How are we doing?
Minnesotans enjoy one of the best drinking water protection systems in the nation, but we must stay vigilant to prevent contamination and address emerging threats.

Public Water Systems (PWSs) with Health-Based Violations
Fewer Minnesota public water systems have health-based Safe Drinking Water Act violations than public water systems nationally.

Community Public Water Systems with Violations
Minnesota’s community public water systems overall have high compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act and do much better than the national average. However, challenges remain, especially with smaller community public water systems.

Drinking Water Protection in Minnesota
Safe, reliable, and affordable drinking water is essential for the health of all Minnesotans and our economy.

Drinking water protection involves countless activities, including protecting source water, educating consumers, training and certifying water operators, inspecting and assisting public water systems, testing water, addressing threats, and funding projects.

The Minnesota Department of Health’s Drinking Water Protection program is responsible for protecting drinking water at almost 7,000 public water systems across the state. Together with our partners, our work ensures residents and visitors have safe drinking water where they live (community water systems) and where they learn, work, and play (noncommunity water systems).

Every day, we work to fulfill our vision: safe and sufficient drinking water is available for everyone, everywhere in Minnesota. Learn more at www.health.mn.gov/water

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS WITH HEALTH-BASED VIOLATIONS
Public water systems include both community and noncommunity systems.

COMMUNITY PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS WITH ALL VIOLATIONS
This includes health-based, monitoring and reporting, public notification and education, and treatment technique violations. Very small systems are often nonmunicipal systems, such as manufactured home parks. Small, medium, and large systems are mostly municipal systems.

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM ~6,730 SYSTEMS
Provides water to at least 25 people (or 15 service connections) in places where they live, work, gather, and play

NONCOMMUNITY ~5,760 SYSTEMS
Provides water to places where people work, gather, and play

TRANSIENT ~5,270 SYSTEMS
Serves at least 25 people for at least 60 days of the year, but not the same people each day (e.g. restaurants, resorts, campgrounds)

NONTRANSIENT ~490 SYSTEMS
Serves at least 25 of the same people for at least six months a year (e.g. schools, offices, factories)

NONMUNICIPAL ~970 SYSTEMS
Manufactured home parks, apartment buildings, senior living facilities, prisons, and others with their own source of water

MUNICIPAL ~730 SYSTEMS
Cities, towns, townships, territories 25 year-round residents, or serves 15 service connections used by year-round residents

Municipal

Drinking Water Protection in Minnesota
Safe, reliable, and affordable drinking water is essential for the health of all Minnesotans and our economy.

Drinking water protection involves countless activities, including protecting source water, educating consumers, training and certifying water operators, inspecting and assisting public water systems, testing water, addressing threats, and funding projects.

The Minnesota Department of Health’s Drinking Water Protection program is responsible for protecting drinking water at almost 7,000 public water systems across the state. Together with our partners, our work ensures residents and visitors have safe drinking water where they live (community water systems) and where they learn, work, and play (noncommunity water systems).

Every day, we work to fulfill our vision: safe and sufficient drinking water is available for everyone, everywhere in Minnesota. Learn more at www.health.mn.gov/water

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM ~6,730 SYSTEMS
Provides water to at least 25 people (or 15 service connections) in places where they live, work, gather, and play

NONCOMMUNITY ~5,760 SYSTEMS
Provides water to places where people work, gather, and play

TRANSIENT ~5,270 SYSTEMS
Serves at least 25 people for at least 60 days of the year, but not the same people each day (e.g. restaurants, resorts, campgrounds)

NONTRANSIENT ~490 SYSTEMS
Serves at least 25 of the same people for at least six months a year (e.g. schools, offices, factories)

NONMUNICIPAL ~970 SYSTEMS
Manufactured home parks, apartment buildings, senior living facilities, prisons, and others with their own source of water

MUNICIPAL ~730 SYSTEMS
Cities, towns, townships, territories 25 year-round residents, or serves 15 service connections used by year-round residents

Municipal

Drinking Water Protection in Minnesota
Safe, reliable, and affordable drinking water is essential for the health of all Minnesotans and our economy.

Drinking water protection involves countless activities, including protecting source water, educating consumers, training and certifying water operators, inspecting and assisting public water systems, testing water, addressing threats, and funding projects.

The Minnesota Department of Health’s Drinking Water Protection program is responsible for protecting drinking water at almost 7,000 public water systems across the state. Together with our partners, our work ensures residents and visitors have safe drinking water where they live (community water systems) and where they learn, work, and play (noncommunity water systems).

Every day, we work to fulfill our vision: safe and sufficient drinking water is available for everyone, everywhere in Minnesota. Learn more at www.health.mn.gov/water

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM ~6,730 SYSTEMS
Provides water to at least 25 people (or 15 service connections) in places where they live, work, gather, and play

NONCOMMUNITY ~5,760 SYSTEMS
Provides water to places where people work, gather, and play

TRANSIENT ~5,270 SYSTEMS
Serves at least 25 people for at least 60 days of the year, but not the same people each day (e.g. restaurants, resorts, campgrounds)

NONTRANSIENT ~490 SYSTEMS
Serves at least 25 of the same people for at least six months a year (e.g. schools, offices, factories)

NONMUNICIPAL ~970 SYSTEMS
Manufactured home parks, apartment buildings, senior living facilities, prisons, and others with their own source of water

MUNICIPAL ~730 SYSTEMS
Cities, towns, townships, territories 25 year-round residents, or serves 15 service connections used by year-round residents

Municipal
Surface Water Source

**THREATS:**
- Man-made: Examples include industrial chemicals, nitrate, pesticides, personal care products
- Natural: Examples include arsenic, bacteria, radium

**PROTECTION:**
- Protection of drinking water sources
- Inspections & investigations

Groundwater Source

Some sources of groundwater are safe as-is and can go straight to peoples homes. It’s up to us to protect these sources!

Groundwater Source

**THREATS:**
- Lead & copper
- Bacteria
- Disinfection byproducts
- Aging infrastructure (e.g. water main breaks)

**PROTECTION:**
- Monitoring & testing
- Customer action (e.g. letting the water run)

**TREATMENT MAY INCLUDE:**
- Removing particles
- Disinfecting to protect from bacteria & viruses
- Adding fluoride to protect teeth

NOTE: Private well owners should test their own water. Learn more at Water Quality/Well Testing [health.mn.gov/communities/environment/water/wells/waterquality/](http://health.mn.gov/communities/environment/water/wells/waterquality/)