



1006 WISCONSIN AVENUE BOSCOBEL, WI 53805

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## **2020 Consumer Confidence Report Data BOSCOBEL WATERWORKS, PWS ID: 12200892**

### **Water System Information**

If you would like to know more about the information contained in this report, please contact Mike Reynolds (Director of Public Works) at 608-375-5002 Ext. 103, or Hershel Marks (Water Foreman) at 608-375-5002 Ext. 203.

Boscobel Utilities is committed to providing clean, safe drinking water to the residents and businesses of Boscobel. The Utility Board meets the second Tuesday of each month at City Hall at 5:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers, 1006 Wisconsin Avenue, Boscobel, Wisconsin.

### **Health Information**

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 safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

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. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Environmental Protection Agency's safe drinking water hotline (800-426-4791).

### **Source(s) of Water**

<b>Source ID</b>	<b>Source</b>	<b>Depth (in feet)</b>	<b>Status</b>
2	Groundwater	715	Active
3	Groundwater	80	Active
4	Groundwater	120	Active

To obtain a summary of the source water assessment please contact, Hershel Marks at (608) 375-5002 Ext. 203.

# Educational Information

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 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 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which shall provide the same protection for public health.

## Definitions

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Level 1 Assessment	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine, if possible, why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system, or both, on multiple occasions.
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.
MFL	million fibers per liter
MRDL	Maximum residual disinfectant level: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a 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.

<b>Term</b>	<b>Definition</b>
mrem/year	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/l	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
TCR	Total Coliform Rule
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

## Detected Contaminants

Your water was tested for many contaminants last year. We are allowed to monitor for some contaminants less frequently than once a year. The following tables list only those contaminants which were detected in your water. If a contaminant was detected last year, it will appear in the following tables without a sample date. If the contaminant was not monitored last year, but was detected within the last 5 years, it will appear in the tables below along with the sample date.

### Disinfection Byproducts

<b>Contaminant (units)</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Level Found</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Sample Date (if prior to 2020)</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Typical Source of Contaminant</b>
HAA5 (ppb)	D-39	60	60	8	8		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D-39	80	0	15.4	15.4		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

### Inorganic Contaminants

<b>Contaminant (units)</b>	<b>Site</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Level Found</b>	<b>Range</b>	<b>Sample Date (if prior to 2020)</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Typical Source of Contaminant</b>
ARSENIC (ppb)		10	n/a	0	0 - 0		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
BARIUM (ppm)		2	2	0.038	0.037 - 0.038		No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
CADMIUM (ppb)		5	5	0.2	0.0 - 0.2		No	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
FLUORIDE (ppm)		4	4	0.4	0.4 - 0.4		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NICKEL (ppb)		100		0.5800	0.5300 - 0.5800		No	Nickel occurs naturally in soils, ground water and surface waters and is often used in electroplating, stainless steel and alloy products.
NITRATE (N03-N) (ppm)		10	10	3.40	1.80 - 3.40		No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
SELENIUM (ppb)		50	50	1	1 - 1		No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
SODIUM (ppm)		n/a	n/a	22.00	7.20 - 22.00		No	n/a

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	# of Results	Sample Date (if prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.2100	0 of 10 results were above the action level.		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	# of Results	Sample Date (if prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	3.70	0 of 10 results were above the action level.		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

## Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. R & U (pCi/l)		15	0	0.4	0.3 - 0.4		No	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)		5	0	0.3	0.3 - 0.3		No	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, INCL. R & U (n/a)		n/a	n/a	0.4	0.3 - 0.4		No	Erosion of natural deposits

## Unregulated Contaminants

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. EPA required us to participate in this monitoring.

Contaminant (units)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2020)
SULFATE (ppm)	23.00	18.00 - 23.00	

## Additional Health Information

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. Boscobel Waterworks 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](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

Radon is a radioactive gas that has no color, odor, or taste. Radon occurs naturally in waters across the United States and it can move through the ground and into homes via cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can also be released directly from drinking water by agitation that occurs during showers, clothes

and dish washing. Radon entering homes from drinking water is generally quite little compared to what enters through the foundation. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air contaminated with radon can increase the risk of lung cancer, particularly for persons who also smoke cigarettes.

Radium is a naturally occurring radioactive element that is present in varying amounts in rocks and soil within the earth's crust. Small amounts of radium also can be found in groundwater supplies. Radium can be present in several forms, called isotopes. The most common isotopes in groundwater are 226 and 228. The main type of radiation emitted by radium is the alpha particle.

Radon and radium were detected in Well #2, which is an emergency standby well that the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources requires the utility to treat as an inservice well for sampling and testing requirements. Well #2 is a deep well, which explains the high levels of radon and radium (226 + 228.) Water from Well #2 would never enter the distribution system unless an emergency situation arose requiring its use and in that event, customers would be notified. Well #2 is maintained as an inservice well in order to maintain it as an option for rehabilitation when the utility requires additional well capacity.

Drinking water containing radon may also increase risk of stomach cancer, but the risk associated with drinking water is generally significantly less than the threat posed by radon in air. If you are concerned about your radon exposure, you should test the air in your home. If testing indicates a radon concentration of 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/l) or greater, you may benefit from a treatment system that would reduce radon levels in your home. For additional information call the State Radon Health Center at (888-LOW-RADON) or EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).

**Nitrate** in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than 6 months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

## **Information on Monitoring for Cryptosporidium and Radon**

Our water system did not monitor our water for cryptosporidium or radon during 2020. We are not required by State or Federal drinking water regulations to do so.