

Water Quality Basics for Milwaukee Makers

Milwaukee's water quality makes for happy fish and tasty homebrew. We offer this information to those of you who use Milwaukee tap water for brewing beer and coffee and steeping tea, to fill aquariums, for photofinishing, cooking and baking -- every activity that requires consistently pure, high-quality water. The data reflect water quality monitoring results Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2017 as reported in the annual Consumer Confidence Report. The report for any given year is published April 1 of the following year, in this case, 2018. Read more at Milwaukee.gov/water, choose [Water Quality](#) at the top.

Typical Values for Milwaukee Water

| Parameter | Median Value | Range |
|---|---|------------------------------|
| Alkalinity | 103 mg/L (as CaCO ₃) | 97-116 mg/L |
| Calcium | 34 mg/L | 34-34 mg/L |
| Chlorine* | 1.54 mg/L | 1.30-1.84 mg/L |
| Conductivity | 308 uS/cm | 288-353 uS/cm |
| Fluoride | 0.58 mg/L | 0.09-0.73 mg/L |
| Hardness, total (as CaCO ₃) | 135 mg/L | 131-152 mg/L |
| Hardness | 7.9 grains per gallon or 0.1 millimoles per liter | |
| Iron | 0.123 mg/L | 0.119-0.126 ppm |
| Nitrate, as Nitrogen | 0.33 mg/L | 0.22-0.44 mg/L |
| pH | 7.64 | 7.38-7.79 |
| Potassium | 1.4 mg/L | 1.4-1.4 mg/L |
| Sodium | 9.45 mg/L | 9.30-9.60 mg/L |
| Temperature | 47.3°F (8.5°C) | 36.3°-72.1°F (2.4°C -22.3°C) |
| Total Dissolved Solids | 179 mg/L | 167-204 mg/L |

Definitions

< = "is less than"

mg/L = milligrams per liter = ppm = parts per million

gpg = grains per gallon NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units

uS/cm = microsiemens per centimeter

* As total chloramine residual

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