# Sheboygan Water Utility's Consumer Confidence Report

Summer 2018

## "Straight from the Tap"

*Last year, the Utility worked with a masonry contractor to make significant repairs to the historic Taylor Hill water reservoir. Constructed in the early 1930's, the reservoir remains a workhorse in the water distribution system, but the years have taken a toll. By means of a sophisticated LIDAR survey, the engineering firm of R.A. Smith was able to document repair needs with a high level of accuracy. The project received an ACEC Engineering Excellence award for innovation. Ongoing work will focus on the riveted steel tank itself and the steel roof structure.*

*Meanwhile the Utility anticipates the construction of its Horizon Drive water tower to serve the City's new Southpointe Enterprise Campus. This will be the first elevated water tower constructed since the 1980's. The tower will complement existing water infrastructure in the original business center.*

*The Utility continues to invest in SMART meter technology throughout the City. By the end of 2017, more than 70% of customers had a wireless meter. Within two years, the entire system will be wireless. This provides improved meter reading accuracy and efficiency.*

*The Utility continues to make progress in moving maintenance data directly from the field to the cloud. Using field-ready tablets, staff members can toggle maintenance updates directly at the work site. This can include basic maintenance on fire hydrants and other distribution infrastructure.*

*As always, the work of the Utility can only occur through the efforts of its dedicated and highly skilled employees. Utility staff members provide the highest level of commitment to the community, and it is my honor to work with them.*

*Utility Superintendent*
*Joe Trueblood*

## Update On Lead Water Laterals

Old lead water laterals continue to be a concern. These are the private water pipes leading from the public water mains into homes. They were installed by plumbers prior to the 1950's.

The Sheboygan Water Utility has used phosphate treatment since 1994 to coat the interior of these lead pipes. Whenever one of these pipes is cut open, the white coating is evident and keeps the water from contacting the lead. Since 1994, the Utility's tests for lead have been below EPA action levels, indicating the effectiveness of the coating in minimizing lead exposure.

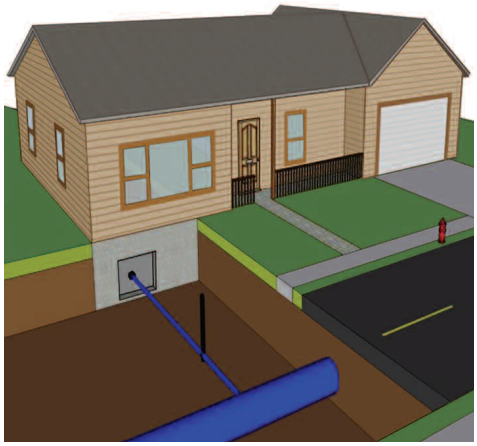
During 2016, the Sheboygan Water Utility was one of the first to qualify for $335,000 in WDNR grant monies to replace lead water laterals. The Utility promptly implemented a lead water lateral replacement program which focused on any remaining lead laterals at daycares or schools.

The Utility directed the bulk of the funding on water main replacement projects where old laterals would be impacted. Construction can disrupt the phosphate coating* and cause lead levels to increase for months thereafter. So the funds were used to replace lead water laterals from the curb stop into the home. If the portion from the water main to the curb was lead, the property owner paid for that replacement. In most cases, the cost to property owners ended up between $2,500 to $3,500.

** The protective phosphate coating inside a lead lateral pipe.*

Medical professionals understand the importance of minimizing exposure to lead. Many older homes still contain lead paint or coatings, and these can be released during home remodeling projects. Contractors typically know how to protect themselves, but do-it-yourselfers might overlook this risk. Toys and other products are still discovered with high levels of lead in paint or coatings. Lead arsenate pesticides were also used in the past, and can persist in soil for decades.

And what about lead in your drinking water? First of all, contact the Utility to determine if you even have a lead water lateral. If you do, consider replacing it. If you can't afford to replace it, then visit the Utility's information page for tips on further minimizing the risks, including flushing your water in the morning or using an inexpensive home filtration device.



*Location of lateral (small blue piping) entering home from large blue water main located in the middle of the street.*

## Lead & Copper

The Sheboygan Water Utility maintained its compliance in 2017 lead and copper monitoring/testing. If present, elevated levels of lead and copper can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead and copper in drinking water are primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Sheboygan Water Utility 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 and copper exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead and copper in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead and copper in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the EPA safe drinking water hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or epa.gov/safewater/lead.

## Sheboygan's Board Of Water Commissioners

Gerald Van De Kreeke

Mark Smith

Ray Haen

Elected by the Common Council, the Board of Water Commissioners meets on the third Monday of each month and is responsible for overseeing the operation and maintenance of the Sheboygan Water Utility. Members are (left to right): President Gerald Van De Kreeke, Secretary Mark Smith, and Member Ray Haen.

**Contact Information** - Sheboygan Water Utility
Address: 72 Park Avenue, Sheboygan, WI 53081
**Email:** customerservice@sheboyganwater.org

**Customer Service and Billing Information:**
Phone: (920) 459-3800 Option 2; Fax: (920) 459-4325
**After Hours Emergencies:**(920) 459-3811

***Thirsty for more information about your water? Visit us at: www.sheboyganwater.org, on Twitter, Facebook, and Nextdoor***

Nextdoor

# Sheboygan's 2017 Tap Water Quality Analysis

**For Your Information** — The Utility is required to test for a large number of regulated and unregulated (NR) contaminants in drinking water. The table shows contaminants that were detected. **All contaminant levels are within applicable state and federal law.** Tests include contaminants in the following categories: microbiological, radioactive, inorganic, volatile organic, and synthetic organic including pesticides, herbicides, and pharmaceuticals. Testing for unregulated contaminants allows USEPA to gather baseline data. Not all contaminants are tested annually. *Sampled every three years as required; results shown are the 90th highest percentile of 30 samples taken throughout the City.

| Contaminant (and the likely source of contamination) | Violation Y/N | Level Detected | Unit | MCLG | MCL |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Acesulfame-k** – Artificial sweetener | N | 0.16 | ppb | NR | NR |
| **Alkalinity, total CaC03** – Natural deposits | N | avg 100.0 | ppm | NR | NR |
| **Aluminum** – Water treatment additive, natural deposits | N | 0.074 | ppm | NS | .05-.2 ppm |
| **Antimony** – Natural deposits, manufacturing | N | 0.2 | ppb | 6 ppb | 6 ppb |
| **Arsenic** – Erosion of natural deposits | N | 0.5 | ppb | n/a | 10 ppb |
| **Atrazine** – Natural deposits, farm runoff | N | 0.04 | ppb | 3 ppb | 3 ppb |
| **Barium** – Natural deposits | N | 0.021 | ppm | 2 ppm | 2 ppm |
| **Bromodichloromethane** – By-product of drinking water disinfection | N | 8.5 | ppb | 0 | NR |
| **Bromoform** – By-product of drinking water disinfection | N | <200.00 | ppt | NR | NR |
| **Calcium** – Natural deposits | N | 34.0 | ppm | NS | NR |
| **Chlorate** – By-product of drinking water disinfection | N | 46.0 | ppb | NR | NR |
| **Chloride** – Natural deposits, road salt | N | 11.0 | ppm | 250 ppm | NR |
| **Chlorine, free** – Residual of drinking water disinfection | N | 0.910 | ppm | 4 ppm | 4 ppm |
| **Chloroform** – By-product of drinking water disinfection | N | 14.2 | ppb | 0 | NR |
| **Chromium** – Erosion of natural deposits | N | 0.6 | ppb | 100 ppb | 100 ppb |
| **Chromium, Hexavalent** – Natural deposits, manufacturing | N | 0.21 | ppb | NR | NR |
| ***Copper** – Residual of copper laterals/plumbing | N | 0.059 | ppm | 1.3 ppm | 1.3 ppm |
| **Cotinine** – Metabolite of nicotine | N | 0.002 | ppb | NR | NR |
| **Dalapon** – Natural deposits, farm runoff | N | 0.37 | ppb | 200 ppb | 200 ppb |
| **DEET** – Insect repellant | N | 0.008 | ppb | NR | NR |
| **Dibromochloromethane** – By-product of drinking water disinfection | N | 3.4 | ppb | NR | NR |
| **Dichloroacetic Acid (HAA)** – By-product of drinking water disinfection | N | 4.4 | ppb | NR | 60 ppb |
| **Fluoride** – Water treatment additive, natural deposits | N | 0.68 | ppm | 4 ppm | 4 ppm |
| **Gross Alpha particles** – Natural deposits | N | 0.18 | pCi/l | 0 | 15 pCi/l |
| **Gross Beta particles** – Natural deposits | N | 1.2 | pCi/l | 0 | 50 pCi/l |
| **Haloacetic Acids, total** – By-product of drinking water disinfection | N | 10.2 | ppb | 0 | 60 ppb |
| **Hardness, Total as CaC03** – Natural deposits | N | 155.00 | ppm | NR | NR |
| **Hexachlorocyclopentadiene** – Natural deposits, manufacturing | N | 0.02 | ppb | 50 ppb | 50 ppb |
| ***Lead** – Corrosion of household plumbing materials | N | 7.5 | ppb | 0 | 15 ppb |
| **Magnesium** – Natural deposits | N | 11.0 | ppm | NR | NR |
| **Manganese** – Natural deposits | N | 0.6 | ppb | NR | 50 ppb |
| **Molybdenum** – Natural deposits | N | 1.0 | ppb | NR | NR |
| **Nickel** – Natural deposits, manufacturing | N | 0.6 | ppb | NR | 100 ppb |
| **Nitrate** – Natural deposits, farm runoff | N | 0.6 | ppm | 10 | 10 |
| **Nitrogen** – Natural deposits, farm runoff | N | 260.0 | ppb | 10,000 ppb | 10,000 ppb |
| **Orthophosphate** – Corrosion control inhibitor | N | 0.58 | ppm | NR | NR |
| **Radium 226 + 228 Combined** – Natural deposits | N | 0.76 | pCi/l | 0 | 20 pCi/l |
| **Selenium** – Natural deposits, manufacturing | N | <0.6 | ppb | 50 ppb | 50 ppb |
| **Sodium** – Erosion of natural deposits | N | 9.3 | ppm | NR | 500 ppm |
| **Strontium** – Natural deposits | N | 125.0 | ppb | NR | NR |
| **Sucralose** – Artificial sweetener | N | 0.038 | ppb | NR | NR |
| **Sulfate** – Natural deposits | N | 24.0 | ppm | NR | 250 ppm |
| **Trichloroacetic Acid (HAA)** – By-product of drinking water disinfection | N | 5.4 | ppb | NR | 60 ppb |
| **Trihalomethanes, total** – By-product of drinking water disinfection | N | 26.9 | ppb | 0 | 80 ppb |
| **Tris(chloroethyl)phosphate** – Flame retardant | N | 0.01 | ppb | NR | NR |
| **Total Dissolved Solids** – Natural deposits | N | 180.0 | ppm | 500 | NR |
| **Turbidity** – Natural deposits | N | 0.02 | NTU | NR | .3 NTU |
| **Uranium, total** – Natural deposits | N | 0.12 | pCi/l | 0 | 30 pCi/l |
| **Vanadium** – Natural deposits | N | 0.3 | ppb | NR | NR |

## Explanation of Terms Used

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The maximum allowable amount for any substance set by the EPA.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The maximum allowable amount for any substance set by the EPA at which no known or anticipated adverse health effects would occur.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** The amount of suspended material in water.

**Not Regulated (NR)**

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/l):** A unit of measure of radioactivity.

**Parts per million (ppm):** A unit of measure equivalent to one gallon in one million gallons.

**Parts per billion (ppb):** A unit of measure equivalent to one gallon in one billion gallons.

**Parts per trillion (ppt):** A unit of measure equivalent to one gallon in one trillion gallons.

**Cryptosporidium Monitoring -** Cryptosporidium is a microbial parasite naturally found in surface water throughout the world. If ingested, it can cause intense gastrointestinal distress in otherwise healthy people. The Sheboygan Water Utility utilizes UV Disinfection to effectively inactivate the protozoan cryptosporidium.

In compliance with the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule, the Sheboygan Water Utility has conducted source water monitoring for cryptosporidium. In 2016, cryptosporidium was detected 1 time(s) in the untreated source waters of Lake Michigan.

**Turbidity Monitoring -** In accordance with s. NR 810.29, Wisconsin Administrative Code, the treated surface water is monitored for turbidity to confirm that the filtered water is less than 0.3NTU. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor for it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system. During the year, the highest single entry point turbidity measurement was 0.034 NTU. The lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100 percent.

## Sheboygan's Low Water Rates

Sheboygan's water rates are very low compared to other cities in the state. To see how we compare go to: http://sheboyganwater.org/assets/Customer-Service/Compare.pdf

### Sheboygan's Current Water Rates Effective 5/1/2018

| Meter Size | Fixed Quarterly Charge | Quarterly Public Fire Protection |
|---|---|---|
| 5/8" | $12.00 | $8.52 |
| 3/4" | $12.00 | $8.52 |
| 1" | $21.00 | $21.00 |
| 1 1/4" | $30.00 | $30.00 |
| 1 1/2" | $39.00 | $42.00 |
| 2" | $60.00 | $67.50 |
| 3" | $102.00 | $126.00 |
| 4" | $162.00 | $210.00 |
| 6" | $306.00 | $420.00 |

### Quarterly Volume Charge

| | |
|---|---|
| First 150/100 C.F. | $1.50 |
| Next 4,850/100 C.F. | $1.30 |
| Over 5,000/100 C.F. | $1.13 |

### Sewer & Garbage Rates as of 1/1/18

| | |
|---|---|
| Fixed Quarterly Sewer Charge | $34.87 |
| Volume Charge | $2.14/100 C.F. |
| Garbage Fee Per Residential Unit, Quarterly Rate | $15.00 |

## For Spanish & Hmong Readers

El Agua Sheboygan Utilidad informe anual está disponible en español visitando www.sheboyganwater.org.

Daim Ntawv Qhia Txog Sheboygan Water Utility Rau Txhua Xyoo muab sau rau lus Hmoob teev rau hauv internet yog mus saib rau ntawm http://www.sheboyganwater.org.