ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

WATER TESTING PERFORMED IN 2015

Presented By

City of Wood Dale

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Ta broszura zawiera wazne informacje dotyczace jakosci wody do picia. Przetlumacz zawartosc tej broszury lub skontaktuj sie z osoba ktora pomoze ci w zrozumieniu zawartych informacji.

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Meeting the Challenge

Once again we are proud to present our annual drinking water report, covering all drinking water testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2015. 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 your homes and businesses. 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 of our water users.

Please remember that we are always available to assist you, should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

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. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) 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.

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.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Since 1992, the City of Wood Dale has purchased treated Lake Michigan water from the DuPage Water Commission. Lake Michigan, by volume, is the second largest of the Great Lakes and is 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 about 1.783 million gallons.

The City of Wood Dale's Water Department maintains three backup wells to be used in an emergency. All backup wells are tested for all contaminants monthly and yearly as required by IEPA. Wells tests results are available on request.

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 polyaluminumchloride and soda ash are added. The addition of these substances cause small particles to adhere to one another (called "floc"), 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.

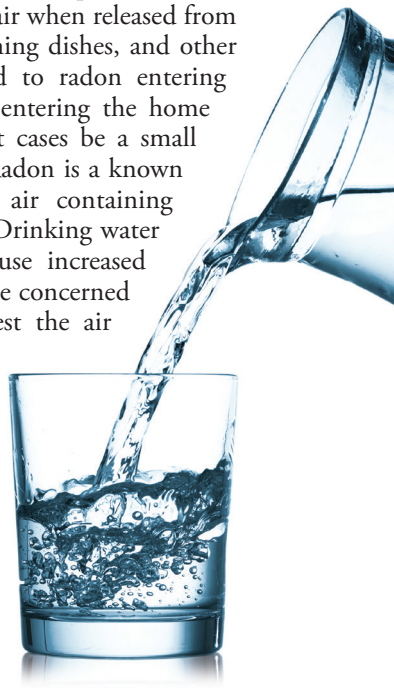
Chlorine is added again as a precaution against any bacteria that may still be present. (We carefully monitor the amount of chlorine, adding the lowest quantity necessary to protect the safety of your water without compromising taste.) Finally, soda ash (used to adjust the final pH and alkalinity), fluoride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

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the first and third Thursdays of each month beginning at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall, 404 North Wood Dale Road, Wood Dale, Illinois.

Radon

Radon is a radioactive gas that you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. You should pursue radon removal for your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 pCi/L or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly. For additional information, call your state radon program or call U.S. EPA's Radon Hotline at (800) SOS-RADON.

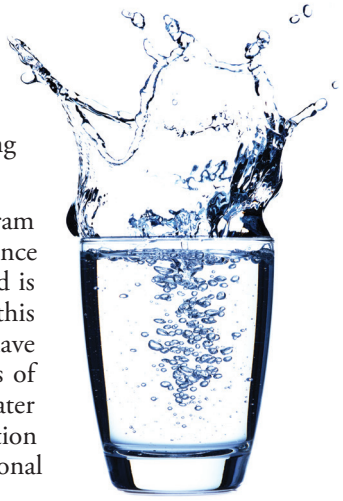


QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Matthew York, Public Works Director, at (630) 350-3542.

Protecting Our Source Water

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 stormwater runoff, marinas, and shoreline point sources due to the influx of groundwater to the lake. Throughout history, there have been extraordinary steps taken to ensure a safe source of drinking water in the Chicago area, from the building of the offshore cribs and the introduction of interceptor sewers to the lock-and-dam system of Chicago's waterways and the city's Lakefront Zoning Ordinance. The city now looks to the recently created Department of Water Management, Department of the Environment, and the MWRDGC to ensure the safety of the city water supply. Also, water supply officials from Chicago are active members of the West Shore Water Producers Association. Coordination of water quality situations (e.g., spills, tanker leaks, exotic species) and general lake conditions are frequently discussed during the association's quarterly meetings. Also, Lake Michigan has a variety of organizations and associations that are currently working to either maintain or improve water quality.



Finally, one of the best ways to ensure a safe source of drinking water is to develop a program designed to protect the source water against potential contamination on the local level. Since the predominant land use within the Illinois boundary of the Lake Michigan watershed is urban, a majority of the watershed protection activities in this document are aimed at this purpose. Citizens should be aware that everyday activities in an urban setting might have a negative impact on their source water. Efforts should be made to improve awareness of stormwater drains and their direct link to the lake within the identified local source water area. A proven best management practice (BMP) for this purpose has been the identification and stenciling of stormwater drains within a watershed. Stenciling along with an educational component is necessary to keep the lake a safe and reliable source of drinking water.

Information on the Internet

The U.S. EPA (www.epa.gov/Your-Drinking-Water) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) Web sites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation and public health. Also, the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency has a Web site (www.epa.illinois.gov/citizens/drinking-water/index) that provides complete and current information on water issues in Illinois, including valuable information about our watershed.

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 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 2 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 or at www.epa.gov/lead.

Sampling Results

During the past year, we have taken hundreds of water samples to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. The state requires us to monitor 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

				City of Wood Dale		City of Chicago			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alpha Emitters[1] (pCi/L)	2014	15	0	15.2	15.2–15.2	6.6	6.1–6.6	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium[1] (ppm)	2014	2	2	0.066	0.066–0.066	0.0201[2]	0.0193–0.0201[2]	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2015	[4]	[4]	0.8	0.5–1	1.0	1.0–1.0	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Combined Radium[1] (pCi/L)	2014	5	0	13.4	13.4–13.4	0.84	0.5–0.84	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride[1] (ppm)	2014	4	4	1.04	1.04–1.04	01.01[2]	0.76–1.01[2]	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAA] (ppb)	2015	60	NA	17	4.51–21.3	10	3.6–14.3	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2015	80	NA	38	23.6–45.7	22	11.6–29	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Nitrate + Nitrite (ppm)	2015	10	10	NA	NA	0.30	0.28–0.30	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity[3] (NTU)	2015	TT	NA	NA	NA	0.45	NA	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2015	TT = 95% of samples < 0.3 NTU	NA	NA	NA	99.7	NA	No	Soil runoff
Uranium[1] (ppb)	2014	30	0	0.1937	0.1937–0.1937	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits

STATE REGULATED SUBSTANCES

				City of Wood Dale		City of Chicago			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Iron[1,4] (ppm)	2014	1,000	NA	0.675	0.675–0.675	NA	NA	No	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits
Manganese[1,4] (ppb)	2014	150	150	22.4	22.4–22.4	NA	NA	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Sodium[1,4] (ppm)	2014	NA	NA	31	NA	8.48[2]	8.04–8.48[2]	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; used in water softener regeneration

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

				City of Wood Dale		City of Chicago			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Sulfate (ppm)	2015	250	NA	NA	NA	27.2	18.8–27.2	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE PART 3 (UCMR3) - CITY OF CHICAGO [5]

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chromium (ppb)	2015	0.3	0.3–0.3	Naturally occurring element; used in making steel and other alloys
Chromium-6 (ppb)	2015	0.19	0.18–0.19	Naturally occurring element; used in making steels and alloys
Molybdenum (ppb)	2015	1.1	1.0–1.1	Naturally occurring element found in ores and present plants, animals and bacteria; commonly used form molybdenum trioxide
Strontium (ppb)	2015	120	110–120	Naturally occurring element; has been used in cathode- ray tube tv's to block x- ray emissions
Vanadium (ppb)	2015	0.2	0.2–0.2	Naturally occurring metal; vandium pentoxide is usedas a catalyst and a chemical intermediate

[1] Wood Dale's sample raw-water test results are from the emergency standby backup wells.
[2] Sampled in 2015.
[3] Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the City of Chicago's filtration system.
[4] Iron, manganese and sodium are not currently regulated by the U.S. EPA. However, the state has set MCLs for each contaminant for supplies serving a population of 1,000 or more.
[5] The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist U.S. EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Definitions

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

LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters. Amount Detected values for TTHMs and HAAs are reported as LRAAs.

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

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): SMCLs are established to regulate the aesthetics of drinking water like taste and odor.

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