



2011 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT
The Water We Drink

July 1, 2012

Dear Water Customer:

Legislation passed in 1999 by the Federal Government requires that every community water system in the country prepare a report for their customers detailing the results of analytical tests performed on the water. Attached you will find the report for your water system.

We are pleased to announce that your potable water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. We realize that much of the attached information is quite technical. If you have any questions or need further information regarding your water or this report, please contact Dino Braglia, Water Superintendent, or Janet Slusarz, Health Director at (708) 452-7300.



This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the system to provide safe drinking water. The source of drinking water used by ELMWOOD PARK is purchased from the City of Chicago.

The water is metered and sent through two large pipes to a two million-gallon underground storage tank. The water is then pumped to our 250,000 gallon water tower. From there it is distributed to village residents, businesses and fire hydrants. The Water Department follows many steps to ensure that the water is of the highest safety and quality when it reaches your home. The water is post chlorinated and tested for proper chlorine levels several times each day. Six bacteriological samples are taken weekly from several different site locations throughout the village. The Village also tests for total Trihalomethanes which are by products of drinking water chlorination. These and other steps are taken to provide the best possible water to our residents. For more information regarding this report, contact Dino Braglia or Janet Slusarz at (708) 452-7300. Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Source of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and groundwater wells. As water travels over the surfaces of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 462-4791.

Contaminants 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, 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.

Continued inside...

Contaminant that may be present in source water include (continued...):

- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, 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 the water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. 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. EPA/CDC (Environmental Protection Agency/Center for Disease Control) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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 at (800) 462-4791 or may be viewed online at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

2011 Water Quality Data

- Definition of Terms / Data Table Footnotes -

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): 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.

Maximum Contaminant Goal (MCLG): 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of disinfectant in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Level Found: This column represents an average of sample result data collected during the CCR calendar year. In some cases, it may represent a single sample if only one sample was collected.

Range of Detections: This column represents a range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest that were collected during the CCR calendar year.

Date of Sample: If a date appears in this column, the Illinois EPA 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.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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

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

n/a: Not applicable

avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

nd: Analyte not detected at or above the reporting limit.

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in drinking water.

% pos/mo: Percentage of positive samples per month.

% < 0.3 NTU: Percent samples less than 0.3 NTU.

mg/L: Milligrams per litre or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

ug/L: Micrograms per litre or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

ppm: Parts per million. Micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

ppb: Parts per billion. Milligrams per liter or parts per million—or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

ppt: Parts per trillion.

pCi/L: Picocuries per liter, used to measure radioactivity.

2011 Water Quality Data / Definition of Terms / Data Table Footnotes (continued...)

TURBIDITY: Turbidity is a measure of cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.

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.

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 you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician about this level of sodium in the water.

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

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE II (UCMR II) – Our water system was required to monitor for all contaminants required under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule II (UCMR II). Started in 2009, monitoring water under UCMR II was completed in 2011, with none of the contaminants detected. Inquiries and results may be obtained by calling the Water Quality Division Office at (312) 742-7499.

Source Water Assessment

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more, please feel welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled board meetings, 1st and 3rd Monday of each month. The 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 Village Hall or call our Water Operator at (708) 452-7300. To view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessments, including: Importance of Source Water; Susceptibility of Contamination Determination; and documentation/recommendation of Source Water Protection Efforts, you may access the Illinois EPA website at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl>.

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 into the lake.

City of Chicago, Department of Water Management Source Water Assessment Summary for the 2011 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

2011 Voluntary Monitoring

The City of Chicago has continued monitoring for Cryptosporidium, Giardia and E. coli in its source water as part of its water quality program. To date, Cryptosporidium has not been detected in these samples, but Giardia was detected in 2010 in one raw lake water sample collected in September 2010. Treatment processes have been optimized to provide effective barriers for removal of Cryptosporidium oocysts and Giardia cysts in the source water, effectively removing these organisms in the treatment process. By maintaining low turbidity through the removal of particles from the water, the possibility of Cryptosporidium and Giardia organism getting into the drinking water system is greatly reduced.

City of Chicago Emerging Contaminant Study Analysis of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals, Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products

The City of Chicago Department of Water Management (CDWM) has completed a water quality study to monitor some compounds that have not historically been considered to be contaminants of concern, but have recently documented at trace concentrations in our nation's waterbodies. This study, completed in the years 2009-2011 includes compounds known as Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals (EDCs) and Pharmaceuticals & Personal Care Products (PPCPs), which are considered to be emerging contaminants. EDCs are compounds with potential to interfere with natural hormone systems. PPCPs are a group of compounds consisting of prescription and over-the-counter therapeutic drugs, veterinary drugs, and consumer products such as sunscreen, lotions, insect repellants and fragrances. The reader is encouraged to visit the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) website to learn more about EDCs (<http://www.epa.gov/ncer/science/endocrine>) and PPCPs (<http://epa.gov/ppcp>).

In 2011, CDWM has also monitored for hexavalent chromium, also known as Chromium-6, and continues to do so quarterly. USEPA has not yet established a standard for Chromium-6, a contaminant of concern which has both natural and industrial sources. Please address any questions or concerns to DWM's Water Quality Division at (312) 742-7499. A list of detected contaminants from the monitoring studies and additional information is posted on the City's website which can be accessed at http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/water/supp_info/water_quality_resultsandreports/city_of_chicago_emerigincontaminantstudy.html.

Detected Contaminants CHICAGO

Contaminant (Unit of Measure) Typical Source of Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation	Date of Sample
Turbidity Data						
<i>Turbidity (<math>\%</math><math>< 0.3 NTU</math>)</i> Soil Runoff. Lowest monthly percent meeting limit.	n/a	TT	99.50%	99.50%-100.00%		
<i>Turbidity (NTU)</i> Soil runoff. Highest single measurement.	n/a	TT=1NTUMax	0.86	n/a		
Inorganic Contaminants						
<i>Barium (ppm)</i> Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.	2	2	0.0208	0.0201-0.0208		
<i>Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)</i> Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	10	10	0.44	0.39-0.44		
<i>Total Nitrate & Nitrite (as Nitrogen) (ppm)</i> Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	10	10	0.44	0.39-0.44		
Total Organic Carbon						
<i>TOC (Total Organic Carbon)</i> — The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by the EPA.						
Unregulated Contaminants						
<i>Sulfate (ppm)</i> Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.	n/a	n/a	16.10	14.40-16.10		
<i>Sodium (ppm)</i> Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used as a water softener.	n/a	n/a	6.64	6.63-6.64		
State Regulated Contaminants						
<i>Fluoride (ppm)</i> Water additive which promotes strong teeth.	4	4	0.92	0.81-0.92		
Radioactive Contaminants						
<i>Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L)</i> Decay of natural and man-made deposits.	0	5	1.38	1.300-1.380	3/17/2008	
<i>Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium (pCi/L)</i> Decay of natural and man-made deposits.	0	15	0.88	0.090-0.880	3/17/2008	

2011 Violations Summary CHICAGO

No drinking water violations were recorded in 2011.

Detected Contaminants ELMWOOD PARK

Disinfectants and By-Products (Unit of Measure) Typical Source of Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation	Collection Date
Regulated Contaminants						
<i>Chlorine (ppm)</i> Water additive used to control microbes.	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	0.90	0.6172-0.7469	No	1/1/2011
<i>Haloacetic Acids [HAAS]* (ppb)</i> By product of drinking water chlorination.	No goal for the total	60	11	7.17-13.65	No	
<i>Total Trihalomethanes [Tthm]* (ppb)</i> By product of drinking water chlorination.	No goal for the total	60	30	13.26-39.20	No	
* Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future.						
Lead and Copper (Unit of Measure)						
Typical Source of Contaminant	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	No. of Sites Over AL	Violation	Date Sampled
<i>Lead (ppb)</i> Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	0	15	5.74	0	No	7/27/2011
<i>Copper (ppm)</i> Natural erosion from household plumbing systems and wood preservatives	1.3	1.3	0.110	0	No	7/27/2011

2011 Violations Summary ELMWOOD PARK

No drinking water violations were recorded in 2011.