

A²H₂O

Quality Water Matters

Brought to you by the City of Ann Arbor
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Dear customers,
Each year we write an Annual Water Quality Report also known as a Consumer Confidence Report to provide you a consistent location to find water quality data and information

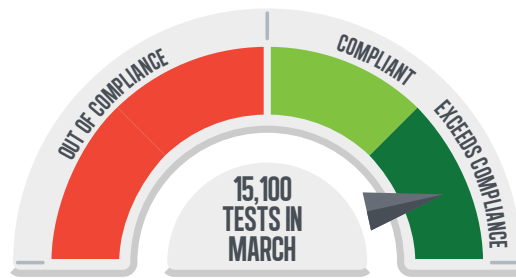
about your tap water. The report includes a summary of water quality data from the previous calendar year along with context to help you interpret the information. Our 2021 report is now available for you to view. Check it out on our website at www.a2gov.org/waterreport.

As always, please continue to contact us if you have questions about your drinking water at water@a2gov.org or in the case of an emergency you can reach us by phone at 734.794.6426.

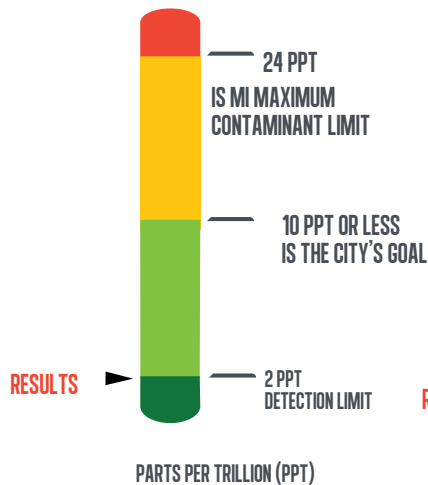
Becky Lahr

Becky Lahr, PhD, City of Ann Arbor
Drinking Water Quality Manager

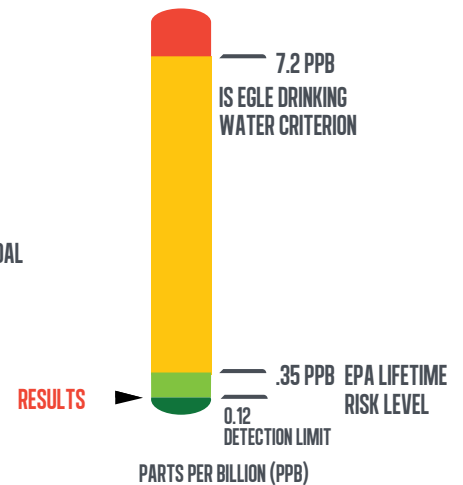
MONTHLY WATER QUALITY DASHBOARD



PFOS/PFOA



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Save the date for these upcoming events:

***Earth Day, Sunday, April 24** at Leslie Science & Nature Center
www.lesliesnc.org/a2earthday

***Celebrate Drinking Water Week, Saturday, May 7**

- Sign up for an in-person Water Treatment Plant tour on Saturday, May 7.
- Only a limited number of spots will be available, so visit www.qualitywatermatters.org to reserve your spot today (and please cancel if your schedule changes).
- Plan to be outside for most of the tour rain or shine!
- We will follow the most recent COVID-19 safety guidance and will contact participants the week of the event to clarify policies. Be prepared to wear a mask and practice social distancing. Remember, Water Treatment Plant staff are essential workers who work 24/7 to provide you drinking water, so **PLEASE** cancel if you aren't feeling 100% on May 7.

***Huron River Water Day, Sunday, May 15** www.a2gov.org/HRD



SEMCOG Water Infrastructure Task Force Kicks Off

Nearly one third of the region's water infrastructure is in poor condition due to chronic under-investment. SEMCOG, the Southeast Michigan Council of Governments, has convened a Water Infrastructure Task Force made up of government, business, and nonprofit organizations focusing on the current condition and future resiliency of the system and the short and long-term actions needed for sustainable water infrastructure systems in Southeast Michigan.

Thank you to the city's Water Quality Manager, **Jennifer Lawson**, who serves on the Task Force. More information about the Task Force is available [online](#).



2021 Water Quality Report

The 2021 Annual Water Quality Report is now available and explains where your drinking water comes from, what is in it and how we keep it safe. Read more at www.a2gov.org/waterreport.

Public Works gears up for spring flushing

Public Works crews will begin annual fire hydrant flushing in mid-April. Flushing is performed each spring to remove accumulation of minerals in the water pipes and to check water pressures throughout the system. Once the program begins, residents will be able to view a map that shows where crews have flushed and where they will flush next. The map will be available at www.a2gov.org/publicworks. On occasion, during spring hydrant flushing, the water in the areas of flushing may temporarily be discolored. Many of our pipes are made out of unlined cast iron, so as they age they can rust. When water is pulled from a hydrant in your area, it can change the normal water flow pattern and disturb iron sediment from the water pipes. If this occurs, please run your cold water at the tap closest to your water meter for several minutes to clear your lines. You should also flush your toilets once or twice. The water should run clear within a few minutes but may last until the evening when the work ends and more people are home to move the rusty water out of the system. Try not to run warm water if possible if you notice sediments or discoloration, as this forces the sediments/discolored water into the water heater, mixing it with clear stored water.



If you do get rusty water in your hot water heater, drain the hot water heater per the manufacturer's instructions. If your laundry becomes discolored from the use of rusty water, products like "Rover" can help remove temporary laundry coloration. Iron is on EPA's list of Secondary Contaminants, which means it is an aesthetic issue in drinking water, but not a public health concern. If the issue persists beyond hydrant flushing season in your area, please call the Water Treatment Plant or report the issue on [A2FixIt](#) so we can investigate.

April 2022 Water Champion

Congratulations to this month's Water Quality Champion, City of Ann Arbor Customer Service Administrative Assistant V **Tammy Kokoski**. For 26 years, Tammy has been dedicated to the water billing process and assisting customers with resolving water issues, including 16 years with City of Ann Arbor. She also assists with the backflow prevention program and helping customers to understand how to properly test backflow devices in homes and businesses. She encourages water customers to be mindful of water usage. For example, consider running the dishwasher or laundry with full loads only. Also, consider using Aquahawk to monitor water consumption. Users can set up alerts to be notified immediately if there is a spike in water usage.



City and UM Awarded Water Research Foundation Grant for UV Disinfection Project

The City of Ann Arbor recently submitted a grant proposal to the Water Research Foundation in collaboration with the University of Michigan and was selected for funding. The project is designed to further the city's understanding of its UV treatment system and inform decisions about how the system is operated to optimize the city's drinking water quality. City Council passed a resolution on Feb. 7 to accept the grant and research agreements.

The overall project budget is \$450,082 spent over 2.5 years, with contributions to funding from Water Research Foundation (\$100,000), University of Michigan (\$219,460), the UV system vendor Trojan (\$9,000), and City of Ann Arbor (\$121,622).

The City of Ann Arbor has had a long history of research partnerships with Dr. Lut Raskin and her research team at the University of Michigan and will begin work on the project in May.