



2022 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT
“THE WATER WE DRINK”
LITTLE SHELL WATER SYSTEM
PWSID# 083890016

The purpose of this report is to inform you of the quality of the drinking water that the Little Shell water system provides.

The Little Shell Water Distribution System is located just south of the community of New Town on the northern edge of the Fort Berthold Reservation. The Little Shell water system is classified as a consecutive system which purchases water from the city of New Town. The New Town water system consists of a treatment plant which utilizes groundwater for its water source. The New Town treatment plant adds chlorine and fluoride to its treated water prior to being pumped to a 600,000 gallon elevated storage reservoir which provides pressure and storage for the Little Shell distribution system. In 2022 our water department distributed approximately 55.6 million gallons of treated water to our customers. This report shows the water quality provided by the Little Shell Water system and what that water quality means to you the consumer. The EPA Region 8 Office in Denver, Colorado reviews all of our testing data to ensure that we are providing safe drinking water to our users, and we are complying with EPA regulations.

If you have any questions concerning this report, our water system, or water quality concerns, please contact Joseph Silveria, Director of Fort Berthold Rural Water (FBRW) at (701) 627-8185. If you are aware of individuals who need help with the appropriate language translation, please call the Tribal Business Office at (701) 627-8100.

The Little Shell Water System would appreciate community segment employees and other large volume water customers post copies of this Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) in visible locations, or distribute them to tenants, residents, patients, students, or employees on the water system.

The Little Shell Water System routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal laws. We monitor monthly for coliform bacteria, all samples have been satisfactory, no detects. As authorized and approved by EPA, we have reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data (e.g. for organic contaminants), though representative, may be more than one year old. A specific listing of the contaminants can be obtained from the Fort Berthold Rural Water Office.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency 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.

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 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.

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

2022 Water Quality Tests Results

This section of the report contains a table with terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Action Level (AL) – the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

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.

NA – Not applicable.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) – ppm is a measure of the concentration of a contaminant in water, one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (µg/l) - ppb is a measure of the concentration of a contaminant in water, one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Public Water System Identification Number (PWSID) – a unique identifier number assigned by the EPA.

Running Annual Average (RAA) – running annual arithmetic average computed monthly or quarterly.

Treatment Technique (TT) – A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or manmade. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The table below includes only the contaminants that were detected by the laboratory. The laboratory did not detect most of the contaminants that EPA requires us to monitor.

LITTLE SHELL - 083890016 2022 SAMPLE RESULTS							
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Date	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead and Copper							
Copper	N	(90 th percentile) 0.088 All sites sampled all below A.L.	9/10/2021	ppm	1.3	A.L.= 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	N	(90 th percentile) 1.59 All sites sampled all below A.L.	9/10/2021	ppb	0	A.L.=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts/Organics							
Chlorine	N	Range (2 – 2.2) 2.2	Monthly 2022	ppm	MRDL G =4	MRDL =4	Water additive used to control microbes.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) DBP	N	5.02	2022	ppb	NA	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) DBP	N	1	2022	ppb	NA	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

NEW TOWN WATER TREATMENT PLANT-083890029 (formerly ND3100744) 2022 SAMPLE RESULTS							
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Date	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper	N	90 th Percentile 0.0296 All sites below A.L.	2022	ppm	1.3	A.L.=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	N	90 th Percentile 0 All sites below A.L.	2022	ppb	0	A.L.=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic	N	2.54	2022	ppb	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	N	0.0024	2022	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Flouride	N	0.328	2021	ppm	4	4	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Chromium	N	1.92	2021	ppb	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Disinfectant							
Chlorine	N	2.4	2022	ppm	MRDLG =4	MRDL =4	Water additive used to control microbes.
Disinfection Byproducts							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) DBP	N	4	2022	ppb	NA	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) DBP	N	8	2022	ppb	NA	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Radioactive Contaminants							
Uranium (ug/L)	N	.465	2021	ug/L	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	N	.166	2021	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium Combined (226/228) (pCi/L)	N	1.69	2021	pCi/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

EPA requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Those contaminants listed in the tables above are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water. The City of New Town had no violations for calendar year 2022.

More Information About Certain Contaminants

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 Little Shell Water 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 drinking 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>.

Some people who drink trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

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 level arsenic, which is a mineral known cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

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

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health affect.

We at the Little Shell Water System work on a daily basis to provide top quality water to every tap on our system. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.