THE CITY OF Fargo
FAR MORE

WATER

Your WATER QUALITY REPORT

2025

THE CITY OF Fargo
FAR MORE

WATER

The City of Fargo Water Treatment Plant is issuing this report to inform customers about the quality of water produced and distributed in 2025.

If you are a large-volume user, please distribute a copy of this Water Quality Report to consumers who do not receive a bill.

If you have questions about Fargo drinking water, please contact the Water Treatment Plant at **701.241.1469**.

If you are aware of non-English speaking individuals who need help with the appropriate language translation, please contact the Communications & Governmental Affairs Team at **701.241.1310**.

If you would like opportunities for public participation in decisions that affect water quality, please attend Fargo City Commission meetings, which are held every two weeks. Please visit the City of Fargo website for exact meeting dates and times.

FargoND.gov/CityCommission

Troy B. Hall
Water Utility Director

Daniel L. Portlock
Assistant Water Utility Director

Brian A. Ward
Water Treatment Plant Superintendent

TANK OF THE YEAR
BY TNEMEC COMPANY INC

The City of Fargo's new water tower has been honored as the 2025 Tank of the Year by Tnemec Company Inc., a national provider of protective coatings. The annual Tank of the Year contest recognizes the most innovative and creative water tank projects across the United States and Canada.

Fargo's winning tank stood tall among more than 300 nominations from across North America. A reflection of community pride and artistic vision, the design on Fargo's tank captured the attention of contest judges and voters. The new water tower replaces three aging towers, holds 2.5 million gallons and is the largest in North Dakota.

WATER QUALITY
AESTHETIC AVERAGES FOR 2025

The water we provide is treated with fluoride addition as part of the water treatment process to enhance dental health. For information regarding the level of fluoride in the finished water provided to our consumers, please contact the Water Treatment Plant at **701.241.1469**. Reported levels of fluoride in finished water from participating states public water systems can also be accessed online at **NCCD.cdc.gov/DOH_MWF/Default/Default.aspx**.

Total Hardness
134 (ppm) or 7.83 grains/gallon

Manganese
Less than 0.02 (ppm)

Total Dissolved Solids
400 (ppm)

pH
9.20

Iron
Less than 0.02 (ppm)

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT DRINKING
WATER REGULATIONS

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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.

In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The 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 water poses a health risk.

Before The City of Fargo delivers water to your home it is thoroughly tested. All regulatory testing is performed in certified laboratories. In addition, the Fargo Water Treatment Plant is staffed with Certified Operators and Environmental Laboratory Technicians who are monitoring and testing your water to ensure that drinking water standards enforced by the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality (NDDEQ) are maintained.

The Fargo Water Treatment Plant complies with the EPA Safe Drinking Water Act by routinely testing for contaminants. The contaminants detected and values are listed in the Monitoring Results Tables. Certain contaminants require testing less than once per year. The concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. This data, while still representative of the water quality, is more than a year old and is also listed in the Monitoring Tables. In 2025, there were no contaminants that exceeded the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), which is the highest level of a substance allowed in drinking water as set forth by the EPA.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **800.426.4791** or visiting **FargoND.gov/EPASafeWater**.

CONTAMINANTS
THAT MAY BE PRESENT IN SOURCE WATER

MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS
Such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

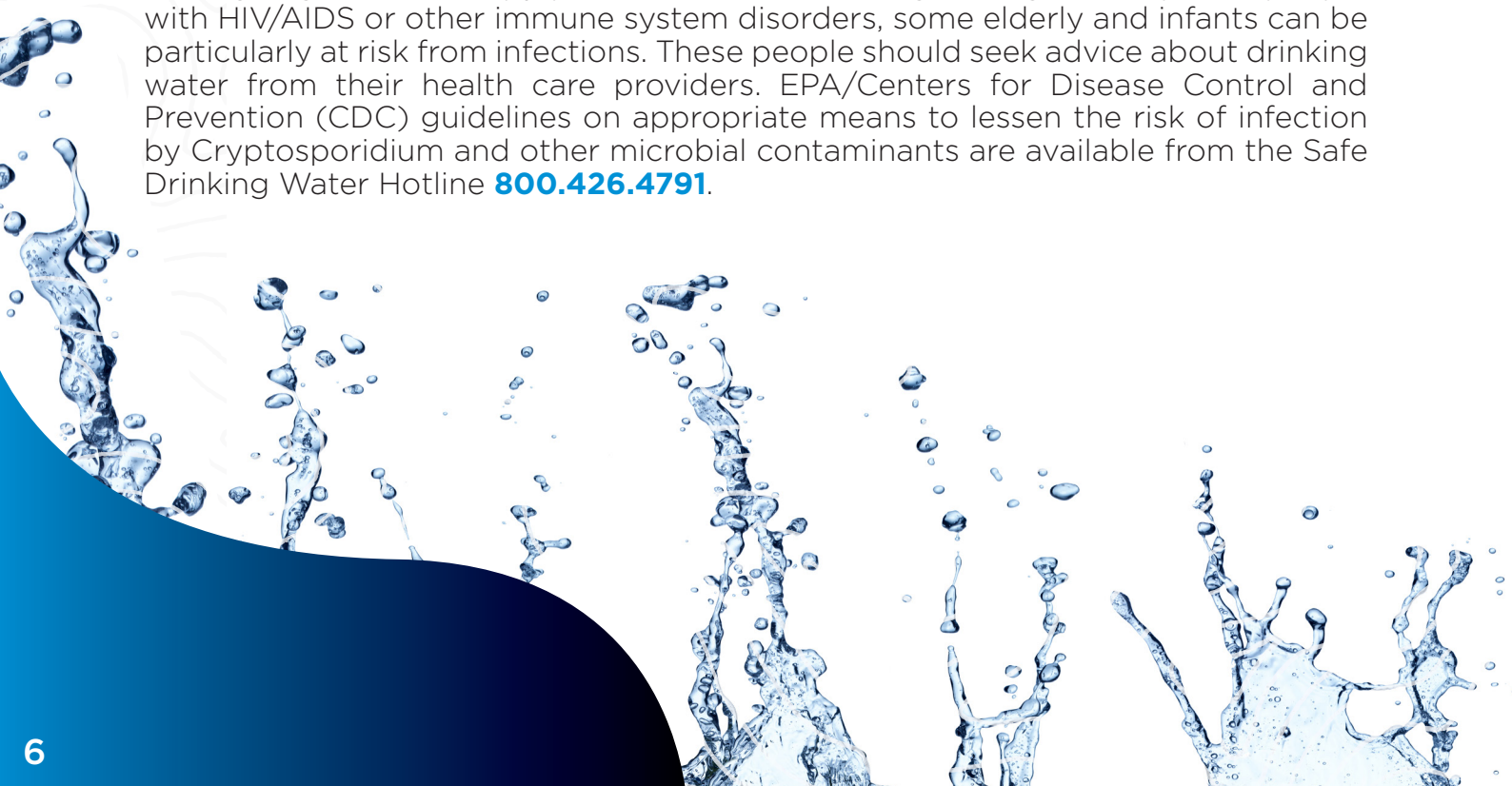
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS
Such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

PESTICIDES AND HERBICIDES
Which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses. (Pesticide: Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling or mitigating any pest. Herbicide: Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.)

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 storm water runoff and septic systems.

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS
Which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline **800.426.4791**.



KEY

MCLG
(Maximum Contaminant Level Goal)

The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

MCL
(Maximum Contaminant Level)

The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Highest Compliance Level

The highest level of contaminant used to determine compliance with a National Primacy Drinking Water Regulation.

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 Disinfection Level Goal)

The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Range of Detections

The lowest to the highest result value recorded during the required monitoring timeframe for systems with multiple entry points.

ABBREVIATIONS

ppb - parts per billion

ppm - parts per million

pCi/L - picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

umho/cm - micromhos per centimeter (unit of measurement for conductivity)

AL – Action Level

EP – Entry Point

N/A – Not Applicable

ND - None Detected

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units

TT – Treatment Technique

WTP – Water Treatment Plant

LSWTP – Lime Softening Water Treatment Plant

MWTP – Membrane Water Treatment Plant

MGD – Million Gallons Per Day

Turbidity

A measure of water clarity monitored at The City of Fargo Water Treatment Plant. Soil runoff is the major source of turbidity in drinking water. Certain treatment techniques (TT) are employed at our facilities to reduce the level of turbidity in the drinking water. Regulations require turbidity to be < 0.15 NTU at the effluent of the Fargo Membrane Water Treatment Plant (MWTP) and < 0.30 NTU at the effluent of the Fargo Lime Softening Water Treatment Plant (LSWTP) 95% of the time and < 1.0 NTU 100% of the time. Turbidity has no health effects but can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms such as bacteria, viruses and parasites that can cause nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS

Turbidity	(TT) Treatment Technique	< 1.0 (NTU) (100%)	(MWTP) < 0.15 (NTU) (95%) (LSWTP) < 0.3 (NTU) (95%)	Level Detected (NTU)	Range (NTU)
(MWTP) Effluent	Ultra Filtration; Reverse Osmosis; Disinfection	100% of samples	100% of samples	0.094 05.26.2025	0.021 to 0.094
(LSWTP) Effluent	Filtration; Disinfection	100% of samples	100% of samples	0.158 05.27.2025	0.019 to 0.158

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Substance [monitored at tap] (units) Test Date	MCL	MCLG	Highest Compliance Level	Range	Major Source of Contaminant
Nitrate - Nitrite (ppm) 04.15.2025	10	10	0.384	N/A	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Substance [monitored at tap] (units) Test Date	MCL	MCLG	Highest Compliance Level	Range	Major Source of Contaminant
Alkalinity, Carbonate (ppm) 06.04.2025	N/A	N/A	10	ND - 10	Naturally present when water passes through rock and soil which contains carbonate, bicarbonate and hydroxide compounds
Bicarbonate as HCO3 (ppm) 06.04.2025	N/A	N/A	497	58 - 497	Naturally present when water passes through rock and soil which contains carbonate, bicarbonate and hydroxide compounds
Bromide (ppm) 12.16.2025	N/A	N/A	330	31 - 330	Discharge from oil and gas production and coal-fired steam electric power plants; Erosion of natural deposits
Calcium (ppm) 05.06.2025	N/A	N/A	38.7	27.4 – 38.7	Naturally present when water passes through rock and soil. It may dissolve from rocks such as limestone, marble, calcite, dolomite, gypsum, fluorite and apatite
Conductivity @ 25 C (umho/cm) 05.06.2025	N/A	N/A	620	369 - 620	Conductive ions from dissolved salts and inorganic materials such as alkalis, chlorides, sulfides and carbonate compounds naturally present in water
Orthophosphate (ppm) 05.06.2025	N/A	N/A	0.183	0.025 – 0.183	Water additive used to inhibit corrosion
pH 05.06.2025	N/A	N/A	8.99	8.15 – 8.99	Measure of how acidic or basic water is
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm) 05.06.2025	N/A	N/A	384	229 - 384	Organic and inorganic materials either naturally occurring or man-made that are dissolved in water

TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON REMOVAL

Substance [monitored at tap] (units) Test Date	MCL	MCLG	Highest Compliance Level	Range	Major Source of Contaminant
Alkalinity - Source (ppm) 01.31.2025	N/A	N/A	406.5	209 - 406.5	Naturally present when water passes through rock and soil which contains carbonate, bicarbonate and hydroxide compounds
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) - Finished (ppm) 09.30.2025	N/A	N/A	4.81	1.07 - 4.81	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) - Source (ppm) 03.31.2025	N/A	N/A	14	6.61 - 14	Naturally present in the environment

BACTERIOLOGICAL MONITORING

REVISED TOTAL COLIFORM RULE

As part of the EPA's Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) The City of Fargo samples and monitors 100 sites within The City of Fargo water distribution system each month for total coliforms. During 2025, no samples tested positive for total coliforms at these monitoring sites. Coliforms are a group of bacteria that are common in the environment. They are generally not harmful, but their presence can indicate that other potentially more dangerous bacteria or viruses have the potential to be present.

DISINFECTANTS

Substance [monitored at tap] (units) Test Date	MRDL	MRDLG	Highest Compliance Level	Range	Major Source of Contaminant
Chloramine (ppm) 10.31.2025	4.0	4.0	2.9	2.63 - 3.09	Water additive used to control microbes

DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS

Substance [monitored at tap] (units) Test Date	MCL	MCLG	Highest Compliance Level	Range	Major Source of Contaminant
Bromate - Finished (ppb) 01.31.2025	10	0	2	ND - 3.5	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) 09.30.2025	60	N/A	6	ND - 11.09	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb) 06.30.2025	80	N/A	10	ND - 16.35	By-product of drinking water disinfection

PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS)

The EPA has recently promulgated its per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) rule. This rule requires that Community Water Systems monitor for PFAS at the Entry Point (EP) to their drinking water distribution system. The purpose of initial PFAS monitoring is to determine the frequency of future PFAS sampling for our system based on the presence or level of contaminant that is or is not present in the water we provide. Samples were collected one time during 2025 at the Entry Point to the distribution system, as required, and were analyzed for 29 PFAS contaminants. None of the 29 contaminants were detected during this sampling event.

LEAD AND COPPER

The MCL for lead and copper is known as the Action Level (AL). This is the concentration which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements a water system must follow. Ninety percent of all samples tested must be below this concentration. During 2023, no sample site on The City of Fargo water distribution system tested above the AL for lead and copper. The next regulatory scheduled sampling and testing for lead and copper within The City of Fargo distribution system will be in 2026.

Substance [monitored at tap] (units) Test Date	AL	90th Percentile	Range	Sites Exceeding AL	Major Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm) 07.25.2023	1.3	0.0687	ND - 0.122	0 of 50 sites	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb) 07.25.2023	15	2.34	ND - 4.46	0 of 50 sites	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

LEAD AND COPPER

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed) and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your healthcare provider for more information about your risks.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed) and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in-home plumbing. The City of Fargo Water Treatment Plant is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home.

PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM LEAD IN WATER

Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly.

Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from the water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking or making baby formula, flush your home plumbing pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your home plumbing pipes for a longer period of time. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at **EPA.gov/SafeWater/Lead**. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact The City of Fargo Water Treatment Plant at **701.241.1469**.

LEAD AND COPPER RULE REVISION

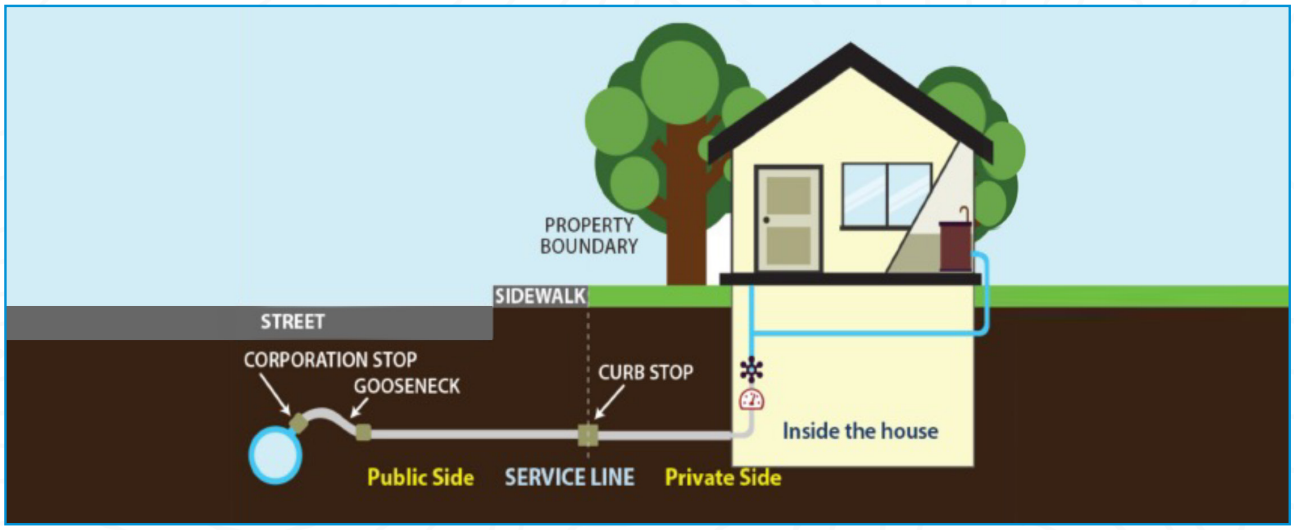
United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) has recently published the Lead and Copper Rule Revision. The purpose of this revision is to strengthen public health protections by removing lead service lines within public water systems. One requirement of this rule revision was to inventory all drinking water service lines within our public water system and notify customers which type of line serves each property. You may have recently received a letter from our water distribution system with this information.

The inventory is a listing of all service lines and the material composition of each line. The types of lines being documented are Lead Lines, Galvanized Requiring Replacement (GRR) and lines made of Unknown Material. Classification of a service line as being comprised of Unknown Service Line Material indicates that our system cannot currently confirm the material of both the public and private portions of the line with written records. Non-lead lines were also documented; however, we were not required to notify consumers with documented non-lead lines. The classification of the type of service line serving a residence was based on historical data regarding the property and in some cases verification of the type of material on the privately owned side of the line by visual inspection or replacement records of the owner.

The current Service Line Inventory for our water distribution system has been completed and is available for viewing online at **FargoND.gov/ServiceLineMap**. Please contact the City of Fargo Water Treatment Plant at **701.241.1469** should you have any questions.

SERVICE LINES

A service line is a small diameter pipe that connects to a water main and delivers potable water into a building. In Fargo, ownership is divided at the property boundary where the curb stop is located. The Public Side is maintained by The City of Fargo and the Private Side is under ownership of the property owner.



SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

To update the Fargo Service Line Inventory, additional work may be needed. This may include inspecting the service line to confirm the materials used in both the public and private sections. Building owners may need to provide access to the private portion of the service line to help identify the material that carries water into the building. If you would like your service line inspected by The City of Fargo or disagree with the current classification of your service line, please contact The City of Fargo Water Treatment Plant at **701.241.1469**.

The City of Fargo is currently updating water meters within our city limits. During the water meter update, the service line material is documented to confirm our records for each property. When contacted by Vepo, our meter installation contractors, please set up an appointment to replace your water meter and confirm your service line material.

IS YOUR WATER SERVICE LINE MADE OF LEAD?

Visit The City of Fargo Water Service Line Materials website by **scanning this QR code** to find out.

SNAPSHOT OF FARGO SERVICE LINE MATERIAL 2026

LEAD SERVICE LINE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM

The City of Fargo offers lead service line replacement at no cost.

Lead Service Line Replacement (LSLR) is underway in Fargo. This program aims to remove this outdated infrastructure, replacing your lead service line with pipe materials that will improve your water quality.

WATCH THE LSLR VIDEO

This program is offering replacements at no cost, using state and federal funding combined with a Fargo utility cost-share program. To qualify, your property must have a lead service line and you will be required to collect a follow-up sample for us after the replacement. Failure to fulfill the sampling requirement after replacement will result in a $1,000 invoice to the property owner.

The LSLR program is operating within Fargo using a phased approach. If you have a lead service line, you will be notified by mail before the LSLR program moves into your neighborhood. Our goal is to replace all service lines from our water distribution system containing lead with other approved materials by the year 2030. For more information on LSLR phases and existing materials, please visit **FargoND.gov/LSLR-Phases**.

More information regarding lead service line inventory, lead service line replacement and frequently asked questions regarding lead and copper in drinking water can be found online at **FargoND.gov/LeadAndCopper**. If you have any questions, please contact The City of Fargo Water Treatment Plant at **701.241.1469**.

OUR WATER SUPPLY
AND DROUGHT MANAGEMENT

DROUGHT MANAGEMENT

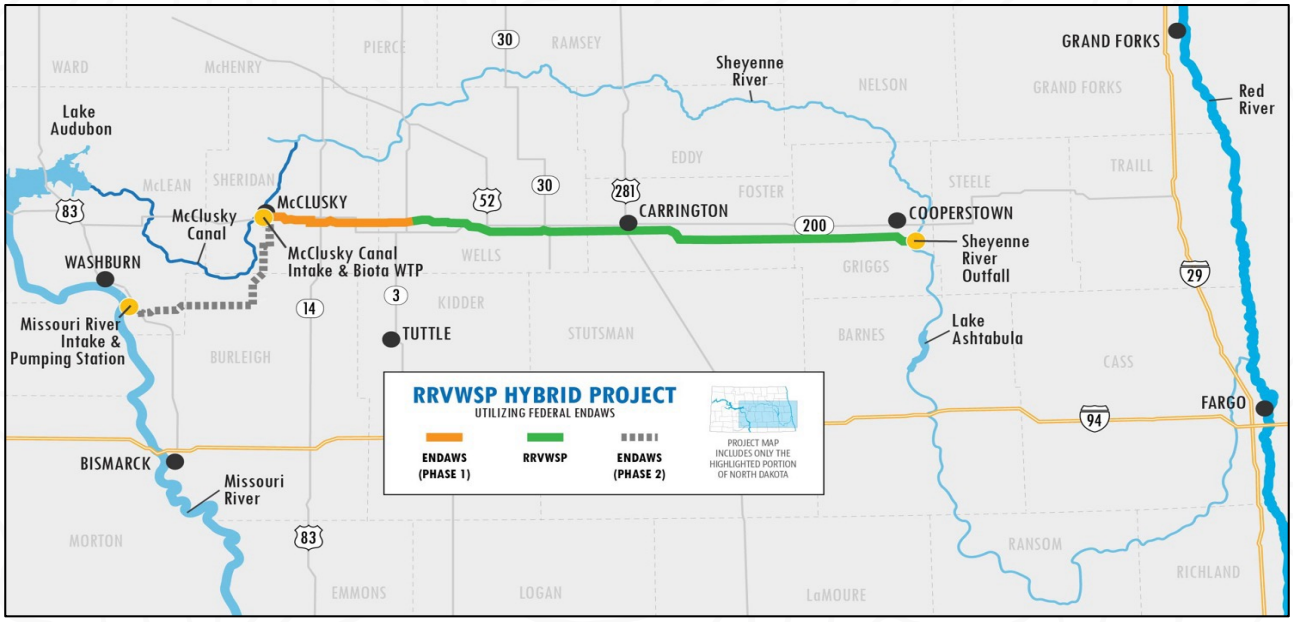
The primary source water for The City of Fargo Water Treatment Plant facilities is the Red River. The Red River water intake and pump station is located just east of our water treatment facilities in proximity to the Midtown Dam. The City of Fargo has other alternative sources of water which include the Sheyenne River and water stored within Lake Ashtabula. The City of Fargo owns 52% of the stored water rights within Lake Ashtabula. This water allocation is the result of the City of Fargo helping to fund the construction of the Baldhill Dam on the Sheyenne River creating Lake Ashtabula north of Valley City. During a drought, with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers approval, water from Lake Ashtabula can be released into the Sheyenne River to help meet The City of Fargo's water needs. This lake (used in 1976, '84, and '88), along with water restrictions and conservation, can help provide an emergency source water supply for The City of Fargo for a period of time dependent upon drought severity. The Sheyenne River intake and pumping station is located between the communities of Fargo, West Fargo, and Horace just east of the intersection of Sheyenne Street and 52nd Avenue South. This pump station utilizes a dedicated 9-mile pipeline constructed in 1983 to convey Sheyenne River water to our water treatment facilities on 14th Avenue South in Fargo. This location also includes a recently redesigned and constructed intake with lift pumps that can convey water from the Sheyenne river into Drain 27. Drain 27 meanders eastward through Fargo discharging into Rose Coulee, and ultimately into the Red River. Water allotted from the Red River Valley Water Supply Project would utilize this drain corridor to convey water to the Red River in periods of moderate to severe drought. Each pumping station can be used independently or combined to provide source water flow into our water treatment facilities. We focus on utilizing these sources wisely to minimize operating and treatment costs while optimizing water quality for our customers.

The City of Fargo has a drought management plan that monitors water flow, river levels and the precipitation index. The City has adopted an ordinance that mandates citizen participation during drought to reduce the impact to all water users. For more information about the drought management plan, visit **FargoND.gov/DroughtPlan**.

RED RIVER VALLEY
WATER SUPPLY PROJECT

The Red River Valley Water Supply Project (RRVWSP) is a $1.4 billion, multi-generational, drought resiliency and economic development project that will deliver Missouri River water to central and eastern North Dakota. It is expected to serve nearly half of North Dakota's population. Participating municipal and rural water systems will have access to an emergency and supplemental water supply during moderate to severe droughts.

RRVWSP OVERVIEW MAP



Studies have shown that a 1930s-style drought would cause extreme water supply shortages and devastating impacts in the Red River Valley. Historical records indicate there were five months of zero flow in the Red River in Fargo in 1934. Models indicate the RRVWSP would have operated during the moderate droughts of the 1950s, 1960s, 1970s, 1980s, 1990s and 2000s.

The City of Fargo is a member of the Lake Agassiz Water Authority (LAWA) which represents the local participating water systems that will be receiving water from the RRVWSP. The RRVWSP is being funded through a joint partnership between the State of North Dakota (75%) and LAWA (25%).

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION

The City of Fargo public water system, in cooperation with the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality, has completed the delineation and contaminant/land use inventory elements of the North Dakota Source Water Protection Program. Based on the information from these elements, the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality has determined our source water is moderately susceptible to potential contaminants.

You can learn more about the North Dakota Source Water Protection Program online at: **deq.nd.gov/WQ/1_Groundwater/1_SW.aspx**

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WATER