

# 2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## County Water District of Billings Heights

PWSID#MT0000155

1540 Popelka Drive

Billings, MT 59105

We're very pleased to provide you with the annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is, and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is surface water from the Yellowstone River.

**We're pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact David Peyton. He can be reached at **252-0539**. If you want to learn more about our water, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on **the third Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm at the District Office located at 1540 Popelka Drive, Billings, MT 59105.**

Heights Water purchases water from the City of Billings. The City of Billings and Heights Water routinely monitor for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This report shows the results of the monitoring by Heights Water for the period of **January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2021**. For information concerning the monitoring done by the City of Billings, copies of their Water Quality Report are available at the District Office, or online at [City of Billings, MT - Official Website - Water Quality Reports](#). For constituents that are not monitored yearly, we have reviewed our records back to the last five years.

We have monitored for lead and copper, and all our samples have been in compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule. 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. Heights Water 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Parameter	Date	90th % value	Units	Action level	Source of Contamination
Lead	2021	3	ppb	15	Household plumbing
Copper	2021	0.126	ppm	1.3	Household plumbing

In the tables above and below you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

*Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l)* - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2000 years or a single penny in \$10,000.00.

*Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)* - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

*Action Level* - the concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

*Treatment Technique (TT)* - (mandatory language) a treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

*Maximum Contaminant Level* - (mandatory language) The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is 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* - (mandatory language) The “Goal” MCLG is 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.

*Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)*-nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

TEST RESULTS								
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Sample Date	Highest Level Detected	Range	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Disinfection By-products</b>								
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	N	2021	56*	34-79	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAAs)	N	2021	36*	25-61	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination

\*Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future

**Our system had no violations.**

We’re proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water **IS SAFE** at these levels.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or are man made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials.

All 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 and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL’s are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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

We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children’s future.