

0214



Randall Water is Coming to Mitchell

An agreement has been made between the Randall Community Water District (RCWD) and the City of Mitchell to supply a secondary water source to the city.

Currently the City of Mitchell is guaranteed up to 2.6 million gallons per day from B-Y Water. The City of Mitchell will be allowed to purchase up to an additional 5 million gallons per day from RCWD.

The new water distribution line will be constructed to deliver water to the new Water Distribution Plant south of Mitchell.

Total cost to the City of Mitchell is estimated to be \$69 million. The project is slated to begin in 2025 and completed in 2027.

Stormwater Management

Stormwater management is an important component of maintaining a safe drinking water supply. As an area develops, land that once allowed rain to soak into the ground is covered with impervious surfaces such as pavement and roofs. Water running over these surfaces warms up, picks up pollutants, and reaches streams quickly causing thermal and chemical pollution as well as erosion and sedimentation.

Please be aware our storm drains guide water directly into our freshwater. Therefore, we must all make efforts to keep pollutants out of our storm drains.

Pollutants washed into streams, ponds, and lakes can quickly infiltrate underground aquifers—that's why managing stormwater effectively helps keep our drinking water free from pollutants.

Our Role in Drinking Water Safety

The Mitchell Water Distribution Plant uses a multiple barrier approach to ensure delivery of high quality water. A series of checks and balances protect the supply from the source to the faucet. This holistic approach is considered the best practice within the water utility profession to ensure public health protection.

You can help protect Mitchell's water supply by disposing of household wastes properly. Remember, what you put down the drain and on the ground eventually makes its way into the lake or underground aquifers.

Lawn Watering Techniques

- Water early in the morning, it is the best time to water for all plants. Avoid watering during the afternoon, which is the hottest period of the day and when evaporation is the greatest.
- Water only when your lawn needs it. If you step on the grass and it springs back, it doesn't need watering. An established lawn needs only one inch of water per week.
- Deep-soak your lawn. When you do water, do it long enough for moisture to soak to the roots where it will be most beneficial. A light sprinkling can evaporate quickly and tends to encourage shallow root systems.
- Position your sprinklers so the water lands on the lawn or garden, not on paved areas.
- Plant drought-resistant trees and plants. Add mulch around them to slow evaporation of moisture and discourage weed growth.

Water Treatment: The Key to Great Water

The City of Mitchell uses a surface water source for the community's supply. Surface water sources can provide more water volume than localized groundwater wells, and surface water is a renewable resource when compared to groundwater. Surface water quality, however, is variable. It is highly dependent on weather and other environmental conditions. For this reason, more rigorous water treatment processes are required for surface water sources.

The chemical and physical processes used at the B-Y Water Plant converts a source water with variable characteristics into consistently safe, soft, and good-tasting drinking water.

Softer water means cleaner clothes and less soap use.

Water from the Missouri River is hard, and the water treatment process centers around softening the water. B-Y water hardness ranges from 6.5 to 10.5 grains per gallon. Some residual hardness in the finished water is beneficial as this prevents the water from becoming too corrosive.

After softening, the water is filtered, disinfected, and fluoridated before being pumped into the distribution system. All chemicals used in the water treatment process are closely monitored so that safe, precise amounts are always used.



American Water Works Association

The City of Mitchell is a member of the American Water Works Association, a scientific and educational society dedicated to the improvement of drinking water quality and supply.



Drinking Water Report 2024



Last year, the City of Mitchell monitored your drinking water for possible contaminants. This report provides a snapshot of the quality of the water that was provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

We serve more than 15,651 customers an average of 2,016,000 gallons of water per day. The water that was consumed in 2024 was Bon Homme-Yankton (B-Y) Rural water drawn from the Missouri River. Our water is surface water that we purchase from another water system. The state has performed an assessment of our source water, and they have determined that the relative susceptibility rating for the Mitchell public water system is medium.

For more information about your water and information on opportunities to participate in public meetings, call 605-995-8420 and ask for Michelle Bathke.

Drinking Water Safety

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

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected in the 2024 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

2024 Test Results					
The test results that are shaded grey were performed by the City of Mitchell. All other results below reflect testing done on B-Y RWS water at the B-Y treatment plant.					
Detected Substance (units/test date)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Typical Source of Substance in Drinking Water
Fluoride (ppm) 11/25/24	<4	4	0.86	0.40-0.86	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Haloacetic Acids (ppb) 11/19/24	0	60	22.35	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Haloacetic Acids (ppb) 11/05/24	0	60	22.75	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Total Coliform Bacteria (pspm) monthly	0	1	1	N/A	Naturally present in the environment.
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) 11/01/24	0	80	43.38	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) 11/05/24	0	80	40.18	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Results are reported as a running annual average of test results.
Copper (ppm) 07/16/24	AL: 1.3 (90% of samples tested must be <1.3 ppm)	No sites exceeded 1.3	(90% of samples <0.1 ppm)	(90% of samples <0.1 ppm)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead (ppb) 07/16/24	AL: 15 (90% of samples tested must be <15 ppb)	No sites exceeded 15	(90% of samples <1 ppb)	(90% of samples <1 ppb)	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Antimony (ppb) 05/16/22	6	6	0.35	N/A	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder.
Barium (ppm) 05/16/22	2	2	0.0154	N/A	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium (ppb) 05/16/22	100	100	0.35	N/A	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium (ppb) 05/16/22	50	50	1.8	N/A	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Violation Type	Parameter	Date	Action Taken By Your System	Health Effects Language	
Follow-up Tap Sample Monitoring Violation	Lead/Copper	12/05/23	We have since completed the required compliance measures	We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. Since we did not monitor for these contaminants we cannot be sure of the quality of the drinking water.	If you are concerned about lead in your 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: www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done from Jan 1-Dec 31, 2024. The state 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. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful waterborne pathogens may be present or that potential pathways exist through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in

water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct an assessment to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments. A Level One assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system. We conducted one Level One assessment in 2024 and have determined any corrective actions needed.

Important Source Water and Health Information from the EPA

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 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 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 byproducts 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.

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 water poses a health risk.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Lead

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 City of Mitchell public 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 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:

www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

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 can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).