Brown County Water Utility, Inc.
2024 Drinking Water Quality Report
Issued May 2025

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water sources are our own well fields, where six wells draw from the Indian Creek aquifer. In addition, we purchase water from three sources- Citizens Water, which is treated well water from their Harding Street south well field; from Jackson County Water Utility; and from the Town of Nashville.

We're pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

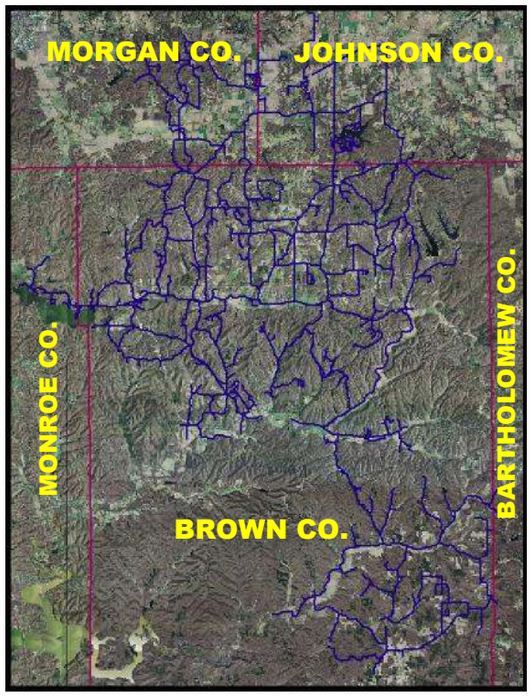
Our Watershed Protection Efforts

Our water system is working with the community to increase awareness of better waste disposal practices to further protect the sources of our drinking water. We are also working with other agencies and with local watershed groups to educate the community on ways to keep our water safe. To help protect our water supply wells, Brown County Water Utility, Inc. updated the Phase II Wellhead Protection Plan in 2023. The Wellhead Protection Plan focuses on public awareness and education and spill prevention and reporting. For more information or to join the local planning team and assist with the development and implementation of the Wellhead Protection Plan, contact Christy Schmidt, Office Manager, at 812-988-6611.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact our office at 812-988-6611. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you'd like to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 8 a.m. at the office of the Utility, 5130 North State Road 135, Beanblossom, Indiana.

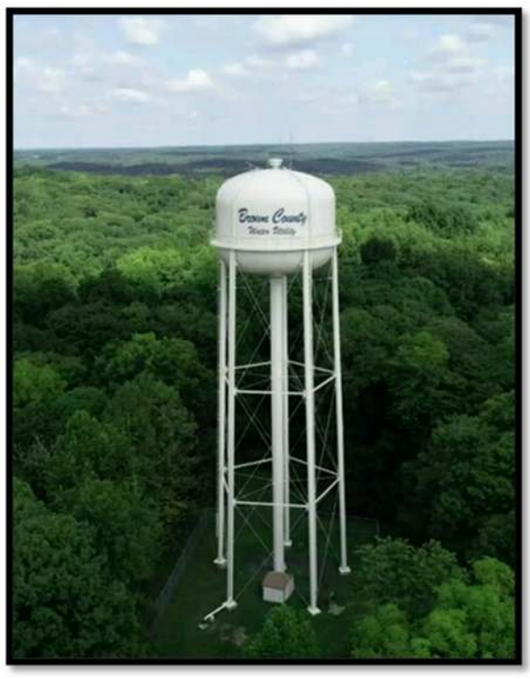
Brown County Water Utility, Inc. (PSWID IN5207001) routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table on the following page shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2024. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

Brown County Water Service Area



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Data listed are from 2024 or the most recent testing in accordance with regulations. No samples were above Allowable Limits. Not listed are the numerous other contaminants for which we tested that were not detected. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels. In addition to producing our own water, Brown County Water Utility purchases water from Citizens Water and Jackson County Water Authority, Inc. (JCWA). The following information is provided as required relative to those supplies.



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 land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Mission Statement:

The Mission of Brown County Water Utility is to improve the quality of life for its rural service area by supplying its members with quality water at a reasonable cost.

Brown County Water Utility, Inc. 2024 Treated Drinking Water Quality Data

Substance	MCL	Highest Result & (Range Detected)	Ideal Goals MCLG	Compli-ance Achieved?	Likely source of Contamination
Lead & Copper					
Lead (2020-2023)[1]	15 ppb = AL/ 0 Sites Over AL	2.61 ppb (Range 0.21-25.7)	0	Yes	Corrosion of Customer Plumbing
Copper (2020-2023)[1]	1.3 ppm = AL/ 0 Sites Over AL	0.209 ppm (Range 0.00323—0.533	0	Yes	Corrosion of Customer Plumbing
Microbiological, Disinfection Byproducts, Regulated Contaminants, and Radiological Contaminants					
Free Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL =4	Highest RAA= 1 (Range = 0.1-1.8)	MRDLG = 4	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) (2) 5379 Helmsburg School Rd	60 ppb	Highest LRAA=23 (Range = 16.4-27.4)	0	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) (2) 6700 SR 135 S	60 ppb	Highest LRAA=24 (Range = 20-27.4)	0	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) (2) 6758 Bear Creek Rd	60 ppb	Highest LRAA=20 (Range = 18.2-20.6)	0	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) (2) 8174 Spearsville Rd	60 ppb	Highest LRAA= 21 (Range = 14.3-23.8)	0	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb) (2 5379 Helmsburg School Rd	80 ppb	Highest LRAA=38 (Range = 21.1-31.0)	0	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb) (2) 6700 SR 135 S	80 ppb	Highest LRAA=36 (Range = 24.1-39.4)	0	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb) (2 6758 Bear Creek Rd	80 ppb	Highest LRAA=29 (Range = 20.5-29.1)	0	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb) (2) 8174 Spearsville Rd	80 ppb	Highest LRAA=33 (Range = 22.7-27.4)	0	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Arsenic (ppb) (2023)	10 ppb	1.97	0	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm) (2023)	2 ppm	0.0583	2 ppm	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm) (2023)	4 ppm	1.64 (0.04-1.64) , ave. 0.52	4 ppm	Yes	Natural deposits and treatment additive
Radioactive Contaminants (3)					
Combined Radium 226/228 (2019)	5 pCi/L	1.5 (Range = 1.5 - 1.5)	0	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha Excluding Radon and Uranium (2019)	15 pCi/L	0.47 (Range = 0.47 - 0.47)	0	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity (2019)	0	1.4 (Range = 1.4—1.4)	0	Yes	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. Note: The gross beta particle activity MCL is 4 millirems/year annual dose equivalent to the total body or any internal organ. 50 pCi/L is used as a screening level.
Radium-226	5 pCi/L	0.05 (Range = 0.05—0.05)	0	Yes	
Radium-228	5 pCi/L	1.4 (Range = 1.4—1.4)	0	Yes	

Jackson County Water Authority, Inc.

Constituent	Compli-ance	Highest Level Detected	Range Low-High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Antimony, Total (ppb) (2023)	Y	2.48	2.48	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Arsenic (ppb) (2023)	Y	0.33	0.33	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	Y	0.043	0.043	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb) (2023)	Y	0.65	0.65	100	100	Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb) (2023)	Y	9	9	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories
Nickel (mg/L) (2023)	Y	0.0053	0.0053	0.1	0.1	
Nitrate (ppm) (2023)	Y	0.11	0.11	10	10	Fertilizer; septic tank leachate
Nitrate-Nitrite (ppm)	Y	0.36	0.36	10	10	Fertilizer; septic tank leachate
Selenium (ppb) (2023)	Y	0.98	0.98	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb) [2] (2023-2024)	Y	10	3.81-14.8	0	60	By-product of chlorination treatment
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb) [2] (2023-2024)	Y	5	2.8-7.02	0	60	By-product of chlorination treatment
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb) [2] (2023-2024)	Y	9	4.4-14.4	0	60	By-product of chlorination treatment
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb) [2] (2022-2023)	Y	9	2.5-14.2	0	60	By-product of chlorination treatment
TTHM [Total trihalome-thanes] (ppb)[2] (2022-2023)	Y	25	9.76-36.7	0	80	By-product of chlorination treatment
TTHM [Total trihalome-thanes] (ppb)[2] (2022-2023)	Y	14	9.93-19.0	0	80	By-product of chlorination treatment
TTHM [Total trihalome-thanes] (ppb) [2] (2022-2023)	Y	24	16.7-28.4	0	80	By-product of chlorination treatment
TTHM [Total trihalome-thanes] (ppb) [2] (2022-2023)	Y	22	12.4-32.7	0	80	By-product of chlorination treatment

Citizens Water—Morgan 2024 Treated Drinking Water Quality Data

Substances Detected (units)	MCLG (Goal)	MCL (Limit) / AL	Compli-ance Achieved?	Highest Result & (Range Detected)	Possible Source Where did it come from?
Haloacetic acids [HAA5] (ppb) (2) (2023-2024)	0	60	YES	1 (1.9)	By-product of chlorination treatment
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb) (2) (2023-2024)	0	80	YES	10.1 (10.1)	By-product of chlorination treatment

Lead in Drinking Water:

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.

(1) 90th Percentile: 90% of your water utility levels were less than the value shown.
(2) LRAA—Locational Running Annual Average was calculated from data from the second quarter of 2023 through the end of 2024.
(3) Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit forms of radiation known as photons and beta radiation. Some people who drink water containing beta particle and photon radioactivity in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

In these tables you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) **-** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) **-** The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 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.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) **-** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.
There is convincing evidence that the addition of disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) **-** one part per million corresponds to one ounce in 7,350 gallons.
Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l) **-** one part per billion corresponds to one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons.
Action Level (AL) **-** the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Non-Detects (ND) **-** laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
BDL- Below Detection Level
TT-Treatment Technique: A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.
Avg.— Average—Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.
LRAA- Locational Running Annual Average
mrem– millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).
picocuries per liter (pCi/L)- picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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.

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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) Testing:

Our system collected samples under the U.S. EPA Unregulated Contaminants 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 June 2023, September 2023, and July 2024 and detected the compounds shown in this table at the JCWA connection. These compounds are not regulated at this time. If you would like to view our results, contact our office at 812-988-6611.

You can find this report and other helpful information on our website:
www.browncountywater.com
Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguién que lo entiende bien.