

## UNIT WELL #20

Drilled in 1973, Well 20 has a pumping capacity of 2000 gallons per minute. It operates year-round and primarily serves Madison's Southwest neighborhoods south of Raymond Rd. It also supplies water to Greentree, Orchard Ridge, Allied Dunn's Marsh, and Arbor Hills neighborhoods. In 2019, Well 20 pumped 430 million gallons compared to its five-year average of 502 million gallons annually.

Unless otherwise noted, data contained in this report, which is updated annually, are from 2019.

### *Bacteria*

In 2019, fifty-three water samples were collected from Well 20 and tested for coliform bacteria, an indicator group of bacteria used to determine drinking water safety. None of the samples were found to have coliform bacteria present. Most samples (49) were chlorinated water while four samples were untreated groundwater. The Water Utility chlorinates drinking water to protect against bacteria and viruses that can be present in groundwater.

### *Hardness and Other Minerals*

Like all groundwater, water from Well 20 contains calcium and magnesium that contributes to its hardness (259 mg/L [ppm] or 15 grains per gallon). Other naturally occurring constituents that are present in water from Well 20 can be found in the [Inorganics Table](#).

### *Radionuclides*

In 2014, water from Well 20 was tested for radium-226, radium-228, and other gross measures of radiation in water. Combined radium (226+228) measured 1.6 picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – well below the maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 5 pCi/L.

Naturally occurring, radioactive elements are found in rock, soil, water, and air. They derive from the creation of our planet and enter our bodies when we drink water, breathe air, and eat foods that contain them. Everyone is exposed to some level of radiation in everyday life. For example, uranium and thorium are found in rock and soil. In time, they decay to other elements including radium, which later decays to radon gas. Radon is the largest contributor to our daily exposure of radiation from the natural world. More information is available from the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry ([ATSDR](#)).

See [ATSDR](#) for more information on radon.

### ***Chromium***

Low levels of naturally occurring chromium, including hexavalent chromium, have been found at Well 20. The level is well below the existing drinking water standard of 100 µg/L for total chromium. More information can be found on the [chromium](#) page.

### ***Iron, Lead, and Manganese***

Water from Well 20 does not contain significant amounts of iron, lead, or manganese.

### ***Man-made Contaminants***

Madison Water Utility annually tests all of its wells for man-made contaminants that may be present in groundwater. None of over fifty volatile organic compounds (VOC) tested were detected at Well 20 in 2019.

The [Volatile Organic Compounds](#) table lists the substances that were tested, the results, and how the detected levels compare with the maximum contaminant levels (MCL) established by the EPA.

### **Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)**

All Madison wells were tested for PFAS in 2019. None of the thirty [PFAS](#) we tested were found at Well 20. Our website, [madisonwater.org](http://madisonwater.org), has more information about PFAS in drinking water.

### ***Additional Information***

Information on routine [water quality monitoring](#) activities, including current test results and links to additional resources, is available at [madisonwater.org](http://madisonwater.org). In addition, you can sign-up to receive periodic updates on Madison drinking water quality or the water main flushing program through the [City of Madison](#) website.

If you have questions about the information in this report or on our website, our staff would be happy to answer them. Please call the Water Quality line at 266-4654 weekdays from 7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Click [here](#) to view water quality reports for other Madison municipal wells.