.pdf> . If you have questions concerning the content or distribution of the drinking water report, please contact me at (605)773-6576.

Sincerely,

Sammi Blood
Drinking Water Program

cy: Justin Asher, Utility Manager

Instructions for Report Delivery and Recordkeeping

The City of Hill City public water system must distribute the report and the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources must receive a copy of your report no later than July 1, 2024.

Your community water system qualifies for a waiver. Rather than distribute a copy of the report to each of your customers, you can take these steps:

Step 1 - Publish the Drinking Water Report annually in one or more local newspapers serving the areas in which the your customers are located,

Step 2 - Inform your customers that the report will not be mailed, either in the newspapers in which the reports are published or by other means approved by DANR, and

Step 3 - Make copies of the Drinking Water Report available upon request.

A good faith effort must be made to reach all of your consumers. EPA has determined that electronic delivery of the CCR is appropriate under certain circumstances. Information on the electronic delivery requirements is available online at <https://danr.sd.gov/OfficeOfWater/DrinkingWater/AnnualDWRReport.aspx> Your water system must make the report available upon request and keep it on file for three years. The Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources must receive a copy of your report no later than July 1, 2024. **Complete the following form and return it to us after you distribute the drinking water report to your customers.**

2023 Annual Drinking Water Report Certification of Distribution City of Hill City

I certify that the information contained in the drinking water report for the City of Hill City is true and correct based upon my best information, knowledge, or belief and that the report has been distributed as required and a good faith effort has been made to reach all consumers. The City of Hill City public water system has returned a copy of the drinking water report to the Department of Agriculture and Natural Resources and will make the report available upon request for three years.

Signature of Authorized Representative

Date

I have checked the accuracy of the Drinking Water Report sent by DANR and have determined that it is complete and accurate. I am using DANR's report to distribute to my customers, therefore I am not required to return a copy of the report to DANR.

CITY OF HILL CITY



2023

Drinking Water Report

Contact us by calling (605)574-2300 or write us at PO Box 395 Hill City SD
57745-0395

City of Hill City

DRINKING WATER REPORT

WATER QUALITY

Last year, the City of Hill City monitored your drinking water for possible contaminants. This report is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Water Source

We serve more than 1,032 customers an average of 118,000 gallons of water per day. Our water is groundwater that we produce from local wells. The state has performed an assessment of our source water and they have determined that the relative susceptibility rating for the Hill City public water supply system is medium.

For more information about your water and information on opportunities to participate in public meetings, call (605)574-2300 and ask for Justin Asher, Public Work Director.

Additional Information

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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. 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 can be obtained by calling the Environment Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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. The City of Hill City public water supply system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but 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>.

Detected Contaminants

The attached table lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2023 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2023. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

2023 Table of Detected Regulated Contaminants For Hill City (EPA ID 0159)

Terms and abbreviations used in this table:

- * Maximum Contaminant Level Goal(MCLG): the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- * Maximum Contaminant Level(MCL): the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- * Action Level(AL): the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. For Lead and Copper, 90% of the samples must be below the AL.
- * Treatment Technique(TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. For turbidity, 95% of samples must be less than 0.3 NTU
- * Running Annual Average(RAA): Compliance is calculated using the running annual average of samples from designated monitoring locations.

Units:

- *MFL: million fibers per liter
- *pCi/l: picocuries per liter(a measure of radioactivity)
- *ppt: parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
- *mrem/year: millirems per year(a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
- *ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter(mg/l)
- *ppq: parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
- *NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- *ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter(ug/l)
- *pspm: positive samples per month

Substance	90% Level	Test Sites > Action Level	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (AL)	Ideal Goal	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Copper	1.4	2	09/22/23	AL=1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	1	0	09/22/23	AL=15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range	Date Tested	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Units	Major Source of Contaminant
Alpha emitters	4	ND - 4	11/05/20	15	0	pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic	9	10 - 9	11/01/23	10	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	0.079	0.073 - 0.079	09/24/20	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Carbon tetrachloride	0.555	ND - 0.555	09/24/20	5	0	ppb	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities.
Fluoride	0.95	0.43 - 0.95	01/04/23	4	<4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	0.691		02/21/23	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Total trihalomethanes (RAA)	22.2		09/05/23	80	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.

Please direct questions regarding this information to Mr Justin Asher with the Hill City public water system at (605)574-2300.