

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water contact us at (765)653-3811. If you want to learn more, you are welcome to please contact Troy Elless or attend any of our regularly scheduled Board meetings that will be posted on the Big Walnut Water Facebook page.

We ask that our customers help us to protect our water resources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

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

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

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water please contact our office at 765-653-3811.

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

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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.

Contaminates 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, metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm 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.

The source of Big Walnut's drinking water is ground water purchased from Greencastle Water Department.

**Big Walnut Water Company**  
**P O Box 750**  
**Greencastle, IN 46135**  
**(765) 653-3811**

**2024 Annual Drinking Water**  
**Quality Report**



Big Walnut Water is pleased to present the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024. This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. (Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien). We are pleased to report that our water is safe and meets all federal and state requirements.

#### Sources of Drinking Water

Big Walnut purchases water for distribution from Greencastle Water. 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 human activity. 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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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## TABLE NOTES

(1) - Levels reported for copper and lead represent the 90th percentile value as calculated from a total of 10 samples.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!  
811

Underground utilities may be dangerous if encountered while digging. Before digging holes on your property, for things such as putting in a new mailbox or planting trees and shrubs, call 811. You must call at least two full working days before you dig to locate underground utilities.

## HOUSEHOLD TIPS FOR PROTECTING OUR DRINKING WATER SUPPLY

- Reduce the amount of fertilizers, pesticides, or other hazardous chemicals that you use. Buy only they you need so that you don't have to dispose of leftovers. Read all labels and follow directions.
- Use organic lawn and garden alternatives that do not contain synthetic chemical poisons. Reduce the use of products that contain any of the following words on their labels: caution, warning, danger, poison, flammable, volatile, caustic, or corrosive.
- Recycle used oil, automotive fluids, batteries, and other products. Don't dispose of hazardous products in toilets, storm drains, wastewater systems, creeks, alleys, or the ground. This pollutes the water supply.
- Store your household hazardous waste for a Tox-Away Day.

Included in the table, you will find terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Big Walnut Water routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to all Federal and State laws. The following table provides the results for the regulated contaminants that were detected. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, information provided in this table refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results.

<u>Disinfectant</u>	Date	Highest RAA	Unit	Range	MRDL	MRDLG	Typical Source	
Chlorine	2024	1	ppm	0.5-0.8	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes	
<u>Lead and Copper</u>	Period	90th Percen- tile	Units	Range	AL	Sites over AL	Typical Sources	
Copper, Free	2021-2024	.7 <sup>(1)</sup>	ppm	0.02-0.71	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	
Lead	2021-2024	1.4	ppb	1.2-1.4	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits,	
<u>Disinfection Byproducts</u>	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL MCLG	MCLG	Typical Source
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	200 South 231 Meter Pit	2023-2024	11.6	11.6-11.6	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	W County RD 1255	2023-2024	6.3	6.33-6.33	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM	200 S 231 Meter Pit	2023-2024	7.8	7.77-7.77	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM	W County RD 1255	2023-2024	15.1	15.1-15.1	Ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<u>Reseller Regulated Contaminants</u>	Collection date	Water System	Highest Sample Result	Range of Sample Result (s)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
Barium	5/7/2024	Greencastle Department of Water	0.045	0.045	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling waters, discharge from metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	5/7/2024	Greencastle Department of Water	0.682	0.682	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	5/7/2024	Greencastle Department of Water	0.753	0.753	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

**Violations:** During this period covered by this report we had no violations

**Deficiencies:** No deficiencies to report during this period.

In 2024, we were required to submit a lead service line inventory to IDEM. You can view information for your home online at <https://idem.120water-ptd.com/>

## DEFINITIONS

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

**Action Level Goal (ALG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

**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 and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**Maximum Contaminant Level or 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 or 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.

**Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or 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.

**Maximum residual disinfectant level or 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.

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

**Variances and Exemptions:** State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**Avg:** Average - Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

**LRAA:** Locational Running Annual Average

**mrem:** millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

**ppb:** micrograms per liter (ug/L) or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

**ppm:** milligrams per liter (mg/L) or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

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

**na:** not applicable.