



Ann Arbor Charter Township Utilities Department

2025 Drinking Water Quality Report

Summary of Your Water from January 1 – December 31, 2025

Quality from Treatment to Tap



Consistently improving our service takes effort, and the Ann Arbor Charter Township Utilities Department remains committed to that goal year after year. Our team draws on its experience while continuing to look for ways to enhance performance and better serve the community. The result is a water system you can rely on for safe, dependable, and great-tasting water.

This report offers a snapshot of the drinking water quality we provided in 2025. Inside, you'll find information about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State of Michigan.

Clean, reliable water begins with a healthy source, and for our community, that source is the Huron River. This vital natural resource supports daily life in ways that are easy to overlook, from the water we drink to the environment we share. As stewards of this resource, we are proud to work alongside the Huron River Watershed Council to help protect and preserve it for generations to come. Through this partnership, we are committed to sustaining a safe and dependable water supply both now and in the future.

Protecting water quality remains at the heart of everything we do. While we appreciate recognition for great-tasting water, our primary focus is ensuring the highest standards of safety and reliability for every customer we serve. In partnership with the City of Ann Arbor, our skilled water professionals perform more than 175,000 water quality tests each year—meeting and often surpassing all state and federal drinking water requirements.

Our efforts extend beyond testing alone. We continuously invest in maintaining and improving our water system through proactive measures such as leak detection, regular operation of key valves, meter upgrades to enhance efficiency, and cross-connection inspections designed to safeguard against contamination.

We also take pride in going beyond what is required by participating in voluntary improvement initiatives and setting even more rigorous internal goals for water quality. These efforts support public health, strengthen our infrastructure, and contribute to the overall quality of life in Ann Arbor Charter Township.

Thank you for taking the time to review this Drinking Water Quality Report. It is our privilege to serve you, and we remain dedicated to providing safe, clean, and dependable water every day.

Sincerely,

Rick Judkins
Utilities Department Director



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Where Does Our Tap Water Come From?

Ann Arbor Charter Township receives its water supply from the City of Ann Arbor. The City of Ann Arbor's source water is comprised of both surface and ground water sources. About 85% of the water supply comes from the Huron River with the remaining 15% provided by multiple wells. The water from both the sources is blended at the water treatment plant. Since the City of Ann Arbor uses a surface water supply, the Huron River, U.S. EPA and Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy Quality (EGLE) regulations require it to be treated, filtered, and disinfected to ensure that any harmful substances are removed. When the treatment is complete in the City of Ann Arbor, the water is pumped to Ann Arbor Charter Township, where we pump the water to homes, schools and businesses in Ann Arbor Charter Township and a portion of Superior Charter Township.



Do I Need to Take Any Special Precautions?

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 systems 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.

U.S. EPA/Center for Disease Control 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)**



Protecting Our Drinking Water Source Through the Bluebelt Program

In 2019, the Greenbelt created a new focus area called the **Bluebelt**. The Bluebelt is dedicated specifically to protecting the quality of Ann Arbor's drinking water. The Bluebelt permanently protects land in the Huron River watershed, upstream from where the City draws its drinking water. The Bluebelt has been recognized as Michigan's first "water fund". This means it invests in protecting land upstream to benefit the people downstream who rely on that water. The Bluebelt focuses on preserving farmland and natural areas near rivers, streams, and areas where water soaks into the ground. Protecting this land helps reduce polluted runoff, allows rainwater to filter naturally into the soil, and can reduce flooding. Land is protected either through conservation easements (which keep land in private ownership but limit development) or by becoming a nature preserve. To develop the Bluebelt program, City staff worked closely with other land preservation agencies, such as Ann Arbor Charter Township, the Huron River Watershed Council, and Ann Arbor Water. Together, they used their knowledge of the local water system to identify the best ways to protect drinking water. Supporting the Bluebelt is also part of Ann Arbor Water's Surface Water Intake Protection Plan.

PUBLIC NOTICE

TO ANN ARBOR CHARTER TOWNSHIP PROPERTY OWNERS OR OCCUPANTS: If you experience an overflow or backup of the sewage disposal system or storm water system, you must file a written claim with Ann Arbor Charter Township within 45 days after the overflow or backup was discovered. Notice must be mailed to the Utilities Department Director at 3792 Pontiac Trail, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48105, (734) 663-3418. Failure to provide the required notice will prevent recovery of damages. Contact Ann Arbor Charter Township immediately upon discovery of an overflow or backup to obtain a claim form. While you do not need to use the Township's form to file a written claim, it should include your name and address, the address of the affected property, the dates of the overflow or backup, the date the backup or overflow was discovered, and a brief description of the overflow or backup.



HOW DO WE KEEP YOUR DRINKING WATER SAFE?

Ann Arbor is invested in providing multiple lines of defense against contamination. Ann Arbor maintains an active source water protection program for the Huron River and their wells. After the water arrives at the water treatment plant, to protect against microbial contamination they use ozone, UV light, and monochloramine. To remove inorganic contaminants, particles, and organic material they use a softening process. To remove more organic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, particles, and microorganisms they use a filtration process with granular activated carbon. They also monitor water quality, before and after treatment, to ensure our treatment processes are working. These treatment steps prove to be reliable year after year because of the exceptional people who operate the equipment, design the treatment processes, and maintain the distribution system 24/7.

BEFORE TREATMENT, WHERE DOES THE WATER COME FROM?

Typical sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells (for both tap and bottled water). Ann Arbor's source water comes from both surface sources (Huron River) and groundwater 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 or substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, U.S. EPA prescribes regulations that limit the levels of certain contaminants in the water provided by public water systems. The FDA regulations establish limits for contamination in bottled water which 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 these contaminants in water does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791** or visiting www.epa.gov/safewater.

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.

Lead:

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and home plumbing. Ann Arbor Township Utilities Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for at least 5 minutes to flush water from your home plumbing and service line. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Ann Arbor Township Utilities Department at 734-663-8292 for available resources. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Cryptosporidium:

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. To address the occurrence of *Cryptosporidium* in the Huron River, the city added UV disinfection to the water treatment process. UV disinfection is the best available technology to inactivate *Cryptosporidium*. Although filtration removes *Cryptosporidium*, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100% removal. City monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water, but not in the finished water. Current test methods do not allow the City to determine if the detected organisms in our source water are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of *Cryptosporidium* may cause cryptosporidiosis, nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. Immunocompromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing severe illness. Immunocompromised people are encouraged to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to prevent infection. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

1,4-Dioxane:

For the latest information, including the recent Superfund designation, please visit and sign up for updates on Ann Arbor's dedicated 1,4-Dioxane website (www.a2gov.org/14dioxane). Gelman Sciences (now Pall Corp., a division of Danaher Corp.) polluted groundwater in parts of Washtenaw County, including parts of the city as well as Ann Arbor and Scio Townships, when it improperly disposed of industrial solvents containing 1,4-dioxane between 1966 and 1986. That pollution has since spread through the surrounding groundwater. The City of Ann Arbor has been monitoring its water sources and the plume for more than 30 years to ensure the long-term safety of the drinking water. Analytical results for the city's source and drinking water can be found at www.a2gov.org/DrinkingWater. While cleanup of the site has been managed by the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) since the discovery of the contamination in 1985, local officials and stakeholders have advocated that the site be considered for listing on the Superfund National Priorities List (NPL) to bring more resources to bear on site monitoring and remediation. In March 2026, the Gelman site was added to the Superfund National Priorities List by the EPA. This designation directs additional federal resources and oversight towards addressing the long-standing 1,4-dioxane contamination. Further studies will ensue to determine the nature and extent of the contamination and help to identify potential treatment options. In the meantime, Gelman continues to operate their treatment system and monitor their network of over 250 groundwater wells with oversight from EGLE.

Service Line Inventory Status

Year	# Lead Service Lines	Unknown Material Service Lines	Total Service Lines
2025	0	0	444

DEFINITIONS:

AL-Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements a water system must follow.

CaCO₃: Calcium carbonate

GPG-Grains per Gallon: A unit of water hardness defined as 1 grain (64.8 milligrams) of calcium carbonate dissolved in one gallon of water.

MCL-Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.

MCLG-Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.

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

MRDLG-Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal: 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.

n/a-not applicable: When listed under the range column, n/a indicates that only a single sample was analyzed for the year.

ND-Not detected: The analyte was not detectable at the testing limit.

NTU-Nephelometric Turbidity Units: A measure of cloudiness of water.

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter.

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter.

ppt: parts per trillion or micrograms per liter.

TT-Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

µmhos/cm-Microohms per centimeter: A measure of electrical conductivity.

Ann Arbor Charter Township, in coordination with the City of Ann Arbor, ensures excellent water quality through regular monitoring for contaminants, federal and state standards, and conducting additional tests. This report covers all detected regulated drinking water parameters for 2025. Contaminants' presence does not always mean a health risk. The State of Michigan permits less frequent monitoring for some contaminants due to expected concentration stability. The data reflects water quality, though some may be over a year old if otherwise specified.

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS DETECTED

Parameter	Highest Level Detected	Results Range	Highest Level Allowed (EPA Limit MCL, TT, or MRDL)	Ideal Goal (EPA Goal MCLG or MRDLG)	Violation (Yes/No)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Disinfectant Residuals, and Disinfection Byproduct Precursors						
Bromate (ppb)	4.0 ¹	ND – 8.6	10	0	No	By-product of ozone disinfection
Chloramines (ppm) ²	2.5 ¹	0.9 – 3.4	MRDL: 4	MRDLG: 4	No	Disinfectant added at water plant
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5, ppb) ^{2,3}	10 ³	2.4 – 10	60	n/a	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	60.43% Removed ⁴	49.3% - 71.43% removed	TT: 25% minimum removal	n/a	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM, ppb) ^{2,3}	8.5 ³	2.5 – 8.5	80	n/a	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
¹ Running Annual Average ² Measured in the Distribution System ³ Highest Locational Running Annual Average ⁴ Average percent removal						
Radiochemical Contaminants						
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	3.75 ± 2.21 ¹	n/a	15	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 & 228 (pCi/L)	2.0 ± 0.85 ²	n/a	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
¹ Gross Alpha analyzed in 2023 ² Radium 226 and 228 in 2020						
Inorganic Contaminants						
Arsenic (ppb)	3.9	n/a	10	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production waste
Barium (ppb)	88	n/a	2000	2000	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge of metal refineries
Fluoride (ppm)	0.82	ND – 0.82	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	1.1	ND – 1.1	10	1	No	Run-off from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks & sewage; erosion of natural deposit

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS DETECTED

Parameter	Highest Level Detected	Results Range	Allowed (EPA Limit, TT)	(EPA Goal MCLG)	Violation (Yes/No)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Microbiological Contaminants						
Turbidity (NTU)	0.2	100% of samples ≤0.3 ¹	TT: 1 and 95% of samples ≤0.3	n/a	No	Naturally present in the environment
¹ lowest monthly percentage of samples						
2025 Lead and Copper Results from Customer Faucets						
Parameter	Customer Taps 90 th Percentile	Customer Taps Range	Action Level ¹	MCLG	Violation (Yes/No)	Typical Source of Contamination
Lead (ppb)	0	0 - 0	12	0	No	Lead service lines, corrosion of household plumbing including fittings and fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppb)	0.0	0.0 – 0.0	1,300	1,300	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

¹ Lead and Cooper are regulated by Action Levels. If 90th percentile at customer tap exceeds action level, water system must take additional action.

2025 SPECIAL MONITORING

Detected Contaminants	Your Water Results		Likely Source of Contamination
	Average Level Detected	Range	
1,4-Dioxane	ND	ND	Groundwater contamination from manufacturing process and landfills
N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA) ¹	3.1 ppb	2.4 – 4.4 ppb	By-product of disinfection
Perchlorate	0.26 ppb	n/a	Nitrate fertilizer runoff; contamination from industrial manufacturing process
Sodium	71 ppm	59 – 96 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA), Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS), Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid (PFHxS), Hexafluoropropylene Oxide Dimer Acid (HFPO-DA), Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA), Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid (PFBS), Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA) ²	ND	ND	Firefighting foam; discharge and waste from industrial facilities; discharge from electroplating facilities; stain-resistant treatments
Perfluoropentanoic Acid (PFPeA) ³	ND ppt	ND – 3 ppt	
Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA) ³	3 ppt	ND – 4 ppt	
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (PFBS) ³	ND ppt	ND – 3 ppt	

¹ Measured in the Distribution System. Analyzed in 2024.

² PFAs samples analyzed for regulatory compliance by the EGLE approved method. See www.a2gov.org/PFAS for more data.

³ Additional PFAS monitoring beyond EGLE’s regulatory compliance samples, using methods that capture additional compounds.

OTHER WATER QUALITY PARAMETERS OF INTEREST

Parameter	Your Water Results	
	Average Level Detected	Range
Alkalinity, total as CaCO ₃	53.75 ppm	30 - 90 ppm
Aluminum	ND ¹	n/a
Ammonia as N	ND	ND–0.14 ppm
Calcium	25.875 ppm	21 – 30 ppm
Chloride	130 ppm	110 – 150 ppm
Chromium (total)	ND	n/a
Conductivity (units μmhos/cm)	636	522 – 808
Hardness (CaCO ₃)	126 ppm	74 – 180 ppm
Hardness (CaCO ₃)	7.4 gpg	4.3 – 10.5 gpg
Iron	ND	n/a
Lead (at Water Treatment Plant tap)	ND	n/a

¹ Analyzed in 2023

Parameter	Your Water Results	
	Average Level Detected	Range
Magnesium	13 ppm	7 – 21 ppm
Manganese	ND	ND – 0.12 ppm
Mercury	ND	n/a
Non-Carbonate Hardness	72 ppm	32 – 109 ppm
pH	9.3 S.U.	8.8 – 9.5 S.U.
Phosphorus, total	0.29 ppm	0.19 - 1.43 ppm
Potassium	3.3 ppm ¹	n/a
Sulfate	46.625 ppm	35 – 58 ppm
Temperature	15.3 °C	6.1 – 25.7 °C
Total Solids	351 ppm	276 – 406 ppm
Zinc	ND	n/a
Nitrite in distribution	ND	ND – 0.44 ppm



Stay Informed and Provide Input



The USEPA requires water utilities departments to provide certain information within this report. That information is generic and may or may not apply to the drinking water in Ann Arbor Charter Township. It is very important to us that this report is clear, easy to understand and provides information that our customers find useful. Therefore, your input is appreciated. If you have any comments or ideas, we will welcome them. You may contact us at (734) 663-3418 or email utilities@aatwp.org

PFAS

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), are a group of chemicals that have been classified by the EPA as an emerging contaminant. PFAS have been around since the 1950s, but we did not know much about their effects until the early 2000s when scientists began releasing data on PFAS health impacts and their persistence in the environment. For decades, they have been used in many industrial applications and consumer products such as carpeting, waterproof clothing, upholstery, food paper wrappings, fire-fighting foams, and metal plating. They are still widely used today. PFAS have been found at low levels both in the environment and in blood samples of the general U.S. population. PFAS are persistent, which means they do not break down in the environment. They also bioaccumulate, meaning the amount builds up over time in the blood and organs.

Currently, granular activated carbon (GAC) filtration is the best available technology for removing PFAS in drinking water. Use of GAC filtration has allowed us to supply you with water with PFAS concentrations significantly below all Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) adopted by the State of Michigan in 2020. On April 10, 2024, the US EPA finalized drinking water regulations for PFAs. We continue to meet all PFAS regulations in our finished drinking water. Ann Arbor continues to monitor both regulated PFAS compounds and unregulated PFAS compounds in source water and drinking water and remains committed to providing safe drinking water that is better quality than regulatory guidelines require. Samples collected by the Township are analyzed by an independent lab each month, with data available for review. Ann Arbor also continues to lobby at the state and federal level to hold polluters accountable and stop PFAS at its source. Measures like these better protect our source and help keep our water affordable. Additional information and PFAS results can be found online at www.a2gov.org/PFAS.

Cross Connection Control Program

This year Ann Arbor Charter Township Utilities Department will start inspecting residences for Cross Connections. Included in this process the Township will have a licensed plumber come to each residence to test irrigation system backflow devices.

What is a Cross Connection? A cross connection is any connection between drinking water and a non-drinking water source such as irrigation systems, swimming pools, and fire sprinkler systems.

What is Backflow? Backflow is the reverse flow of water into the drinking water system. It can happen due to pressure changes in plumbing systems. Backflow prevention devices are required to protect drinking water. For more information, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy maintains a cross connection control website.

What are property owner responsibilities for backflow prevention? Property owners must:

- Install approved backflow prevention devices when required
- Have devices tested by a licensed plumber
- Maintain proper certification

Inspection frequency depends on the potential hazards level at the property. If you receive a certification notice, please respond as soon as possible. Submit certification and inspection reports to Utilities@aatwp.org

Get Involved

The Utilities Director regularly attends the scheduled Board of Trustees meetings where the water system is occasionally discussed. The public is welcome and encouraged to attend to learn more about their water system or to discuss any concerns they may have.

The Ann Arbor Charter Township Board of Trustees meets on the third Monday of each month. The meetings are open to the public, and unless announced otherwise, are at 7 PM in the Ann Arbor Charter Township Hall located at 3792 Pontiac Trail or via Zoom video conferencing. Contact clerk@aatwp.org for more information.

Automatic Utility Bill Payment Program

Ann Arbor Charter Township is offering a convenient, new option to pay your sewer and/or water bills. Should you choose this option, no more writing checks for your quarterly utility payments!

If signed up, you will get your statement as before. Under this option, we debit the balance owed from your savings or checking account on the due date. If the due date falls on a weekend or holiday, your payment will be debited on the next business day. This is a routine banking process, and most people consider it safer than sending checks.

If interested in applying for this service, please e-mail treasurer@aatwp.org to receive an application form.

Additional Information and Contacts

To receive additional copies of this report or if you have any questions about this report or would like to know anything further about your water and/or water utilities, please feel free to call us: Rick Judkins, Utilities Director, 734-663-3418, utilities@aatwp.org

In the event of an emergency, such as water main breaks, emergency water turn-offs and sanitary or storm sewer back-ups, please call:

DURING NORMAL BUSINESS HOURS: (734) 663-3418

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY: (734) 663-0995