

THE MORTON GROVE WATER DEPARTMENT'S

2024 ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE QUALITY OF TAP WATER

The Morton Grove Water Department is committed to providing residents with a safe and reliable supply of high-quality drinking water. The Village tests its water using sophisticated equipment and advanced procedures. Morton Grove water exceeds both State and Federal standards. This Annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), highlights where Morton Grove water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

The Village of Morton Grove purchases its drinking water from the City of Evanston. Lake Michigan is the sole source of water for Evanston. Morton Grove receives its water through the Morton Grove/Niles Water Commission. The water is chlorinated at its two pumping stations, and then distributed to its customers.

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it can absorb naturally occurring minerals and radioactive materials, and pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. Possible contaminants consist of:

- Microbial contaminants: such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;
- Inorganic contaminants: such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses;
- Organic chemical contaminant: including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems;
- Radioactive contaminants: which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) prescribes regulations that limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The FDA regulates limits for contaminants in bottled water. Drinking water,

including bottled, may contain small amounts of some contaminants. However, the presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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 can be particularly at risk to infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Source of Water:

EVANSTON / MGN WATER COMMISSION
CC 06-NORTH PS
CC 07-SOUTH PS

The Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of community water supply to be susceptible to potential pollution. The very nature of surface water allows contaminants to migrate into the intakes with no protection only dilution, which is the reason for mandatory treatment for all surface water supplies in Illinois. All three of Evanston's intakes are located far enough offshore that

shoreline impacts are not considered a factor on water quality. However, at certain times of the year the potential for contamination exists due to the proximity of the North Shore Channel and wet-weather flows. In addition, the proximity to a major shipping lane adds to the susceptibility of these three intakes. Water supply officials from Evanston are active members of the West Shore Water Producers Association. Coordination regarding water quality situations (i.e., spills, tanker leaks, exotic species, etc.) is frequently discussed during the association's quarterly meetings. In addition, the Evanston Water Utility also receives Hazardous Materials Incident Report notifications from the Illinois Emergency Management Agency (IEMA) whenever Lake Michigan is impacted. Lake Michigan, as well as all the great lakes, have many different organizations and associations that are currently working to either maintain or improve water quality. Since the predominant land use within Illinois boundary of the Lake Michigan watershed is urban, a majority of watershed protection activities in the IEPA Source Water Assessment document are aimed at this purpose. Finally, the Evanston Water Utility has contracted a professional engineering consultant to develop a Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP).

If you have any questions about this report, please contact Kevin Lochner at (847) 470-5235 or if you would like to learn more about water quality in your water system, please feel free to attend a Village Board Meeting scheduled at 7:00 p.m., the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at the Village Hall, 6101 Capulina Avenue.

2023 WATER QUALITY DATA DEFINITIONS:

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or the level of a contaminant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level, or the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

AL: Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a system must follow.

TT: Treatment Technique, or a required process, intended to reduce the level of a contaminant.

ABBREVIATIONS:

nd: Not detectable at testing limits. **n/a:** Not applicable.
ppm: Parts per million or milligrams per liter. **ppb:** Parts

per billion or micrograms per liter. **ppt:** Parts per trillion or nanograms per liter. **ppq:** Parts per quadrillion or picograms per liter. **NTU:** Nephelometric turbidity unit used to measure cloudiness in water. **%<0.5NTU:** Percent samples less than 0.5 NTU. **MFL:** Million fibers per liter used to measure asbestos concentration. **mrem/yr:** Millirems per year used to measure radiation absorbed by the body. **pci/l:** Picocuries per liter used to measure radioactivity. **#pos/mo:** Percent positive samples per month.

In most cases the **Level Found** column represents an average of sample result data collected during the **CCR** calendar year. The **Range of Detection** column represents a range of individual sample results from lowest to highest that were collected during the **CCR** calendar year. If a date appears in the **Date of Sample** column, the IEPA requires monitoring for this contaminant less than once per year because the concentrations do not frequently change. If no date appears in the column, monitoring for this contaminant was conducted during the **CCR** calendar year.

ABOUT THE DATA

FLUORIDE

Fluoride is added to the water supply to help promote strong teeth. The Illinois Department of Public Health recommends an optimal fluoride range of 0.9 mg/l to 1.2 mg/l.

TURBIDITY

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration systems and disinfectants.

SODIUM

There is not a state or federal **MCL** for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials that are concerned about sodium intake due to dietary precautions. If the level is greater than 20 mg/l, and you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

A maximum contaminant level (MCL) for these contaminants has not been established by either state or federal regulations, nor has mandatory health effects language. The purpose for monitoring these contaminants is to assist USEPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water, and whether future regulation is required.

*Highest Running Annual Average computed quarterly

The preceding water quality data results are a combination of the City of Evanston and the Village of Morton Grove's water testing.

Village of Morton Grove Water System
IL0311950
2023 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Lead and Copper

Definitions:

- Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs (Action Level Goal) allow for a margin of safety.
- Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead	2023	0	15	1.54	2	ppb	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	2023	1.3	1.3	0.0625	0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems

Water Quality Test Results

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminant
Chlorine	2023	1.0	0.6-1.0	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	No	Water additives are used to control microbes.
Halo acetic Acids (HAA5)	2023	14	9.2-20.6	No goal for the total	60	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)	2023	32	17.5-51.4	No goal for the total	80	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Violation Summary			
Contaminants or Program	Violation Type	Monitoring Period Start Date- End Date	Violation Explanation
Lead and Copper Testing	Reporting	2022	Copper data was not included in 2023 CCR (Consumer Confidence Report) but is included in this report

Since the Village of Morton Grove purchases Lake Michigan water from the City of Evanston, water system information from Evanston is included in our report.

2023 Regulated Contaminants Detected – City of Evanston water system

Turbidity Data	Limit (Treatment Technique)	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Turbidity (NTU/ Lowest Monthly % $\leq$ 0.3 NTU)	1 NTU	0.05-0.15	No	Soil runoff.
Turbidity (NTU Highest Single measurement)	0.3	0.15	No	Soil runoff.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	MCLG	MCL	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVELS DETECTED	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Barium (ppm)	2023	2	2	0.022	0.02-0.02	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate [as Nitrogen] (ppm)	2023	10	10	0.36	0.36-0.36	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	4	4	0.6	0.62-0.64	No	erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Sodium (ppm)	2023	n/a	n/a	8	7.6-7.6	No	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits. Used in water softener regeneration

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L)	2020	1.02	1.02-1.02	0	5	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium (pCi/L)	2020	0.72	0.72-0.72	0	15	No	Erosion of natural deposits.

Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month, and the system met all TOC removal requirements unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.

PFAS-Polyfluoroalkyl Substances

Information Statement:

PFAS- In 2023, our PWS was sampled as part of the State of Illinois PFAS Statewide Investigation. Results from this sampling indicated PFAS were detected in our drinking water. PFOA was detected above the health advisory level and PFOS was detected below the health advisory level established by the Illinois EPA (Environmental Protection Agency). Quarterly monitoring was ordered.

ppt= parts per trillion.

Additional information can be found at <https://www.cityofevanston.org/pfas>.

The Evanston Water Utility is currently undertaking a two-year PFAS treatment technique study to evaluate and identify processes that will effectively remove PFAS. Treatment options being evaluated are the following:

1. Powdered Activated Carbon
2. Granular Activated Carbon
3. Ion Exchange
4. Nano-filtration
5. Reverse Osmosis

For more information about PFAS health advisories <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/pfas/Pages/pfashealthadvisory.aspx>

PFAS-Perfluoroalkyl Substances								
Contaminant	Collection Date	Highest level detected	Range of level detected	IEPA Guidance	US Guidance level	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOS) (ppt)	2023	2.4	2.0-2.4	14.0ppt	70.0ppt	ppt	No	Surfactant for fire-fighting foam, mist suppressant for metal plating baths grease and water resistance to materials such as textiles, carpets and paper Production ceased in 2002
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (ppt)	2023	2.9	2.4-2.9	2.0ppt	70.0ppt	ppt	No	Surfactant for fire-fighting foam, mist suppressant for metal plating and water resistance to materials such as textiles, carpets and paper Production ceased in 2015

Information Statement: Village of Morton Grove was required to sample UCMR 5 (Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule) in 2023

UCMR 5 - a maximum contaminant level (MCL) for this contaminant has not been established by either state or federal regulations, nor has mandatory health effects language been set. Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring helps USEPA determine the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Results are available on the Morton Grove website.