

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2022

Presented By





Our Mission Continues

We are once again pleased to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2022. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best-quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users. Please remember that we are always available should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

Lead in Home Plumbing

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet typically the first and third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall, 404 North Wood Dale Road. Check the schedule at www.wooddale.com to verify meeting dates and times.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S.

Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)/ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to



lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.

Testing for *Cryptosporidium*

Cryptosporidium is a microbial parasite found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes *Cryptosporidium*, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100-percent removal. Monitoring of source water and finished water indicates the presence of these organisms. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immunocompromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immunocompromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

Water Treatment Process

The treatment process consists of a series of steps. First, raw water is drawn from our water source and sent to an aeration tank, which allows for oxidation of the high iron levels that are present in the water. The water then goes to a mixing tank where polyaluminum chloride and soda ash are added. The addition of these substances causes small particles, called floc, to adhere to one another, making them heavy enough to settle into a basin from which sediment is removed. Chlorine is then added for disinfection. At this point, the water is filtered through layers of fine coal and silicate sand. As smaller suspended particles are removed, turbidity disappears and clear water emerges.

Chlorine is added again as a precaution against any bacteria that may still be present. (We carefully monitor the amount of chlorine, adding the lowest quantity necessary to protect the safety of your water without compromising taste.) Finally, soda ash (to adjust the final pH and alkalinity), fluoride (to prevent tooth decay), and a corrosion inhibitor (to protect distribution system pipes) are added before the water is pumped to sanitized underground reservoirs and water towers and into your home or business.

QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Alan Lange, Public Works Director, at (630) 350-3530.

Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, in some cases radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;

Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Source Water Assessment

A source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA. If you would like a copy of this information, please stop by City Hall or call our water operator at (630) 350-3530. To view a summary version of the completed source water assessments, including Importance of Source Water, Susceptibility to Contamination Determination, and documentation/recommendation of Source Water Protection Efforts, visit www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl.



Source of Water: Chicago

The Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of community water supply to be susceptible to potential pollution problems. The very nature of surface water allows contaminants to migrate into the intake with no protection, only dilution. This is the reason for mandatory treatment for all surface water supplies in Illinois. Chicago's offshore intakes are located at a distance that shoreline impacts are not usually considered a factor on water quality. At certain times of the year, however, the potential for contamination exists due to wet-weather flows and river reversals. In addition, the placement of the crib structures may serve to attract waterfowl - gulls and terns that frequent the Great Lakes area - thereby concentrating fecal deposits at the intake and thus compromising the source water quality. Conversely, the shore intakes are highly susceptible to storm water runoff, marinas, and shoreline point sources due to the influx of groundwater to the lake.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Since 1992, the City of Wood Dale has purchased treated Lake Michigan water from DuPage Water Commission. Lake Michigan is the second largest of the Great Lakes by volume and the only one entirely located within the United States. It is 307 miles long and varies from 30 to 120 miles wide, with a maximum depth of 923 feet. It serves as a source of drinking water and recreational activities. The average daily water consumption for the City of Wood Dale is a little over one million gallons.

The City of Wood Dale's Utilities Department maintains three wells to be used in an emergency. All backup wells follow U.S. EPA protocols for contaminant testing. Well test results are available on request.

Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	City of Wood Dale		City of Chicago		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE		
		MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH			AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH
Barium (ppm)	2020	2	2	0.0593	0.0593–0.0593	0.0201	0.0193–0.0201	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2022	[4]	[4]	0.9	0.8–1	1 ¹	1–1 ¹	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2020	5	0	12.84 ²	12.84–12.84 ²	0.95 ³	0.83–0.95 ³	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2020	4	4	1.04	1.04–1.04	0.76 ⁴	0.63–0.77 ⁴	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particles [excluding radon and uranium] (pCi/L)	06/23/2020	15	0	11.6	11.6–11.6	3.1 ¹	2.8–3.1 ¹	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs]–Stage 2 (ppb)	2022	60	NA	15	7.61–18.32	11.9 ³	5.8–15.2 ³	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Iron (ppb)	2020	1,000 ⁵	NA	0.54 ²	0.54–0.54 ²	NA	NA	No	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	2022	10	10	NA	NA	0.3	0.3–0.3	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	2020	NA ⁶	NA	31.1 ²	31.1–31.1 ²	9.08 ⁴	8.56–9.08 ⁴	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used in water softener regeneration
Total Nitrate + Nitrite (ppm)	2022	10	10	NA	NA	0.3	0.3–0.3	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes]–Stage 2 (ppb)	2022	80	NA	42	19.34–59.1	25.1	12.8–37.6	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity ⁷ (NTU)	2022	TT	NA	NA	NA	0.30	ND–0.30	No	Soil runoff

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	City of Wood Dale		City of Chicago		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE		
		AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES			AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL
Copper (ppm)	2020	1.3	1.3	0.109	0/30	0.12 ⁴	0 ⁴	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2022	15	0	NA	NA	7.7	1	No	Lead service lines; Corrosion of household plumbing systems, including fittings and fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	City of Wood Dale		City of Chicago		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE		
		SMCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH			AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH
Sulfate (ppm)	2022	250	NA	NA	NA	27.1	25.8–27.1	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes

¹ Sampled in 2020.

² Raw water from emergency standby wells.

³ Sampled in 2021.

⁴ Sampled in 2022.

⁵ Iron is not currently regulated by the U.S. EPA; however, the state has set an MCL for supplies serving a population of 1,000 or more.

⁶ Sodium is not currently regulated by the U.S. EPA; however, the state has set an MCL for this contaminant for supplies serving a population of 1,000 or more.

⁷ Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of disinfectants.



Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other required actions by the water supply.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level): These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

TT (Treatment Technique): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.