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**Our Vision:** People and Business Succeeding with Quality Water    **Our Mission:** Quality Water for Southwest North Dakota

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Dear Valued Customer,

The purpose of this letter is to provide additional information for the 2024 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), also known as the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report required by the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality. The goal is to provide accurate and complete information about drinking water quality. Your water continues to meet or exceed all state and federal drinking water standards. The missing information is as follows:

#### Lead Information

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 health care provider for more information about your risks

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. Southwest Water Authority 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.

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 water.** Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your 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 pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Southwest Water Authority, 888-425-0241. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

#### LSLI Information

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 consumers which type of line serves each property. You may have recently received a letter from our 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 nonlead 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 system has been completed and is available for viewing at our office (OR is available online [swwater.com](http://swwater.com)). Please contact Southwest Water Authority at 888-425-0241 should you have any questions.**

Additional work to update the service line inventory, including inspection of the line, may need to be performed to further document and confirm the type of material making up both the public and private portions of the line serving your home or business. We will need the help of home/building owners in order to access the service line on the private side of the service line to positively identify the material of the line that carries water within your home/building. Our system may perform this work with our own system employees or we may contract with engineering firms or third-party contractors to complete this work to improve our service line inventory.

Once every five years EPA issues a list of unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems. The City of Mandan (our supplier for Crown Butte, Junction Inn and Tower Hill) was selected by EPA to sample for thirty (30) unregulated contaminants during 2024. Samples were collected four times at the Entry Point to the distribution system (EP), as required. Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Should you have any questions, please contact our office. The following unregulated contaminant was the only contaminant detected during this sampling.

<b>Unregulated Contaminant</b>	<b>Average value at EP sampling point (ug/L)</b>
<u>Lithium</u>	Average: 41.4
SE1 42.7 ug/L	(Range: 36.8 to 45.5)
SE2 36.8 ug/L	
SE3 40.6 ug/L	
SE4 45.5 ug/L	