



Village of Forest Park Annual Drinking Water Quality Report For Calendar Year 2023

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the Village of Forest Park to provide safe drinking water. This report includes drinking water facts, information on violations (if applicable), and contaminants detected in your drinking water supply during calendar year 2022. Each year, we will provide you a new report. If you need help understanding this report or have general questions, please contact **Water Operator Rick Barger** at rbarger@forestpark.net or **708-366-4876**.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Before we begin listing our unique water quality characteristics, here are some important facts you should know to help have a basic understanding of drinking water in general.

Sources 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 surface 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. Our source of water comes from Purchased Surface Water. 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.
- 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.

Other Facts about Drinking Water 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) 426-4791.

In order to ensure that tap 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 guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Source Water Assessments Source water protection (SWP) is a proactive approach to protecting our critical sources of public water supply and assuring that the best source of water is being utilized to serve the public. It involves implementation of pollution prevention practices to protect the water quality in a watershed or wellhead protection area serving a public water supply. Along with treatment, it establishes a multi-barrier approach to assuring clean and safe drinking water to the citizens of Illinois. The Illinois EPA has implemented a source water assessment program (SWAP) to assist with wellhead and watershed protection of public drinking water supplies.

Forest Park purchases all of its water from the City of Chicago. The City utilizes Lake Michigan as its source water via two water treatment plants. The Jardine Water Purification Plant serves the northern areas of the City and suburbs (including Forest Park), while the South Water Purification Plant serves the southern areas of the City and suburbs.

2023 Regulated Contaminants Detected The next several tables summarize contaminants detected in your drinking water supply. Since water is purchased from the City of Chicago, results indicated with an asterisk (*) were provided to us by them.

2023 Non-Regulated Contaminant Detections The contaminants indicated with a chevron (^) have been detected within the past five years. State and federal regulations do not require monitoring for these contaminants and no maximum contaminant level (MCL) has been established. These detections are for informational purposes only. No mandated health effects language exists. The CCR Rule does not require that this information be reported; however, it may be useful when evaluating possible sources of contamination or characterizing overall water quality.

Susceptibility to Contamination* 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 of 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. Further information on our community water supply’s Source Water Assessment Program is available by calling the City of Chicago, Department of Water Management at 312-744-6635.

2023 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 the 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 getting into the drinking water system is greatly reduced. Also, in compliance with the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2ESWTR) Round 2, the City of Chicago has continued the 24 months long monitoring program that was started in April 2015, collecting samples from its source water once per month to monitor for Cryptosporidium, Giardia, E. coli and turbidity, with no detections for Cryptosporidium and Giardia reported so far.

In 2022, CDWM has also continued monitoring for hexavalent chromium, also known as chromium-6. 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. Data reports on the monitoring program for chromium-6 are posted on the City’s website, which can be accessed at the following address below:

http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/water/supp_info/water_quality_resultsandreports/city_of_chicago_emergincontaminantstudy.html

Here are a few definitions and scientific terms, which will help you understand the information in the contaminant detection tables.

AL	Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow
Avg	Average	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly samples
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal 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. MRDLGs allow for a margin of safety
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	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
N/A	Not Applicable	
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units	The form of measurement used to determine amount of turbidity in drinking water
pCi/L	Picoocuries per liter	Unit for measuring radioactive concentrations
ppb	Parts Per Billion	Or micrograms per liter (ug/L) or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water
ppm	Parts Per Million	Or milligrams per liter (mg/L) or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water
TT	Treatment Technique	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water
	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.

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

LEAD*

	DATE SAMPLED	MCLG	AL	90 TH PERCENTILE	# OVER AL	UNITS	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
	8/9/21 – 8/11/21	0	15	14.7	0	ppb	n/a	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

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. The Village of Forest Park is 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

DISINFECTANTS & DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS*

	COLLECTION DATE	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVELS DETECTED	MCLG	MCL	UNITS	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)	2023	46.2	19.6 – 46.2	N/A	80	ppb		Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAAs (Haloacetic Acids)	2023	18.9	8.47 – 18.9	N/A	60	ppb		Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
CHLORINE (Cl ₂)	2023	1.57	0.50 – 1.57	4	4	ppm		Water additive used to control microbes

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS*

BARIUM*		0.0195	0.0192 – 0.0195	2	2	ppm		Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE* (N)		0.33	0.29 – 0.33	10	10	ppm		Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TOTAL NITRATE & NITRITE* (N)		0.33	0.29 – 0.33	10	10	ppm		Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS*

COMBINED RADIUM* 226/228 (pCi/L)	2/04/2020	0.95	0.83 – 0.95	0	5	pCi/L		Decay of natural and man-made deposits
GROSS ALPHA EXCLUDING RADON & URANIUM	2/04/2020	3.1	2.8 – 3.1	0	15	pCi/L		Decay of natural and man-made deposits

STATE REGULATED CONTAMINANTS*

The Illinois Department of Public Health recommends an optimal fluoride level of 0.7 mg/L with a range of 0.6 mg/L to 0.8 mg/L.

FLUORIDE*		0.74	0.66 – 0.74	4	4	ppm		Water additive which promotes strong teeth
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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 regulations is warranted.

SULFATE*		27.8	25.0 – 27.8	N/A	N/A	ppm		Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
SODIUM*		8.71	8.43 – 8.71	N/A	N/A	ppm		Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; used as a water softener

Sodium – There is no state or federal MCL for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials who have concerns about sodium intake due to dietary precautions. If you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician about the level of sodium in the water.

TURBIDITY*

Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.

	LIMIT (TT)	LEVEL DETECTED	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
LOWEST MONTHLY %	95% ≤0.3 NTU	100%		Soil Runoff
HIGHEST SINGLE MEASUREMENT	Limit 1 NTU	0.20		Soil Runoff

TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON*

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

VIOLATIONS TABLE

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE RULE

The Consumer Confidence Rule required community water systems to prepare and provide to their customers annual consumer confidence reports on the quality of the water delivered by the systems.

VIOLATION TYPE	VIOLATION BEGIN	VIOLATION END	VIOLATION EXPLANATION
CCR ADEQUACY/AVAILABILITY/CONTENT	07/01/2023	2023	We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that adequately informed you about the quality of our drinking water and the risks from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water.

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