Public Utilities

WATER QUALITY REPORT

2025 | *PWSID# UTAH 18026*

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Puede encontrar una versión completa de este informe en español en: ***www.slc.gov/utilities/water-quality***.

Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities (SLCDPU) is guided by a strong commitment to stewardship, ensuring responsible and sustainable resource management for future generations. This dedication drives our planning and decision-making, reflecting our broader commitment to environmental responsibility and community engagement across our service area, which includes Salt Lake City and portions of Millcreek, Holladay, Cottonwood Heights, and other communities. A map of our water service area is available at www.slc.gov/utilities. In 2024, SLCDPU reached two major milestones:

1. *Securing over $39 million in federal loan funding to assist customers in replacing private lead service lines within the Salt Lake City service area.*
2. *Completing our rate study to ensure sustainable reinvestment in the water system while maintaining fair and affordable rates.*

SLCDPU remains committed to sustainable resource management and high-quality service to meet both current and future needs. Our mission is to serve and safeguard our community and environment by providing top-quality water, wastewater, stormwater, and street lighting services in an equitable, sustainable, and efficient manner.

The Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities (SLCDPU), State of Utah Public Water System # 18026, is proud to present the annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). This report promotes transparency and public awareness about the safety of our drinking water and our efforts to ensure that the water we supply meets or exceeds federal and state water quality standards.

WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

We are fortunate to have a variety of high-quality water sources, including mountain streams, surface water reservoirs, and a network of groundwater wells and springs. Additionally, we receive treated water from the Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake and Sandy and the Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District.

During the summer months, as mountain stream runoff decreases, we supplement our supply with groundwater from wells, which is blended with treated surface water throughout the system. This diverse mix of sources helps us meet increased water demand in warmer months while ensuring proper water pressure across the system. Maintaining adequate water pressure is essential not only for reliable service but also for fire protection and public safety.

HOW IS MY WATER TREATED?

SLCDPU operates three surface water treatment plants that use a multi-step process to ensure the highest water quality. Here's how we treat and purify your drinking water:

Coagulation: We add approved chemicals (called coagulants) to the water to help remove dirt and other particles. These chemicals cause the particles to clump together into larger formations called "floc."

Flocculation: The water is gently mixed to encourage floc to grow, making it easier to remove.

Sedimentation: Heavier floc particles naturally settle to the bottom of a basin, leaving clearer water on top.

Filtration: The water passes through layers of sand, gravel, and charcoal, which trap even smaller particles and further purify the water.

Disinfection: A small amount of chlorine (or another disinfectant) is added to kill any remaining bacteria, viruses, or cysts, ensuring the water is safe to drink.

Fluoridation: We add fluoride to meet Salt Lake County Health Department guidelines for dental health benefits.

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

Salt Lake City's drinking water is sourced from high-quality mountain streams in the Wasatch Range, including City Creek, Parleys Creek, Big Cottonwood Creek, and Little Cottonwood Creek. These streams are located within protected watershed areas. In addition, we receive treated surface water from the Metropolitan Water District of Salt Lake & Sandy, which originates from the Provo, Duchesne, and Weber Rivers and is stored in Jordanelle and Deer Creek Reservoirs.

To ensure the continued safety and reliability of these sources, SLCDPU implements a comprehensive Watershed Management Plan (WMP). We also work closely with regional partners to support long-term conservation and protection of mountain watersheds. Beyond our surface water sources, we actively protect valley groundwater supplies through local ordinances, land-use planning and collaborative initiatives designed to preserve this critical resource. Thanks to these efforts and the naturally high quality of SLCDPU's groundwater, our well water doesn't require additional treatment. This guarantees clean, reliable drinking water for our community without compromise.

LEAD & COPPER

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. SLCDPU is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact SLCDPU ***lead@slc.gov*** or 844-slc-lead . 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***.

SLCDPU has completed an initial lead service line inventory. This inventory includes information on the service line material that connects water mains to buildings/houses. This inventory can be accessed at ***www.slc.gov/utilities/servicelinematerialmap/***

We're developing tools to track and replace lead pipes as part of the EPA's new Lead & Copper Ruling. Salt Lake City received over $39 million in federal loan funding, in partnership with the State of Utah, to help residents replace lead service lines. To check the material of your service lines you can visit our website: ***www.slcleadandcopper.com/lead-map.***

In 2024, we conducted our lead and copper triennial sampling. The following table outlines the results.

	Action Level	# of Samples	Number of sampling sites exceeding action level in the first liter sample	Number of sampling sites exceeding action level in the fifth liter sample	90th percentile for first liter	90th percentile for fifth liter	Source of contaminant
Lead	15 ppb	51	0	1	2.6	2.2	Corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	1300 ppb	51	1	0	302	218.9	Corrosion of household plumbing

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE 5 (UCMR5)

Unregulated Contaminants are substances not yet covered by EPA drinking water standards. Monitoring these contaminants helps the EPA assess whether future regulation is needed. The UCMR tests for substances not regulated by current EPA rules. In UCMR5 (2023-2025), the EPA focuses on 29 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and lithium. Data collected will inform future regulations under the Safe Drinking Water Act.

PFAS are man-made chemicals found in everyday products like non-stick cookware and waterproof clothing. Long-term exposure to high levels may harm the immune system and development. To learn more and reduce exposure, visit ***www.deq.utah.gov/pollutants/per-and-polyfluoroakyl-substances-pfas***

Lithium is a natural metal, found mainly in groundwater in dry regions. While used in medicine, there is limited data on the health risks of low levels in drinking water. The EPA is studying its potential impacts.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE (UCMR5) DATA (detected^)

Unregulated		SLC Average	SLC Range	Source of contaminant
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	UR-ppt	0.35	ND - 18.2	Industrial Activities/Firefighting Foams/Consumer Products
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	UR-ppt	0.11	ND - 5.7	Industrial Activities/Firefighting Foams/Consumer Products
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	UR-ppt	0.14	ND - 7.1	Industrial Activities/Firefighting Foams/Consumer Products
Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)	UR-ppt	0.12	ND - 6.2	Industrial Activities/Firefighting Foams/Consumer Products
Lithium	UR-ppb	9.5	ND - 42.8	Naturally occurring
***All other Parameters**		ND	ND	Various sources

**UCMR5 detection was limited to one source, a groundwater well which was not in service at the time of the detection.*

CROSS-CONNECTION CONTROL

Safeguarding our drinking water from contamination starts with preventing backflow. Backflow occurs when water flows backward into the system due to excess pressure or siphoning, which can allow contaminants to enter the clean water supply. To combat this risk, backflow preventer devices are installed at potential cross-connection points where clean water could mix with harmful substances like chemicals, sewage, or industrial waste. These devices are rigorously inspected and tested annually to ensure they function properly.

Our dedicated team actively surveys irrigation systems, industrial plants, and commercial properties to identify potential cross connections. When risks are identified, we either eliminate the hazard or secure it with appropriate backflow prevention measures. These efforts are vital to maintaining the high quality of our drinking water. For more information, visit ***www.slc.gov/utilities/cross-connections*** or email us at ***backflow@slc.gov***.

WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

To ensure the safety of tap water, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the number of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in the water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. The EPA or state requires us to monitor certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than a year old. In this table, there may be terms and abbreviations you are not familiar with. For a better understanding, we have provided the definitions below the table.

	MCL or TT Standards	Big Cottonwood WTP	City Creek WTP	Parleys WTP	Range of Salt Lake City's Wells	Metro Little Cottonwood WTP	Metro Point of the Mountain WTP	Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JVWCD)	Source of Contaminant
Primary Inorganics									
Primary MCL									
Antimony	6 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND - 0.8	ND	ND	0.005	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Arsenic	10 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND - 1.2	ND	ND	1.2	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Barium	2000 ppb	33	25.7	33.5	15 - 108	63.1	69.2	50.4	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Beryllium	4 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Cadmium	5 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	Corrosion of gzalvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	100 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.08	Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide	200 ppb	4	0.67	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.96	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	4 ppm	0.63	0.57	0.56	ND - 0.69	0.614	0.665	0.48	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits. Fluoride added at source.
Lead	15 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.002	Corrosion of household plumbing
Mercury	2 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and runoff from landfills.
Nickel	100 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.09	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Nitrate	10 ppm	0.09	0.08	ND	0.15 - 4.97	0.29	0.265	0.61	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from septic tanks, and naturally occurring organic material.
Nitrite	1 ppm	ND	ND	ND	ND - 0.16	ND	ND	ND	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from septic tanks, and naturally occurring organic material.
Selenium	50 ppb	0.5	0.2	ND	ND - 3.2	ND	ND	0.37	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Sulfate	1000 ppm	30.5	8.3	8.09	28.2 - 306	37.7	35.8	59.5	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and runoff from road deicing.
Thallium	2 ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	Leaching from ore-processing sites and discharges from electronics, glass and drug factories.
TDS	2000 ppm	205	233	235	256 - 804	217	229	290.6	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.

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VOCs									
Chloroform	UR-ppb	4.6	2.3	7.1	ND - 0.8			8.3	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Chloroethane	UR-ppb	1.5	ND	ND	ND				
Chlorometh-ane	UR-ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND - 2.4				
Dibromo-chloromethane	UR-ppb	ND	0.3	0.5	ND			1.1	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Bromodi-chloromethane	UR-ppb	1.2	1.0	3.0	ND			2.7	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
All other parameters	UR-ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND			ND	Various sources.

Secondary Inorganics									
Secondary MCL									
Aluminum	0.05 to0.2 ppm (mg/L)	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.001	0.015	0.003	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and treatment residuals.
Chloride	250 ppm	26.3	8.7	28.4	16.9 - 194	30.7	30.4	49.9	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Color	CU	-	-	-	-	-	-	4.1	Decaying naturally occurring organic material and suspended particles.
Conductance / Conductivity	umhos/ cm	420	439	415	339 - 1592	386	408	-	Naturally occurring
Copper	1300 ppb	ND	9	ND	ND - 5	ND	ND	1.1	Corrosion of household plumbing
Iron	0.3 ppm	ND	ND	ND	ND - 0.11	0.003	0.004	0.0026	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Manganese	50 ppb	ND	ND	4	ND - 2.5	ND	ND	2.3	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
pH	6.5 to 8.5	7.8	7.9	7.6	6.83 - 8.01	7.81	8.02	7.6	Naturally occurring and affected by chemical treatment.
Silver	0.1 ppm	ND	0.001	ND	ND	-		ND	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Zinc	5 ppm	ND	ND	ND	ND - 0.1	ND	ND	ND	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.

Unregulated Parameters - monitoring not required									
Unregulated									
Alkalinity, Bicarbonate	UR-ppm	93.8	192.8	154.7	106 - 258			159	Naturally occurring.
Alkalinity, Carbonate	UR-ppm	ND	ND	ND	ND			ND	Naturally occurring.
Alkalinity, CO2	UR-ppm	-	-	-	-			ND	Naturally occurring.
Alkalinity, Total (CaCo3)	UR-ppm	104	199	159	106 - 258	99	114	110	Naturally occurring.

	MCL or TT Standards	Big Cottonwood WTP	City Creek WTP	Parleys WTP	Range of Salt Lake City's Wells	Metro Little Cottonwood WTP	Metro Point of the Mountain WTP	Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JVWCD)	Source of Contaminant
Ammonia	ppm	ND	ND	ND	ND - 2.5			0.3	Runoff from fertilizer & naturally occurring.
Bromide	UR-ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND - 70	ND	ND	8	Naturally occurring.
Boron	ppb	-	-	-	-			35	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Calcium	UR-ppm	38.8	58.1	58.8	36.4 - 144			45.9	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Hardness, Calcium	UR-ppm	-	-	-	-	111	121	115.2	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Hardness, Total	UR-ppm	121	198	174	157 - 487	144	160	189.4	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
grains /gallon	Calculated	7.1	11.6	10.2	9.2 - 28.6				Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Magnesium	UR-ppm	12.8	16.2	5.8	12.6 - 42.1			16.5	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Molybdenum	UR-ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	2.28	1.19	0.3	Byproduct of copper and tungsten mining.
Orthophos-phates	UR-ppm	0.006	0.002	ND	ND - 0.05			0.011	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Potassium	UR-ppm	1	0.4	1	1.1 - 3.8			2.4	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Sodium	UR-ppm	13.6	5.5	14.6	11.1 - 59.4	18.2	11.9	23.2	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Turbidity	UR-NTU	0.24	0.20	0.22	0.41 - 15.1	0.02	0.03	0.21	Suspended material from soil runoff.
Vanadium	UR-ppb	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	Naturally occurring.
Pesticides/PCBs/SOCs									
All parameters		ND	ND	ND	ND			ND	Various sources.
Radiological									
Radium 226	NE-pCi/L							0.46	
Radium 228	NE-pCi/L	-0.1	-0.165	0.04	0.12 - 0.28	0.12	0.55	0.28	Decay of natural and manmade deposits.
Gross-Alpha	15-pCi/L	2.3	0.1	1.9	-0.24 - 1	1.5	-0.7	1.5	Decay of natural and manmade deposits.
Gross-Beta	NE-pCi/L							3.5	
UV-254	UR-1/cm	0.013	0.014	0.030	ND - 0.038	0.025	0.022	0.028	Measure of the concentration of naturally occurring UV-absorbing organic compounds.
Uranium	ppb							0.004	
Organic Material									
Total Organic Carbon	TT	0.735	0.695	1.872	ND - 0.5	1.82	2.07	2.1	Naturally occurring.
Dissolved Organic Carbon	TT	0.757	0.724	1.799	-	1.84	2.07	2.1	Naturally occurring.

Distribution System Compliance							
	MCL	SLC Average	SLC Range	MWDSL	MWDSLS	Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JVWCD)	Source of Contaminant
Disinfectants / Disinfection Byproducts							
Chlorine	4 ppm (MRDL)	0.58	ND - 1.42	0.84	0.84	0.76	Drinking water disinfectant.
TTHMs	80 ppb	42.9	16.4 - 75.6	26.6	49.6	25.5	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
HAA5s	60 ppb	28.1	12.3 - 38.6	14.5	41.8	18.6	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
HAA6	UR ppb	-	-	-	-	53	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Bromate	ppb	-	-	ND	ND	ND	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine Dioxide	ppb	-	-			12	Drinking water disinfectant.
Chlorite	ppm	-	-			0.36	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Microbiological (Distribution System)	Presence / Absence	# Samples	% Positive	Highest Monthly %	
Total Coliform (percent positive)	Not >5%	3,001	0.17%	0.88%	MCL is for monthly compliance. No violations were issued. Human and animal fecal waste, naturally occurring in the environment.
E. Coli (percent positive)	0.00	3,001	0.00%	0.00%	

UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

1/cm: One per centimeter

AL: Action Level

MFL: Millions of Fibers per Liter

MPN/mL: most probable number per milliliter

MRL: Minimum Reporting Level

NA: Not Applicable

ND: None Detected

NE: Not Established

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

pCi/L: picocuries per liter

ppb: parts per billion

ppm: parts per million

ppt: parts per trillion

umhos/cm: micro ohms per centimeter

IMPORTANT DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS & ABBREVIATIONS

Maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL): 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.

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.

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

HAA5s: Five Haloacetic Acids

HPC: Heterotrophic Plate Count

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

PCBs: Polychlorinated Biphenyls

SOCs: Synthetic Organic Chemicals

SS: Secondary Standard

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

TTHM: Total Trihalomethanes

UV: Ultraviolet

UR: Unregulated

VOCs: Volatile Organic Compounds

WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY DRINKING WATER?

Both tap water and bottled water come from 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. The water can also pick up and transport substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. These substances are also called contaminants. 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 discharge, 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.

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

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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

We invite you to join the conversation and engage in decisions affecting our community's drinking water through participation in the Public Utilities Advisory Committee (PUAC). The PUAC, composed of nine local residents, supports the development and operation of Public Utilities. The public meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month. For more information, visit ***https://www.slc.gov/boards/boards-commissions/public-utilities-advisory-committee/***

AFFILIATIONS

SLCDPU is a member of American Water Works Association, Water Research Foundation, Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, American Water Resources Association, Partnership for Safe Water, Utah Water Quality Alliance, National Association of Clean Water Agencies, Western Urban Water Coalition, Salt Lake County Stormwater Coalition, as well as others.

RESOURCES

Information about contaminants and potential health effects, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure can be obtained by calling:

Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities

Customer Service: 801-483-6900
24/7 Emergency Dispatch: 801-483-6700
Water Quality Division: 801-483-6832 or 801-483-6765
www.slc.gov/Utilities

For more information, please contact:

Laura Briefer, *Director*
Teresa Gray, *Water Quality and Treatment Administrator*
1530 S. West Temple St.
Salt Lake City, UT 84115
P: 801-483-6744
P: 801-483-6770

Additional Contacts

Utah Division of Drinking Water: 801-535-4200
www.DEQ.Utah.Gov/Division-Drinking-Water

Salt Lake County Health Department: 385-468-4100
www.SLCo.Org/Health

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 800-426-4791
www.EPA.Gov/Ground-Water-and-Drinking-Water

Connect with us:

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