

Water Quality Basics for Milwaukee Makers

Milwaukee's water quality makes for happy fish and tasty homebrew. We offer this information for makers who use 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. These data reflect water quality monitoring results from Jan. 1 – Dec. 31, 2015. Find more information at www.milwaukee.gov/water, choose Water Quality at the top.

Typical Values for Milwaukee Water

Parameter	Median Value	Range
Alkalinity	109 mg/L (as CaCO ₃)	94-119 mg/L
Calcium	34 mg/L	34-34 mg/L
Chlorine*	1.57 mg/L	1.33-2.00 mg/L
Conductivity	306 uS/cm	275-371 uS/cm
Fluoride	0.57 mg/L	0.09-0.69 mg/L
Hardness, total (as CaCO ₃)	136 mg/L	129-150 mg/L
Hardness is 7.9 grains per gallon or 0.1 millimoles per liter		
Iron	0.004 mg/L	0.003-0.025 ppm
Nitrate, as Nitrogen	0.4 mg/L	0.2-0.7 mg/L
pH	7.62	7.41-7.89
Potassium	1.5 mg/L	1.3-1.7 mg/L
Sodium	9.96 mg/L	8.09-20.01 mg/L
Temperature	48.2°F (9.0°C)	21.1°-70.0°F (0.8°C -21.1°C)
Total Dissolved Solids	180 mg/L	176-207 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