



TOWN OF
WELLINGTON

ANNUAL **WATER** Quality Report 2023

Data From 2022

Public Water System ID: CO0135838

Esta es información importante.
Si no la pueden leer, necesitan
que alguien se la traduzca.



Mayor Calar Chaussee breaking ground for the Water Treatment Plant Expansion in July, 2022.



A Message From Public Works

Deputy Director Meagan Smith

We are pleased to present the 2022 Drinking Water Quality Report results to you. Producing safe water that meets the needs of our community today while preparing for changing regulations and future demand is the priority of our team.

In 2022 over 6,400 rigorous water quality tests were completed by an independent lab that meets state and federal approvals to ensure the quality and safety of the water treated in Wellington. We are proud to report that all water quality testing meets or exceeds Safe Water Drinking Act regulations and requirements, continuing the safe drinking water standard in the Town of Wellington.

As a utility, 2022 brought changes in staffing, operation, and facilities as we continue the Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion projects. Water quality is essential to the well-being and health of our community and therefore is highly regulated by both state and federal agencies.

As a utility, we failed to meet necessary reporting requirements related to our backflow prevention program. Backflow testing was completed; however, documentation of work completed was unavailable during the Sanitary Survey. The lack of available data prevented us from proving and reporting backflow prevention testing had been completed. Additionally, we failed to send the required notification to the State that homeowners were notified of all lead and copper testing results. Finally, one of three chlorine monitors at the water treatment facility malfunctioned resulting in missed testing. The issue was quickly identified, repaired and reported to the State. These violations are noted in the Water Quality Report. We are grateful for our regulatory partners who we have worked with to remedy reporting mistakes and increase staff knowledge around proper reporting to ensure future success.

Regulations require water providers to make the annual drinking water report available to all customers. Utility bill inserts are included in bills sent to all customers or attached to electronic bills to announce the report's availability. Please take the time to read about your water. Transparency will remain a critical pillar of our utility; if you have questions or would like to know more, I encourage you to contact the Town.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Meagan Smith".

Meagan Smith - Public Works Deputy Director

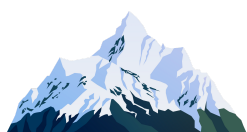


WHERE YOUR DRINKING WATER COMES FROM

The Town of Wellington has two primary water sources including surface water and groundwater.

Surface Water

Wellington's largest water supply begins its journey as snow in the Rocky Mountains and flows to the main and north fork of the Poudre River where it is diverted and delivered through more than 23 miles of pipes and canals to reach Reservoir #3.



It takes 10 to 12 inches of Colorado snow to produce 1 acre foot of water.

Source Water List

- WELL NO. 1 (Groundwater-Well)
- WELL NO. 2 (Groundwater-Well)
- WELL NO. 3 (Groundwater-Well)
- NORTH Poudre IRRIGATION COMPANY CANAL 2 (Surface Water-Intake)
- NORTH Poudre RESERVOIR 3 (Surface Water-Intake)

Source Water Assessment

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has not provided a Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) for the Town of Wellington.

Groundwater

A portion of the well system currently used as the source of roughly a quarter of our drinking water is the original well system used to supply water to the Town of Wellington in its founding. These wells also provide non-potable irrigation water for Town parks and local schools.

Wellington is unique with roughly 50% of our community able to access non-potable water (water not treated for consumption) for irrigation. Even with a robust non-potable system, summer months bring more than a 50% increase in potable water demand (treated drinking water) for irrigation.



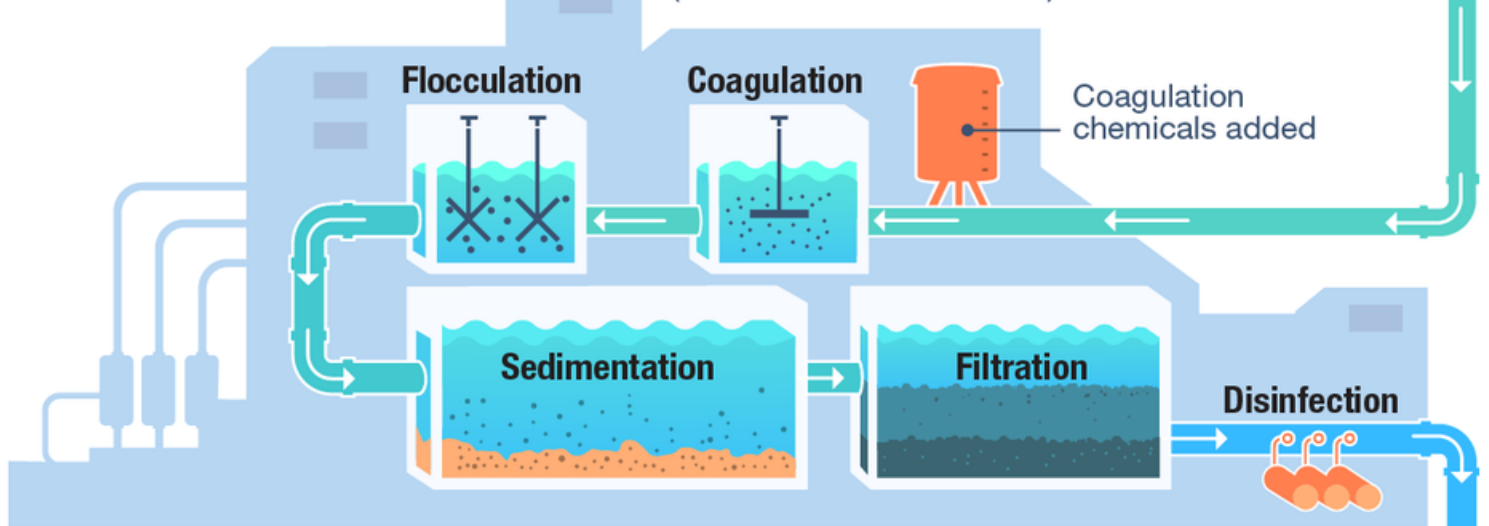
Water Treatment Steps

Water Source



Treatment Plant

(Makes water safe to drink)



Community

Utility delivers water to the community



TREATMENT FACILITIES

The Town of Wellington began expansion projects on the Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities in 2022 to increase capacity and improve treatment processes.



The expansion projects have combined budgets of more than 80 million dollars; with expected completion in 2024. Both existing and future demand will be served by these expansions.

WATER TREATMENT FACILITIES	2022 Annual Production (Million Gallons)	FILTRATION TYPE	YEAR BUILT
Primary	315	Conventional	1983
Nanofiltration	53	Nanofiltratration	2005

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and microbiological contaminants call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or visit epa.gov/safewater and cdc.gov/parasites/crypto.

How the EPA sets limits

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) studies pollutants and their impacts to the environment and people to determine the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). Every water utility, including Wellington, is required by law to not exceed the MCL.

The Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) is the level at which there are no known effects on a person's health with an additional margin for safety. The MCL is set as close as possible to the goal. Sometimes the MCL is higher than the MCLG. This is because of one of three possible reasons:

- (1) The technology needed to measure such small quantities of the MCLG is not available;
- (2) The technology needed to remove the pollutant or reduce it to the MCLG is not available yet; or
- (3) The cost of treating the pollutant to the MCLG outweighs the potential benefit of a lowered standard.

Substances that could be in source water

In order to ensure that drinking water is safe, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prescribes regulations that limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same level of protection for public health.

The water source for tap and bottled water include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals including potentially radioactive material, and it can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbiological contaminants: Viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants: Salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides: May come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.

Radioactive contaminants: Can be naturally occurring or a result of petroleum production and mining activities.

Organic chemical contaminants: Synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also may come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

DID YOU KNOW?

All 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 the water poses a health risk.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **800-426-4791** or visit epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

Understanding Dilution Measurements



Parts Per Million (ppm)

1 drop in a hot tub
is equal to 1 ppm



Parts Per Billion (ppb)

1 drop in an Olympic-size swimming pool
is equal to 1 ppb



Parts Per Trillion (ppt)

1 drop in a 6-acre lake
is equal to 1 ppt



Look out for our most vulnerable neighbors;

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and microbiological contaminants call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

2022 WATER SAMPLE TEST RESULTS

Wellington's drinking water is monitored for over one hundred different substances on a strict sampling schedule, with more than 6,400 water samples are taken annually across the treatment and distribution system. The water we provide to residents and businesses must meet specific state and federal health standards.

The included tables show all detections found in the period of January 1 to December 31, 2022 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado 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, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one-year-old. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the next section of this report.

Terms & Abbreviations

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.

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.

Treatment Technique (TT)

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Health-Based

A violation of either an MCL or TT.

Non-Health-Based

A violation that is not related to an MCL or TT.

Action Level (AL)

The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)

The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)

The level of a drinking water disinfectant, below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Violation

Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)

Measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)

Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.

Highest Level Allowed

Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values are the 90th Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA).

Parts per million = Milligrams per liter (ppm = mg/L)

One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion = Micrograms per liter (ppb = ug/L)

One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Not Applicable (N/A)

Does not apply or not available.

90th percentile (P90)

The Amount We Found levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper test results.

Not Detected (ND)

Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

Gross Alpha

Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon 222, and uranium

Formal Enforcement Actions

Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.

Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)

PPB

Average

29.01

Range low - High | 0 to 46.9

Sample Size | 16

MCL | 60

✓ No Violation

Typical Sources: Product of drinking water disinfection

Chlorite

PPB

Average

0.34

Range low - High | 0.08 to 0.58

Sample Size | 12

MCL | 1.0

✓ No Violation

MCLG | .8

Typical Sources: Product of drinking water disinfection

Gross Alpha

pCi/L

Average

0.37

Range low - High | 0 to 0.92

Sample Size | 3

MCL | 15

✓ No Violation

MCLG | 0

Typical Sources: Erosion of natural deposits

Barium

PPM

Average

0.07

Range low - High | 0.07 to 0.07

Sample Size | 1

MCL | 2

✓ No Violation

MCLG | 2

Typical Sources: Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits

Trihalomethanes (TTHM)

PPB

Average

59.56

Range low - High | 10.1 to 96.4

Sample Size | 16

MCL | 80

✓ No Violation

Typical Sources: Product of drinking water disinfection

Total Organic Carbon Ratio

Ratio

Average

1.26

Range low - High | 0.95 to 1.89

Sample Size | 12

TT Minimum Ratio | 1.00

✓ No Violation

Typical Sources: Naturally present in the environment

Combined Uranium

PPB

Average

1.33

Range low - High | 0 to 4

Sample Size | 3

MCL | 30

✓ No Violation

MCLG | 0

Typical Sources: Erosion of natural deposits

Chromium

PPB

Average

2

Range low - High | 2 to 2

Sample Size | 1

MCL | 100

✓ No Violation

MCLG | 100

Typical Sources: Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits

Disinfectants Sampled in the Distribution System is Chlorine with 100% of samples meeting the TT requirement of at least 0.2 ppm. 10 samples were collected with no TT violations. Typical sources: water additive to control microbes.

Turbidity: Highest single measurement 0.63 NTU with a maximum TT requirement of 1. Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting TT requirement of under 0.3 NTU 99% (must be 95% or greater). Source: Soil runoff. Tested in Sept. No violation.

Fluoride

PPM

Average

0.27

Range low - High | 0.19 to 0.35

Sample Size | 2

MCL | 4

MCLG | 4



No Violation

Typical Sources: Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Nitrate

PPM

Average

2.24

Range low - High | 0 to 4.9

Sample Size | 2

MCL | 10

MCLG | 10



No Violation

Typical Sources: Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Selenium

PPB

Average

1

Range low - High | 1 to 1

Sample Size | 1

MCL | 50

MCLG | 50



No Violation

Typical Sources: Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines

Sodium

PPM

Average

15

Range low - High | 15-15

Sample Size | 1



No Violation

Typical Sources: Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Copper

PPM

90th

Percentile

0.39

90th Percentile AL | 1.3

Sample Sites Above AL | 0

Time Period 1/25/22 to 6/30/22

Sample Size | 61



No Violation

Typical Sources: Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Copper

PPM

90th

Percentile

0.31

90th Percentile AL | 1.3

Sample Sites Above AL | 0

Time Period 10/13/22 to 12/16/22

Sample Size 61



No Violation

Typical Sources: Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Lead

PPB

90th

Percentile

1.5

90th Percentile AL | 15

Sample Sites Above AL | 0

Time Period 1/25/22 to 6/30/22

Sample Size | 61



No Violation

Typical Sources: Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Lead

PPB

90th

Percentile

1.7

90th Percentile AL | 15

Sample Sites Above AL | 1

Time Period 10/13/22 to 12/16/22

Sample Size 61



No Violation

Typical Sources: Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Copper and lead were measured at residential taps throughout the town in 2022. The Action Level (AL) for lead and copper applies to the 90th percentile of all samples collected (i.e. 90% of all sample results must be below the AL for each contaminant). One sample exceeded the AL for lead, the homeowner was notified. The AL was not exceeded for copper at any location.

Health-Based Violation

Documentation of completed backflow reports and surveys were inaccessible at the time the Sanitary Survey was conducted. The lack of available data prevented the utility from proving and reporting backflow prevention testing had been completed. Residents were notified of the violation in Sep. 2022 and Mar. 2023 in utility bills, however a public notice violation was received for failing to send a second notification by Dec. 18, 2022. All required documentation requested by the State to satisfy the violation has been submitted for review and approval by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE).

Regulatory Notification Message

The Town has an inadequate backflow prevention and cross-connection control program and violated Cross Connection Rule M611, M614 and M615. Uncontrolled cross connections can lead to inadvertent contamination of the drinking water. This is due to one or more of the following: We have permitted an uncontrolled cross connection, AND/OR we have installed or permitted an uncontrolled cross connection, AND/OR we failed to comply with the requirements for surveying our system for cross connections, AND/OR we failed to complete the testing requirements for backflow prevention devices or methods, AND/OR we failed to notify the State Health Dept. of a backflow contamination event.

Non-Health-Based Violation

The Town of Wellington Water Treatment Facility is required to collect six daily chlorine residual samples from the drinking water being pumped from the plant into the distribution system. The system tests chlorine at multiple points to ensure redundancy and compliance with drinking water health standards. On Feb. 7, 2022, one of three monitors experienced a malfunction requiring repair, completed Feb. 9, 2022. The equipment failure resulted in eight of the required 18 samples being collected and analyzed over the three day period; therefore, we cannot guarantee the water quality during this time. CDPHE was notified by staff and the violation was closed on Feb. 28, 2022.

As a utility, we failed to meet necessary reporting requirements related to our backflow prevention program Cross Connection Rule M612 and M613 including failure to send a second notification to the public by the regulatory deadline. Backflow testing was completed; however, improperly documented due to file mismanagement during staff turnover. Residents were notified of the violation in September 2022 and March 2023 in utility bills. All documentation related to this violation requested by CDPHE have been filed with the State and are awaiting review and approval.

The Town of Wellington provides biannual lead and copper sampling to help occupants and homeowners address water quality at 61 State approved locations, that contain lead or copper in their interior plumbing systems. Homeowners were notified of results in accordance with CDPHE requirements. The Town failed to send a copy of the notification received by residents to the State by the required reporting deadline. The violation was received Oct. 1 and closed on Oct. 28 of 2022.



What does this mean? What should I do?

These monitoring errors are a violation, but did not impact public health so customers do not need to seek alternative water supplies or take further actions. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours. You may contact the Town Utilities Water Treatment staff at 8225 Third Street, Wellington CO or (970) 568-3381 for additional information regarding this public notice.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in public places or by distributing copies.

Regulatory Notification Message

These violations do not usually mean there was a water quality problem. If there had been, you would have been notified immediately. We missed collecting a sample (water quality is unknown), reported the sample result after the due date, and did not complete a report/notice by the required date. These actions resulted in a drinking water monitoring violation, which requires this public notification as directed by CDPHE.

Save Water, Save Money, and Get a Yard Remodel!

The Town offers a number of programs to help residents reduce their outdoor water usage. The Town will pay up to \$1,000 towards the cost of removing lawn and replacing it with Colorado-friendly plants. The Town also sells discounted water wise garden kits and provides FREE irrigation system consultations.



Garden In A Box

Garden In A Box kits are professionally designed for Colorado yards, and can help you save thousands of gallons of water each year compared to a traditional grass lawn. Garden In A Box kits are beautiful, affordable, and easy to plant.



Slow the Flow Irrigation Consultation

Take the guesswork out of watering your lawn with a sprinkler consultation from Resource Central. Participants save an average of \$175 off total summertime water bills. Register now to schedule your appointment.



Waterwise Webinars

Please join us for over 20 free webinars led by Colorado low-water landscape experts. Some of our favorite upcoming seminars are focused on helping beginners get started, such as "New to Colorado Landscaping," and "Planting for Pollinators."



Visit www.resourcecentral.org to learn more about these programs to get your yard ready to reduce water usage.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT LEAD

If present, 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 and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing.

You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Town of Wellington. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Please Help Us Keep Our Water Clean

The Town has separate wastewater and stormwater systems. Separate systems have two separate pipes. One pipe carries stormwater (rain) from storm drains to local streams, rivers and lakes, such as Coal Creek and Boxelder Creek with little or no treatment. A different pipe carries wastewater to the water reclamation facility. Therefore, it's critical to not dispose of anything into the storm sewer.



Pick up pet
poop



Fix oil leaks
(don't pour used
oil down drains!)



Use fertilizers
sparingly



Compost
leaves



Use commercial
car washes

HUG Hardship Utility Grant

The Town of Wellington offers one time assistance to residents who have experienced a hardship. Learn more and complete the application online.

Other organizations offer utility payment assistance, with links to these organizations provided on our website.

wellingtoncolorado.gov/155/Water-Sewer

Please call (970) 568-3381 if you have any questions.



THIS IS YOUR WATER SYSTEM: GET INVOLVED!

Board of Trustee Meetings

Residents are invited to provide comments about drinking water quality, budgets, and plans during Board of Trustee meetings. Meetings are held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. in the Leeper Center 3800 Wilson Ave. Or you can watch meetings live on Zoom or replays through the Town Youtube.

Please refer to the Town's website at wellingtoncolorado.gov/129/Agendas-Minutes for additional information.

Social Media



www.facebook.com/WellingtonCo1905



[townofwellington--wellington--co/](https://www.nextdoor.com/townofwellington--wellington--co/)



<https://twitter.com/wellingtoncolo>



www.instagram.com/wellingtongov/



www.wellingtoncolorado.gov



**SCAN
ME!**



The Town of Wellington Utilities maintains the Town's water mains. If you suspect problems in the water system such as main breaks, service line leaks, frozen meters or pressure issues, notify us at **(970) 690-0634** 24 hours a day, seven days a week.



TOWN OF
WELLINGTON

www.wellingtoncolorado.gov