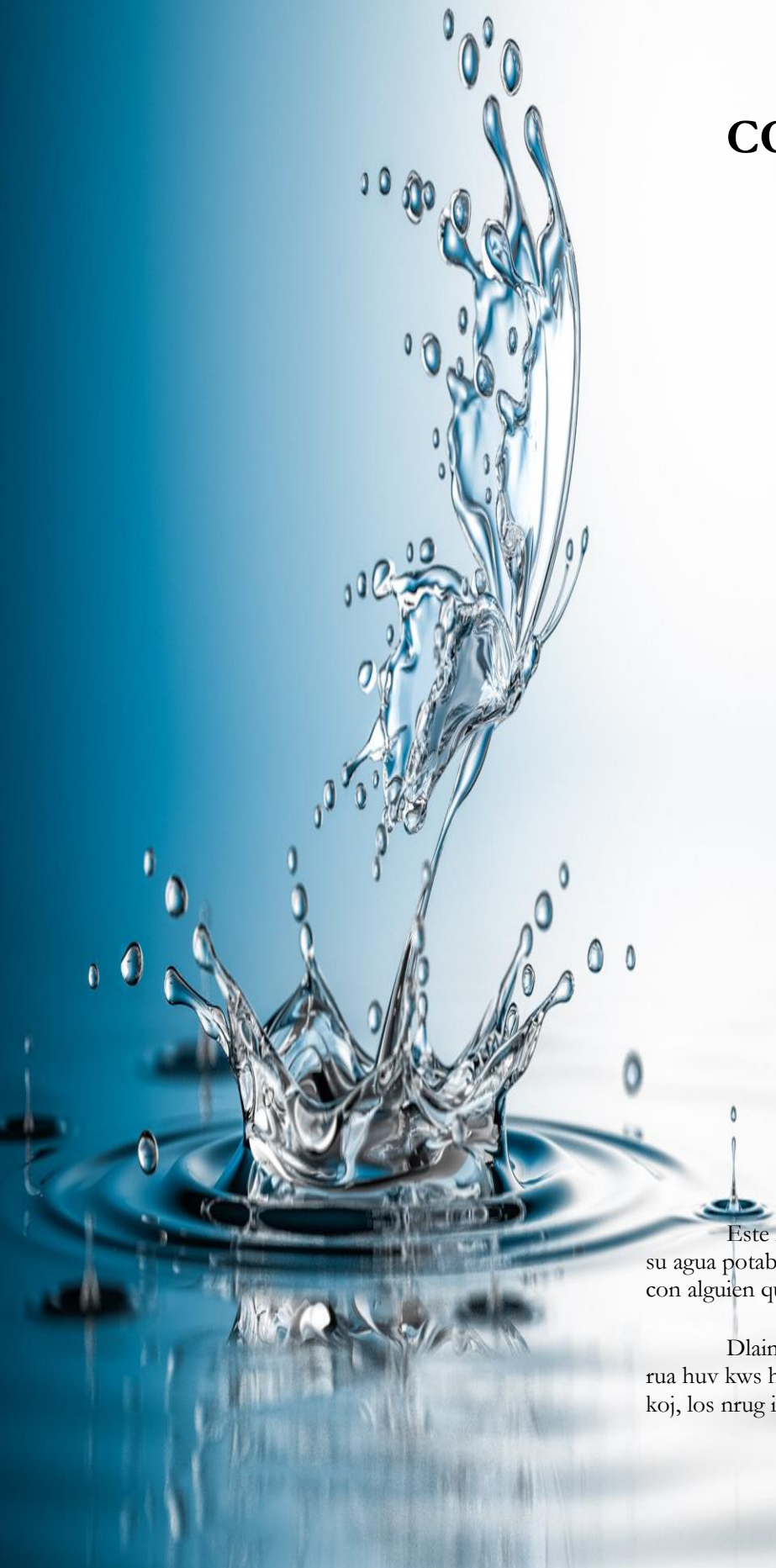


2021 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

COTTAGE GROVE WATER UTILITY

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

Dlaim ntawv tshaabzu nuav muaj lug tseemceeb heev nyob rua huv kws has txug cov dlej mej haus. Kuas ib tug paab txhais rua koj, los nrug ib tug kws paub lug thaam.

Note from the Director

New faces everywhere!

2021 brought a lot of changes to our Department staff. Our lean, efficient team grew slightly as we adapt to our fast-growing community and maintaining the level of service our residents have come to expect from their Utility.

Late last year we were able to promote one of our very own to the newly created position of Utility Operations Technician. This important position was created to focus on the increasing demands specifically related to our Water and Sanitary Sewer Utilities. These responsibilities include water meter installation, maintenance and inspection, maintenance and repair of hydrants and valves and underground utility locating. But, true to form, this employee is always ready and willing to lend a hand with anything our Public Works Department needs.

In the early part of 2022, our Department was also able to add another incredibly valuable member to the team with the hiring of our Deputy Director of Public Works & Utilities. This newly created role will be responsible for day-to-day operations of the Public Works Department and lead our efficient & effective staff.

System Evaluation and Future Planning

Strand Associates, in the role of consulting Village Engineer, will conduct comprehensive studies of the Village's water and sanitary sewer systems in 2022 and update the master plans for each Utility. This work will guide the development of updated capital project plans, allowing the Commission to proactively plan financing and budget for system needs in future years. As the Village continues to grow, these plans are vital to ensuring that system improvements are designed and constructed to maintain current service levels while also planning for continued growth. Following the master planning work, the Utility will conduct a study and bring a proposed update to the water and sewer impact fees to the Commission and Board for consideration. These fees are collected from new development and the money is used to fund the projects required to meet system needs for continued growth. By design, these impact fees keep the costs of growth from landing on existing customers and shift that responsibility to developers driving the need.

A Note on PFAs

You have most likely read or seen the stories on your nightly news in the past year about per/polyfluoroalkyl, commonly referred to as PFAs, in surface and drinking water sources throughout the state. These "forever chemicals" are most commonly seen in manufacturing and chemical production facilities as well as fire-fighting foam. The regulatory bodies governing our Utility are in the process of developing standards and testing requirements for PFAs and it is certain that future testing and monitoring requirements will include testing for PFAs. The good news for our customers is that our three well sites have extremely low likelihood of showing significant levels of PFAs. Given historic records, land maps, and all available information there is no indication that these sites were ever used in manufacturing processes or fire fighter training (the two most common culprits). Learn more here: https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-explained

Thank you for taking the time to read these pages and giving our hard-working staff a moment of consideration.

Sincerely,

JJ Larson, Director of Public Works & Utilities/Deputy Administrator

If you would like to know more about the information contained in this report, please contact our office at (608) 839-5813.

Have your voice heard

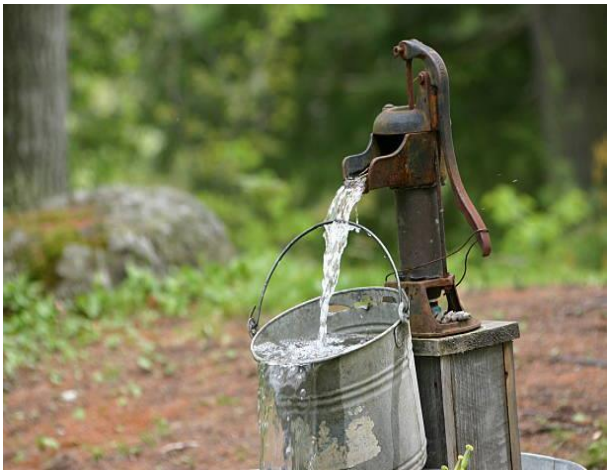
The Utility Commission meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 5pm

Throughout the pandemic the Utility Commission has been meeting virtually. Recently, the Commission made the decision to return to in-person meetings. Monthly meetings are typically held at the Municipal Services Building, located at 210 Progress Dr. at 5pm on the second Wednesday of each month. Agendas can be found here: https://www.vi.cottagegrove.wi.gov/AgendaCenter

If you are unable to attend but wish to have your voice heard on a particular agenda item simply email JJ Larson, Director of Public Works & Utilities/Deputy Administrator at jlarson@villageofcottagegrove.gov.

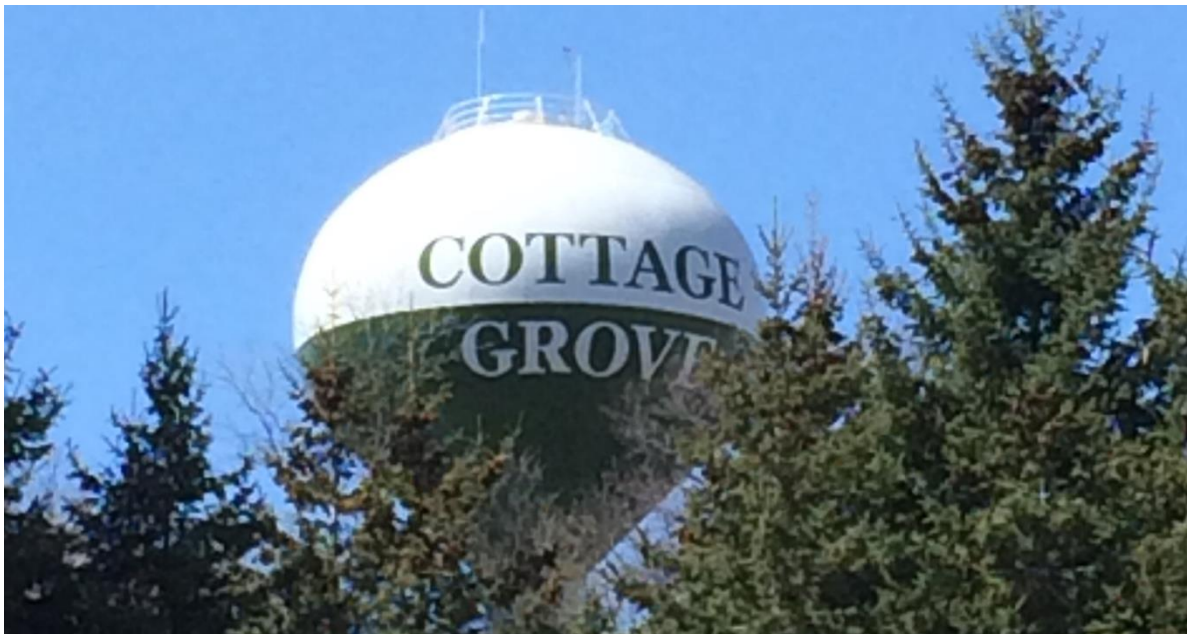
Where's My Water Come From?

The Village's water is supplied from three groundwater wells. Water from deep in the ground is incredibly clean and requires very little treatment to be suitable for drinking.



The water system is supplied by three wells

- Well #2, installed in 1972 (re-drilled in 2002), is 550 feet deep.
- Well #3, installed in 1993, is drilled to 530 feet deep.
- Well #4, installed in 2003, is drilled to 675 feet deep.



The Village water system consists of two pressure zones. Wells 2 and 3 feed one zone and Well 4 feeds the other under normal operating conditions. The boundaries of the zones are controlled by pressure-regulating valving infrastructure (PRVs). This offers automated redundancy in each zone should water be needed to feed from one zone to another due to increased demand (main break or large fire).

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).

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

Term	Definition
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
HAL	Health Advisory Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, poses a health risk and may require a system to post a public notice.
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.
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
SMCL	Secondary drinking water standards or Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. The SMCLs do not represent health standards.
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

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2021)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
HAA5 (ppb)	D6	60	60	0	0		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM (ppb)	D6	80	0	4.2	4.2		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2021)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
BARIUM (ppm)		2	2	0.012	0.007 - 0.012	2/24/2020	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE (ppm)		4	4	0.1	0.1 - 0.1	2/24/2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
SODIUM (ppm)		n/a	n/a	3.45	3.24 - 3.45	2/24/2020	No	n/a

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	# of Results	Sample Date (if prior to 2021)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
COPPER (ppm)	AL=1.3	1.3	0.1670	0 of 22 results were	9/24/2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural

Contaminant (units)	Action Level	MCLG	90th Percentile Level Found	# of Results	Sample Date (if prior to 2021)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
				above the action level.			deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD (ppb)	AL=15	0	3.31	0 of 22 results were above the action level.	9/17/2020	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 2021)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
GROSS BETA PARTICLE ACTIVITY (pCi/l)		n/a	n/a	3.5	0.0 - 3.5	2/24/2020	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. MCL units are in millirem/year. Calculation for compliance with MCL is not possible unless level found is greater than 50 pCi/l.
GROSS ALPHA, EXCL. R & U (pCi/l)		15	0	7.4	2.3 - 7.4	2/24/2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM, (226 + 228) (pCi/l)		5	0	1.5	0.7 - 1.5	2/24/2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, INCL. R & U (n/a)		n/a	n/a	7.4	2.3 - 7.4	2/24/2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants with a Health Advisory Level or a Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level

The following tables list contaminants which were detected in your water and that have either a Health Advisory Level (HAL) or a Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL), or both. There are no violations for detections of contaminants that exceed Health Advisory Levels, Groundwater Standards or Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels. Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels are levels that do not present health concerns but may pose aesthetic problems such as objectionable taste, odor, or color. Health Advisory Levels are levels at which concentrations of the contaminant present a health risk.

Contaminant (units)	Site	SMCL (ppm)	HAL (ppm)	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2021)	Typical Source of Contaminant
CHLORIDE (ppm)		250		1.47	1.28 - 1.47	2/13/2017	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, road salt, water softeners
IRON (ppm)		0.3		0.19	0.00 - 0.19	2/13/2017	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes
MANGANESE (ppm)		0.05	0.3	0.04	0.01 - 0.04	2/13/2017	Leaching from 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)	Site	MCL	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Date (if prior to 2020)	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
Bromide		n/a	n/a	21.2	0 - 21.2		No	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese		n/a	n/a	44.5	5.7 – 44.5		No	Erosion of natural deposits
HAA5		n/a	n/a	0.90	0.78 – 0.90		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA6Br		n/a	n/a	0.39	0 – 0.39		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA9		n/a	n/a	1.29	0.78 – 1.29		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

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. Cottage Grove 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.