

THE MORTON GROVE WATER DEPARTMENT'S 2023 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 at least 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 from 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>. Additional information on the lead and copper rule can be found at: <http://www.epa.gov/dwreginfo/lead-and-copperrule#compliance>.

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, has 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 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 is in the process of identifying a professional engineering consultant to develop a Source Water Protection Plan (SWPP).

PFAS- Perfluoroalkyl Substances Information Statement: PFAS- In 2022, 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. Follow up monitoring is being conducted. PFAS are measured in ppt = parts per trillion.

Results can be found <https://www.cityofevanston.org/government/departments/public-works/public-outreach/historical-PFAS-results> for more information about PFAS health advisories
<https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/pfas/Pages/pfas-healthadvisory.aspx>

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.

2022 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. If an "E" appears before the contaminate, the City of Evanston conducted the sampling and testing. If an "MG" appears before the contaminate, Morton Grove conducted the sampling and had an IEPA approved lab analyze the sample.

Source Water Assessment

A Source Water Assessment summary is included below for your convenience.

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. Evanston'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. Throughout history there have been extraordinary steps taken to assure a safe source of drinking water in the Chicagoland area. Coordination of water quality situations (i.e., spills, tanker leaks, exotic species, etc.) 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 and 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 Illinois' boundary of 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 storm water 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 storm water drains within a watershed. Stenciling along with an education component is necessary to keep the lake a safe and reliable source of drinking water.

CONTAMINATE (UNITS)		MCLG	MCL	Avg level	RANGE OF	VIOLATION	DATE OF	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT			
Turbidity Data											
											Naturally present in environment
E/Turbidity (%<0.3 NTU)	n/a		0.3NTU	100.00%	100% - 100%	No					Soil runoff. Lowest monthly percent meeting limit
E/Turbidity (NTU)	n/a		1 NTU	0.16	n/a	No					Soil runoff. Highest single measurement
E/Turbidity	n/a		1 NTU	0.15	n/a	No					Soil runoff. Highest single measurement
Inorganic Contaminants				90th percentile							
MG / Lead (ppb)	0		15	1.73 ppb	0-8.2 ppb	No	2022				Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
E/Barium	2		2	0.022	0.022 - 0.022	No	2022				Discharge of drilling wastes. Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
E/Nitrate as nitrogen	10		10	0.36	0.36 - 0.36	No	2022				Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection/Disinfectant By-Products											
MG/Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	n/a		60	12	6.6 - 19.4	No	2022				By-product of drinking water chlorination
MG/Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	n/a		80	27.9	15.7 - 38.9	No	2022				By-product of drinking water chlorination
MG/Chlorine (ppm)	4		4	0.7	0.6-0.8	No	12/31/2022				Drinking water disinfectant
Unregulated Contaminants											
E/ Sulfate (ppm)	n/a		n/a	27.8	27.5 - 27.8	No					Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
E/Sulfate	n/a		n/a	27.8	27.5 - 27.8	No					Chemical reagent. An intermediate in organic
E/Sodium (ppm)	n/a		n/a	9.55	8.73 - 9.55	No					Erosion from naturally occurring deposits. Used in water softener regeneration
E/Sodium (ppm)	n/a		n/a	8	8.1 - 8.1	No	2022				Erosion from naturally occurring deposits. Used in water softener regeneration
State Regulated Contaminants											
E/Fluoride (ppm)	4		4	0.7	0.66 - 0.7	No	2022				Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Radioactive Contaminants											
E/Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L)	0		5	1.02	1.02 - 1.02	No	2022				Decay of natural & man-made deposits
E/GROSS ALPHA	0		15	0.72	0.72 - 0.72	No	2022				Decay of natural & man-made deposits
In compliance with the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 4 (UCMR4) as required by the City of Evanston and The Village of Morton Grove have monitored for 28 Contaminants suspected to be present in drinking water, but that do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The monitoring results were reported to the EPA. The list of UCMR4 contaminants that we have monitored included volatile organic chemicals, metals, perfluorinated compounds, hormones, 1,4-dioxane and and chlorate. The contaminants that were detected in this monitoring program are listed below.											
Total Organic Carbon											
UCMR4											
Information Statement: Village of Morton Grove was not required to sample UCMR4 in 2022											
UCMR4 - 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. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist USEPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.											
E/Manganese (ppm)	Not regulated		USEPA National Secondary Standard of 0.05	0.000421	Single sample	No	3/4/2020				Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
MG/Manganese (ppm)	not regulated		National Secondary Standard of 0.05	1.56	single sample	No	1/10/2020				
PFAS-Perfluoroalkyl Substances											
Contaminant	Sample year	Highest level found	Range of levels detected	IEPA Guidance level	US Guidance level proposed	units	violation				Likely Source of Contamination
E/Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid PFOS	2022	2.3	2.1-2.3	14.0 ppt	4.0 ppt	ppt	N				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
E/Perfluorooctanoic acid	2022	2.4	2.2-2.4	2.0 ppt	4.0 ppt	ppt	N				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
2022 Violation Summary											
Contaminant or Program		Violation Type		Monitoring Period Start Date - End Date		Violation Explanation					
We are pleased to announce that NO monitoring, reporting, maximum residual disinfectant level or maximum contaminant level violations were recorded during 2022.											