





**This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.**

**Soomaaliga:** Warbixintan waxay wadataa macluumaad muhiim ad ee la xiriira biyaha aad cabtid. Cid ha Kuu tarjunto ama la hadl cid fahmaysa.

**En español:** Información importante. Si no la entiende, haga que alguien se la traduzca ahora.

## ST. CLOUD WATER TREATMENT FACILITY

The Water Treatment Facility is located on the west bank of the Mississippi River underneath Hester Park. The facility provides drinking water to customers in St. Cloud and St. Augusta.

When the facility was built in 1954, it could treat 8 million gallons of water per day. The current production capacity is 24 million gallons per day. Average water demand is 6.6 million gallons per day in the winter and 10.7 million gallons per day in the summer.

Drinking water is produced using various treatment stages: water intake from the Mississippi, taste and odor removal, lime softening, conventional filtration and disinfection. The finished, high quality drinking water is then sent through the distribution system to be readily available for all homes, businesses and industries, as well as for fire protection.

St. Cloud has four elevated water towers, one ground reservoir and an onsite clearwell at the facility. In total, there is 9 million gallons of storage which ensures clean, safe drinking water is there when you need it.

The Water Treatment Facility Advanced Process Improvements and Upgrades Project is currently underway and is expected to be completed in 2024. Water treatment upgrades include advanced oxidation using ozone, biologically active carbon filtration, and ultraviolet light disinfection. These upgrades will position the Utility to meet and future regulatory requirements.

### For more information on the Advanced Process Improvements & Upgrades Project

Visit the project page at  
[ci.stcloud.mn.us/waterproject](http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/waterproject)

## WATER SOURCE

The City of St. Cloud is the first municipality to use the Mississippi River as a source for drinking water. The drinking water provided to customers continues to meet and exceed drinking water quality expectations set by the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

The MDH has determined that the source water is potentially susceptible to contamination. In response, the City of St. Cloud developed a Source Water Protection Plan to help prevent contamination of the Mississippi River.

To obtain the source water assessment from MDH, please call 651-201-4700 during regular business hours. The source water assessment can be viewed online at:

[www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/swp/swa](http://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/water/swp/swa)

Please contact the Public Utilities Department or MDH if you have questions regarding drinking water or if you would like information about opportunities for public participation which helps to guide decisions that may affect the quality of the water.

## BY THE NUMBERS



### Treatment Capacity

24 million gallons per day



### Available Tower Storage

7.5 million gallons



### Distribution System

305 miles of pipe



### Hydrants

3,379



### Accounts

18,242



### Staff

19 water professionals



### Staffed Hours of Operation

24 hours/day, 365 days/year

## MAKING SAFE DRINKING WATER

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA sets regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants that can be present in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants, potential health effects and available USEPA guidelines can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people with immune system disorders, some elderly, pregnant women and infants can be particularly vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water. These people or their caregivers should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

The sources for 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. Substances that may be present in river (source) water include:

- *Microbial contaminants:* such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wildlife, pets, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and/or wastewater treatment facilities.
- *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:* may come from a variety of sources such as commercial or residential property use, agriculture and/or urban stormwater runoff.
- *Organic chemical contaminants:* including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which may come from industrial processes, petroleum production, gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants:* such as radium, thorium and uranium, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## LABORATORY SERVICES

St. Cloud Water Treatment Facility operates a laboratory that is certified with the MDH Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program. The laboratory completes compliance sampling events, both at the facility and out in the distribution system, along with process control sampling.

St. Cloud works with MDH to test the drinking water for more than 100 contaminants. The included tables show the contaminants that were detected in 2022 or the most recent sampling event. No contaminants were detected at levels that violated federal drinking water standards. Some contaminants were detected in trace amounts that were below regulatory or legal limits.

Substances that were tested for but not found are not included in the tables.

## COMMONLY USED TERMS

### **MCLG**

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal* - concentrations less than this have no known or expected risk to health.

### **MCL**

*Maximum Contaminant Level* - the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

### **AL**

*Action Level* - the concentration that triggers treatment or other requirement.

### **TT**

*Treatment Technique* - a required process intended to reduce a contaminant level.

### **NTU**

*Nephelometric Turbidity Unit* - measurement of light intensity as a beam of light passes through a water sample.

### **MRDL**

*Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level*

### **MRDLG**

*Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal*

### **N/A**

*Not Applicable*

### **ppm**

*parts per million*

### **ppb**

*parts per billion*

### **PWSID**


*Public Water System Identification*

INORGANIC & ORGANIC PARAMETERS – TESTED IN DRINKING WATER						
Parameter Units	EPA Limit (MCL)	EPA Goal (MCLG)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Meets Requirements	Typical Sources
Xylenes ppm	10	10	0	N/A	YES	Discharge from petroleum or chemical factories.
Nitrate ppm	10	10	0.32	N/A	YES	Runoff from fertilizer; sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

OTHER SUBSTANCES—TESTED IN DRINKING WATER						
Parameter Units	EPA Limit (MCL)	EPA Goal (MCLG)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Meets Requirements	Typical Sources
Fluoride ppm	4.0	4.0	0.73	0.61-0.71	YES	Water additive to promote strong teeth.

Fluoride is nature's cavity fighter. Since studies show that optimal fluoride levels in drinking water benefit public health, municipal community water systems are required to adjust the level of fluoride in the water to an optimal concentration between 0.5 to 0.9 parts per million (ppm) to protect your teeth. Fluoride levels below 2.0 ppm are not expected to increase the risk of a cosmetic condition known as enamel fluorosis.

DISINFECTION RELATED PARAMETERS – TESTED IN DRINKING WATER						
Parameter Units	EPA Limit (MCL)	EPA Goal (MCLG)	Highest Average or Highest Single Test Result	Range of Detected Test Results	Meets Requirements	Typical Sources
Total Trihalomethanes (THMs) ppb	80	N/A	26.1	12.7-36.5	YES	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA) ppb	60	N/A	20.8	10.4-26.3	YES	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Chlorine ppm	4.0	4.0	3.21	2.89-3.23	YES	Water additive used to control microbes.



**Drinking Water Week 2023**  
May 7-13, 2023

St. Cloud's water professionals provide millions of gallons of fresh, clean water every day.



**ST.CLOUD** > GREATER WATER QUALITY

DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT INDICATOR – TESTED IN SOURCE WATER AND DRINKING WATER						
Parameter Units	Removal Required	Average % Removal Achieved	Range of % Removal Achieved	Meets Requirements	Typical Sources	
Total Organic Carbon % Removal	Variable >30%	56	42-63	YES	Leaves, soil, naturally found in surface water bodies.	
TREATMENT INDICATOR – TESTED DURING TREATMENT						
Parameter Units	Removal Requirements	Lowest Monthly % of Results in Compliance	Highest Test Result	Meets Requirements	Typical Source	
Turbidity NTU	Treatment Technique	100	0.24	YES	Soil Runoff	
LEAD AND COPPER—TESTED AT RESIDENTIAL TAPS						
Parameter Units	EPA Ideal Goal	EPA Action Level	90% of Results Were Less Than	Homes with High Levels	Meets Requirements	Typical Source
Copper (ppm) Sampled: June 2022	0	90% of homes less than 1.3 ppm	0.08	0 out of 33	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Lead (ppb) Sampled: June 2022	0	90% of homes less than 15 ppb	2	0 out of 33	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Lead can be found in paint, water, dust, soil, food, or certain work environments. If present in elevated levels, lead can cause serious health problems especially for pregnant women and children. There is no safe level of lead.

Lead is rarely in the drinking water source, but can get in water as it passes through lead service lines and your household plumbing system. The City provides high quality drinking water, but cannot control the materials used in household plumbing components or fixtures.

**You can minimize the potential for lead exposure by:**

- Flush the tap for 30-60 seconds before using for drinking or cooking.
- Use cold water for drinking, making food, and making baby formula.
- Have your water tested with an accredited laboratory if you are concerned about lead content after flushing.
- Treat your water if test results show lead content is high after flushing.

**To find out if a home has a lead service line, contact:**

- St. Cloud Public Utilities: 320-255-7225 or [publicutilities@ci.stcloud.mn.us](mailto:publicutilities@ci.stcloud.mn.us)
- <https://www.mprnews.org/story/2016/06/24/npr-find-lead-pipes-in-your-home>

**To find an accredited laboratory for testing lead in drinking water, visit:**

- <https://eldo.web.health.state.mn.us/public/accreditedlabs/labsearch.seam>

**To learn more about reducing lead from sources other than drinking water, visit:**

- <https://www.health.state.mn.us/communities/environment/lead/fs/common.html>

**To learn more about lead, contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline:**

- 1-800-426-4791 or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>





Sign up to

# Adopt a Storm Drain!

[adopt-a-drain.org](http://adopt-a-drain.org)



**Adopt a Storm Drain**  
A project of Hamline University  
and the City of St. Cloud  
[adopt-a-drain.org](http://adopt-a-drain.org)



## PROTECTING THE SOURCE

The City of St. Cloud maintains a municipal separate storm drain system. Water from snow melt and rain events enter catch basins/ drains in the street and eventually ends up in the Mississippi River and other waterways, with little or no treatment. Protecting the storm drain system means protecting area waterways and our valuable drinking water source. You can do your part:

- Safely store hazardous materials and dispose of them properly.
- Limit the use of herbicides, fertilizers, and pesticides on your property and avoid overspray onto hard surfaces.
- Seal, repair and contain motor fluid leaks before they run onto the street or into storm drains.
- Limit the use of salt on sidewalks and driveways. 12 oz of salt is enough for a 20 ft driveway or about 10 sidewalk squares.
- Keep leaves and grass off of the streets and sidewalks.
- Pick up after your pet and put waste in the trash.
- Seal trash bags and keep litter out of the street.

**Adopt a storm drain near you! [Adopt-a-drain.org](http://Adopt-a-drain.org)**

## CONSERVATION

Water conservation is essential, even in the land of 10,000 lakes. In some areas, groundwater is being used faster than it can be replaced. Some agricultural regions in Minnesota are vulnerable to drought, which can affect crop yields and municipal water supplies.

Drinking water is a precious resource and we must use our water wisely. Below are some tips to help you and your family conserve water and save money in the process.

- Fix running toilets and leaky faucets.
- Turn off the tap while shaving or brushing your teeth.
- Take a shower instead of a bath. Low Flow showerheads save more water.
- Only run full loads of laundry, and set the washing machine to the correct water level.
- Only run the dishwasher when it's full.
- Use water-efficient appliances (look for the WaterSense label).



## Contact Us

**St. Cloud Water Treatment Facility**

**(320) 255-7225**

**[Water@ci.stcloud.mn.us](mailto:Water@ci.stcloud.mn.us)**

**Visit us online at [ci.stcloud.mn.us/343](http://ci.stcloud.mn.us/343)**