



FACT SHEET Chromium-6

- Beaver Water District is committed to protecting public health. **The District is in full compliance with the current Safe Drinking Water Act regulations with respect to total chromium.**
- The drinking water standard for total chromium, which includes chromium-6, is 100 parts per billion. A part per billion is equal to roughly one second in 32 years. Chromium-6 is not currently regulated separately from total chromium.¹
- Chromium-6 is one of the chemical forms of chromium, which can be present in different forms in the environment, changing from one form to another in water and soil. Other common forms of chromium are trivalent chromium, also known as chromium-3, and the metal form, chromium-0. Chromium can convert between chromium-3 and chromium-6 in different environments.^{2,3}
- Chromium-6 exposure can occur by breathing it in, ingesting it in food or water, or through direct contact with the skin. Chromium-6 can be found in low levels in water supplies either as the result of industrial activities or from naturally occurring sources.²
- Quarterly laboratory analysis performed by the Arkansas Department of Health over a one-year period for the drinking water leaving the BWD treatment facilities indicated a range of chromium-6 in the water of 0.085 to 0.235 parts per billion. This analysis was completed in 2013 for the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 (UCMR3).
- The Environmental Protection Agency continues to evaluate chromium-6 health effects studies, along with water sampling conducted throughout the country, to determine if a drinking water standard for chromium 6 should be implemented.¹

¹ <https://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations/chromium-drinking-water>

² <https://www.niehs.nih.gov/health/topics/agents/hex-chromium/index.cfm>

³ <https://www.atsdr.cdc.gov/phs/phs.asp?id=60&tid=17>

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About Beaver Water District

Beaver Water District supplies drinking water to people and industries in Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers, Bentonville and surrounding areas. These cities then resell the water to surrounding towns and communities. The District's mission is to sustainably provide our customers with safe, economical drinking water. For more information, visit www.bwdh2o.org.