

**Consumer Confidence Report
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**

City of Cahokia Heights

IL1635000

For the period of January 1 to December 31, 2025.

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the City of Cahokia Heights water system to provide safe drinking water. The source of drinking water used by City of Cahokia Heights is Purchased Surface Water purchased from IL-American, East St. Louis, IL.

For more information regarding this report contact: **Name: Dennis Traiteur Phone: (618) 332-1222**

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó 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 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.

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.

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 at (800) 426-4791.

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 drinking water supplier is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standard Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested, contact Dennis Traiteur at (618) 332-1222. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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 meetings, held the second Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at 103 Main St., Cahokia Heights, IL. 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 or Office or call our water operator at (618) 332-1222. To view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessments, including: Importance of Source Water; Susceptibility to 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>.

Source of Water: IL AMERICAN ESL Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of community water supply to be susceptible to potential pollution problems, hence, the reason for mandatory treatment for all surface water supplies in Illinois. Mandatory treatment includes coagulation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. Within the Illinois portion of the Mississippi River Watershed, which is illustrated in Figure 3, many commodities, including manufactured goods, petrochemicals, and pesticides are transported along the river system. The production, storage, and transportation of these commodities are a major concern, especially when occurring near surface water intakes. In addition, agricultural runoff within the Illinois portion of the Mississippi River Basin contributes to the susceptibility of the IAWC-East St. Louis intakes. With high flow rates and long distances of travel on the Mississippi River, critical areas can be extensive. The critical area for the IAWC-East St. Louis intake was determined using data from a joint U. S. Environmental Protection Agency/U.S. Geological Survey project. This project used a computer modeling program (SPARROW) to determine travel times on major rivers in the United States.

Accidental spills of hazardous materials into navigable waterways are a major concern because of their frequency in the United States in recent years. Illinois has access to 1,116 miles of inland waterway that can handle commercial barge traffic. These include the Upper Mississippi River, Illinois River Waterway, and the Ohio River. Along these waterways are numerous facilities that load and unload hazardous materials. Analysis of reported spills indicate that between 1974 and 1989, 794 accidental spills of hazardous materials occurred along Illinois waterways. Approximately 92% of these spills occurred along the Mississippi and/or the Illinois River. Figure 2 shows the critical area of concern (Zone 1) for the IAWC-East St. Louis surface water intake. Spills occurring in this critical area will travel to the intake in five hours or less, making contingency planning and spill reporting a major concern in this watershed. Information concerning spill response planning on the Mississippi River may be found at the U. S. EPA website www.epa.gov/region5/oil, and additional data can also be downloaded at the U. S. Geological Survey's FTP site ftp://ftp.umesc.er.usgs.gov/pub/gis_data/oil_spill.

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

| Source Water Information | Source Water Illinois American | Type of Water | Report Status | Location |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------------------|
| CC 021 – MASTER METER NUMBER 1 | FF1635040 TP05 IAW EAST | SW | Active | METER #1 NE CORNER OF RT 3 |
| CC 02 – MASTER METER NUMBER 2 | FF1635050 TP05 IAWC EAST | SW | Active | METER 2 – SW COR CONVERSE |

Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of community water supply to be susceptible to potential pollution problems, hence, the reason for mandatory treatment for all surface water supplies in Illinois. Mandatory treatment includes coagulation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. Within the Illinois portion of the Mississippi River Watershed, which is illustrated in Figure 3, many commodities, including manufactured goods, petrochemicals, and pesticides are transported along the river system. The production, storage, and transportation of these commodities are a major concern, especially when occurring near surface water intakes. In addition, agricultural runoff within Illinois portion of the Mississippi River Basin contributes to the susceptibility of the IAWC-East St. Louis intakes. With high flow rates and long distances of travel on the Mississippi River, critical areas can be extensive. The critical area for IAWC-east St. Louis intake was determined using data from a joint U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/U.S. Geological survey project. This project used a computer modeling program (SPARROW) to determine travel times on major rivers in the United States. Accidental spills of hazardous materials into navigable waterways are a major concern because of their frequency in the United States in recent years. Illinois has access to 1,116 miles of inland waterway that can handle commercial barge traffic. These include the Upper Mississippi River, Illinois River Waterway, and the Ohio River. Along these waterways are numerous facilities that load and unload hazardous materials. Analysis of reported spills indicate that between 1974 and 1989, 794 accidental spills of hazardous materials occurred along Illinois waterways. Approximately 92% of these spills occurred along the Mississippi and/or the Illinois River. Figure 2 shows the critical area of concern (Zone 1) for the IAWC-East St. Louis surface water intake. Spills occurring in this critical area will travel to the intake in five hours or less, making contingency planning and spill reporting a major concern in this watershed. Information concerning spill response planning on the Mississippi River may be found at the U.S. EPA website www.epa.gov/region5/oil, and additional data can be downloaded at the U.S. Geological Survey's FTP site ftp://ftp.umesc.er.usgs.gov/pub/gis_data/oil_spill.

DID YOU KNOW? That easy-to-fix water leaks account for nearly 1 trillion gallons of water wasted each year in U.S. homes? In fact, the average household leaks nearly 10,000 gallons of water per year, or the amount of water it takes to wash 300 loads of laundry. Many common household leaks are quick to find and easy to fix. Worm toilet flappers, dripping faucets, and leaking showerheads are all easily correctable and can save on your utility bill and water in your community. Remember to look for the WaterSense label when purchasing plumbing products. WaterSense labeled products are independently certified to use at least 20 percent less water.

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some which may require explanation.

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

| | |
|---|--|
| Avg: | Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples. |
| Level 1 Assessment: | A Level 1 Assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system. |
| Level 2 Assessment: | A level 2 Assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions. |
| Maximum Contaminant Level: Or 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 Level Goal or 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 Or MRDL: | 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. |
| Maximum residual disinfectant level Goal or MRDLG: | 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 |
| mrem: | millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body) |
| ppb: | micrograms per liter or parts per billion -- or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water |
| ppm: | milligrams per liter or parts per million -- or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water. |
| Treatment Technique or TT: | A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. |

City of Cahokia Heights #1635000 2025 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Regulated Contaminants – City of Cahokia Heights 2025

Caliform Bacteria

| Maximum Contaminant Level Goal | Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level | Highest No. of Positive Total | Fecal Coliform or E Coli Maximum Contaminant Level | Total of Positive E Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|--|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| 0 | 1 Positive Monthly Sample | 1 | | 0 | No | Naturally present in the environment |

Violation Summary Table - We are happy to announce that no monitoring, reporting, treatment technique, maximum residual disinfectant level, or maximum contaminant level violations were recorded during 2025.

Note: The IEPA requires monitoring of certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of this data in the table above, though accurate, may be more than one year old.

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 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.

Copper Range: ND to 200 ppm

Lead Range: ND to ND

To obtain a copy of the system's lead tap sampling data: Contact the water operator Dennis Traiteur at 618-332-1222

To obtain a copy of the system's service line inventory: Contact the water operator Dennis Traiteur at 618-332-1222

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 City is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead lines, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standard Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about leak in your water, you may wish to have your water tested, contact Denis Traiteur at 618 332-1222. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

| Lead and Copper | Date Sampled | MCLG | Action Level (AL) | 90 th Percentile | #Sites Over AL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|-----------------|--------------|------|-------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-------|-----------|---|
| Copper | 2025 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.184 (mg/l) | 0 | ppm | No | Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems. |

| Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|--|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|----------|-------|-----------|--|
| Chloramines | 2025 | 2.9 | 2 - 3 | MRDLG = 4 | MRDL = 4 | ppm | No | Water additive used to control microbes. |
| Halacetic Acids (HAA5) | 2025 | 40 | 21.5 - 38.7 | No goal for the total | 60 | ppb | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) | 2025 | 55 | 29 – 55.6 | No goal for the total | 80 | ppb | No | By-product of drinking water disinfection |

The EPA created the Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR) to assist them in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether new regulations are warranted. For more information or for sample results, please contact our Office at 618 332-1222

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Availability of Monitoring Data for Unregulated Contaminants City of Cahokia Heights Our water system has sampled a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by EPA. The purpose of monitoring these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that this data is available. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact Janae Swanson at 618-332-1222 ext. 102.

This notice is being sent to you by City of Cahokia Heights.

State Water System ID: IL1635000.

Date distributed: 3/13/2026

A maximum contaminant level (MCL) for these contaminants has not been established by either state or federal reegulations, 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.

See the table below for sample results from the 2024 quarterly UCMR

| PFAS Analyte | Units | Average Level Detected 4 sample events | Range of Levels Detected |
|------------------------------------|-------|--|--------------------------|
| Lithium | ppb | 9.325 | 0 – 21.8 |
| Perfluoro-n-pentanoic Acid (PFPeA) | ppt | 0.00152 | 0 – 0.0031 |
| Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA) | ppt | 0.0134 | 0.0107 – 0.0148 |
| Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA) | ppt | 0.0009 | 0 – 0.0036 |

Illinois – American Data PWS ID 1635040

Water Quality Report Summary – We are proud to share our annual Water Quality Report – also known as a Consumer Confidence Report or CCR.

This report provides important details about your drinking water – like where it comes from and what we detected when we sampled. It also explains the importance of protecting water sources and the extensive effort required to deliver safe, clean, and reliable drinking water service – reminding us that keeping water clean is everyone’s responsibility.

We are pleased to report that in 2025, your water met state and federal drinking water requirements.

There is more to it than just sampling!

National recognition. Our East St. Louis plant was nationally recognized by the U.S. EPA Partnership for Safe Drinking Water Program. We received the Directors Award for our long-term commitment to improve operations, deliver excellent performance, and protect public health and the environment.

Water Quality Results

Our team of experts conducts extensive sampling on the quality of your water. The tables on the following pages show the substances that were detected. This includes substances with drinking water limits and some that are not currently regulated. Definitions are also provided to help you understand key terms and acronyms.

Most results come from samples collected last year. Some results are from previous years because less sampling is required if levels remain consistently low.

| Regulated Contaminants | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|------|-----|------------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Substance (with units) | Collection Date | Violation | MCLG | MCL | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | Likely Source of Contamination |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 2025 | No | 4 | 4.0 | 0.8 | 0.75 – 0.75 | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Nitrate [Measured as Nitrogen] (ppm) | 2025 | No | 10 | 10 | 2 | 2.06 – 2.77 | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium (ppm) | 2025 | No | NA | NA | 25 | 25.1 – 25.1 | Erosion from naturally occurring deposits. Used in water softener regeneration. |

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

| TURBIDITY | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| | Limit (Treatment Technique) | Level Detected | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
| Highest Single Measurement | 1 NTU | 0.2 | NO | Soil runoff. |
| Lowest monthly % meeting limit | 0.3 NTU | 100% | NO | Soil runoff. |

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.

Total Organic Carbon

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

The

PER-AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES

Per- or polufluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are synthetic substances used in a variety of products, such as: stain resistant fabric, non-stick coatings, firefighting foam, paints, waxes, and cleaning products. They are also components in some industrial processes like electronics manufacturing and oil recovery. Illinois American Water recognizes the importance of testing for these contaminants. Compounds detected are tabulated below, along with typical sources. For more information about PFAS health advisories <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-4quality/pfas/Pages/pfas-healthadvisory.aspx>.

The health-based guidance levels are intended to be protective of all people consuming the water over a lifetime of exposure. It is important to understand that guidance levels are not regulatory limits for drinking water. Rather, the guidance levels are benchmarks against which sampling results are compared to determine if additional investigation or other response action is necessary.

| UNREGULATED PFAS CHEMICALS | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|-----------------|---|
| Parameter | Year Sampled | Average Amount Detected | Range Low-High | Typical Source |
| Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (PFBS) | 2025 | 0.5 ppt | ND to 2 ppt | Discharge from manufacturing and industrial chemical facilities, use of certain consumer products, occupational exposures, and certain firefighting activities. |
| Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA) | 2025 | 10.5 ppt | 8.4 to 13.8 ppt | |
| Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA) | 2025 | 1.1 ppt | ND to 2.3 ppt | |
| Perfluoropentanoic Acid (PFPeA) | 2025 | 2.5 ppt | 2 to 3.1 ppt | |
| Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) | 2025 | 1.1 ppt | ND to 2.2 ppt | |
| Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) | 2025 | 0.5 ppt | ND to 2 ppt | |

PFAS chemicals are unique, so two PFAS chemicals at the same level typically do not represent the same risk. Therefore, you should not compare the results for one PFAS chemical against the results of another.

U.S. EPA has established national limits for six PFAS substances that we must meet by April 2029. For more information on the U.S. EPA’s PFAS drinking water standards, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/swda/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>

AVAILABILITY OF MONITORING DATA FOR UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the Agency should consider regulating those contaminants in the future. Every five years, the EPA issue a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored. More information is available at <https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule>

Our system participated the latest round of sampling under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5). If you are interested in examining the results, please contact Jamie Gough, Water Quality Superintendent, at 618-250-8723.

| Substance (with units) | Year Sampled | Average | Range | |
|---------------------------------|--------------|----------|------------------|---|
| Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA) | 2024 | 13.6 ppt | 11.3 to 18.1 ppt | Discharge from manufacturing and industrial chemical facilities, use of certain consumer products, occupational exposures, and certain firefighting activities. |
| Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA) | 2024 | 1.1 ppt | ND 4.4 ppt | |
| Perfluoropentanoic Acid (PFPeA) | 2024 | 1.1 ppt | ND to 4.2 ppt | |
| Lithium | 2024 | 5.6 ppb | ND to 13.1 ppb | Naturally occurring with multiple commercial uses |

PFAS chemicals are unique, so two PFAS chemicals at the same level typically do not present the same risk. Therefore, you should not compare the results for one PFAS chemical against the results of another.

U.S. EPA has established national limits for six PFAS substances that we must meet by April 2029. For more information on the U.S. EPA’s drinking water standards, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-sybstances-pfas>

[Definition of Terms \(These are terms that may appear in your report\)](#)

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

Contaminant: Any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter in water.

Hazard Index: The Hazard Index is an approach that determines the health concerns associated with mixtures of certain PFAS in finished drinking water. Low levels of multiple PFAS that individually would not likely result in adverse health effects may pose health concerns when combined in a mixture. The Hazard Index MCL represents the maximum level for mixtures of PFHxS, PFNA, HFPO-DA, and/or PFBS allowed in water delivered by a public water system. A Hazard Index greater than 1 requires a system to take action.

Herbicide: Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

LRAA: Locational Running Annual Average

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. See also Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL).

Maximum Contaminant Level 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 allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): 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.

MFL: Million fibers per liter.

Miromhos per centimeter (µmhos/cm): A measure of electrical conductance.

NA: Not applicable

ND: Not detected

Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of the water.

parts per billion (ppb): One part substance per billion parts water, or micrograms per liter.

parts per million (ppm): One part substance per million parts water, or milligrams per liter.

parts per trillion (ppt): One part substance per trillion parts water, or nanograms per liter.

Pesticide: Generally, any substance or mixture of substances untended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

pH: A measurement of acidity, 7.0 being neutral.

picocuries per liter (pCi/L): Measurement of the natural rate of disintegration of radioactive contaminants in water (also beta particles).

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.

RAA: Running Annual Average

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

TON: Threshold Order Number

Total Dissolved Solids (TDS): An overall indicator of the amount of minerals in water.

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

Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or utilize a treatment technique under certain conditions.

µg/L: Micrograms per liter

%: Percent

Important information about Drinking Water

FLUORIDE

Illinois American Water adds fluoride to the East St. Louis water supply as required by state/local law. The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services recommends a fluoride concentration in drinking water (also called the Optimal Level) of 0.7 milligrams of fluoride per liter of water. The U.S. EPA limit for fluoride in drinking water is 4.0 mg/L. The U.S. EPA also recommends, as a secondary standard, that drinking water contain no more than 2.0 mg/L of fluoride. This secondary standard is a non-enforceable guideline and is intended to help children avoid dental fluorosis.

CRYPTOSPORIDIUM

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water and/or finished water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno- compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT DRINKING WATER

PFAS

PFAS Per- and polyfluoroalk substances (PFAS) are manufactured chemicals used in many household products including nonstick cookware (e.g., Teflon™), stain relellants (e.g., Scotchguard™), and waterproofing (e.g., GORE-TEX™). They are also used in industrial applications such as firefighting foams and electronics production. There are thousands of PFAS chemicals, and they persist in environment. Two well-known PFAS chemicals are perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS). These were phased out of production in the United States and replaced by hexafluoropropylene oxide-dimer acid (commonly known as GenX), perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS) and others.

Illinois American Water has performed sampling to better understand occurrence of certain PFAS in drinking water sources. This sampling allows us to be better prepared as U.S. EPA has finalized drinking water standards for six PFAS chemicals. For more information on the PFAS drinking water standards, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/sdwa/and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas>. Additionally, in 2023 we began testing our drinking water for 29 PFAS chemicals through our participation in the U.S. EPA Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule program, or UCMR. Through the UCMR program, water systems collect data on a group of contaminants that are currently not regulated in drinking water at the federal level. U.S. EPA uses this information when deciding if it needs to create new drinking water limits.

The science and regulations of PFAS and other contaminants is always evolving, and Illinois American Water strives to be a leader in research and development. PFAS contamination is one of the most rapidly changing areas in the drinking water field. We have invested in our own

independent research, as well as engaging with other experts in the field to understand PFAS occurrence in the environment. We are also actively assessing treatment technologies that can effectively remove PFAS from drinking water, because we believe that investment in research is critically important to addressing this issue.

IL EPA established Health Advisory Levels for several PFAS analytes. For more information about PFAS health advisories <https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/pfas/pfas-healthadvisory.html>

What are the Sources of Contaminants?

To protect public health, the Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in tap water provided by public water systems. The 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 contaminants does not necessarily mean that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by contacting the Environmental Protection Agency by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or visiting the website epa.gov/safewater.

Both tap water and bottled water come from rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material. The water can also pick up and transport substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. The substances are also called contaminants.

| Contaminants are any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter in water. Contaminants that may be present in water include: | |
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| Microbial Contaminants | Such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants septic systems, agricultural operations, and wildlife. |
| Inorganic Contaminants | Such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater 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 can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. |
| Radioactive Contaminants | Which can occur naturally or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. |

ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER SUPPLY

Where Your Water Comes From

Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of community water supply to be susceptible to potential pollution problems, hence, the reason for mandatory treatment for all surface water supplies in Illinois. Mandatory treatment includes coagulation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection.

The East St. Louis Water Treatment Facility draws surface water for treatment from the Mississippi River. The Mississippi River is subject to a variety of influences including agricultural, municipal, and industrial activities. Farm chemicals may be seasonally elevated in the river. Extensive monitoring and treatment ensure high-quality water service regardless of variations in the source water.

The Illinois EPA has completed a source water assessment for the East St. Louis system and a copy is available upon request by calling Jamie Gough, Water Quality Superintendent at 618-250-8723.

To view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessments, including Importance of Source Water; Susceptibility to Contamination determination; and documentation / recommendation of Source Water Protection Efforts, you may access the Illinois EPA website at <http://dataservices.eps.illinois.gov/swap/factsheet.aspx>