



ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2023



Presented By
Village of New Lenox

PWS ID#: 1970700





Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2023. Included are details about your source of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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 are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but we 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, or doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Village of New Lenox Water Department at (815) 215-4800. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Where Does My Water Come From?



The current primary water source for the Village is treated Lake Michigan water purchased from the Village of Tinley Park. Lake Michigan is a surface water supply. The City of Chicago utilizes Lake Michigan as its source water via two treatment plants. The Jardine Water Purification Plant serves the northern areas of the city and suburbs, while the South Water Purification Plant serves the southern areas of the city and suburbs, including New Lenox. Lake Michigan, by volume, is the second-largest Great Lake and the only one located entirely within the United States. It borders Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin.

The Village of New Lenox will maintain its wells as a future emergency backup water source.

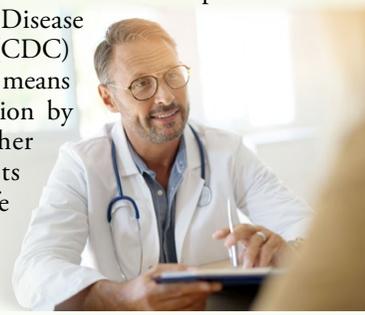
Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. Village of New Lenox board meetings are held the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at Village Hall, One Veterans Parkway.

Important Health Information

While your drinking water meets the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. U.S. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. U.S. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 or water.epa.gov/drink/hotline.



QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Chris Skiniotes, Water Department Superintendent, at (815) 215-4800.

Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. 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 these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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, in some cases radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances 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, or wildlife;

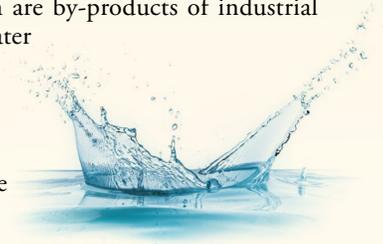
Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;

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 may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



Source Water Assessment Program

The Illinois EPA completed the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) for the City of Chicago. The SWAP was implemented to assist with watershed protection of public drinking water supplies. The SWAP inventoried potential sources of contamination and determined the susceptibility of the source water to contamination.

The Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of community water supplies to be susceptible to pollution problems. The very nature of surface water allows contaminants to migrate unimpeded into the intake. This is the reason for mandatory treatment of all surface water supplies in Illinois. Chicago offshore intakes are located at a distance such that shoreline contaminants are not usually considered factors of water quality. At certain times of the year, however, the potential for contamination exists due to wet weather water flows and river reversals. In addition, the placement of crib structures may attract waterfowl - gulls and terns - that frequent the Great Lakes area, concentrating fecal deposits at the intake and compromising the source water quality. The shore intakes are also highly susceptible to stormwater runoff, marinas, and shoreline point sources due to the influx of groundwater to the lake. Further information on the City of Chicago's SWAP is available by calling the Department of Water Management at (312) 744-6635.

The Village of New Lenox completed the SWAP for its emergency groundwater supply. The aquifers that feed the village wells may span geographic areas beyond the incorporated boundaries of the village. There is potential for unknown sources of contamination to reach the aquifers from areas outside of the control of the village. The village Source Water Protection Plan places priority on minimizing the potential for contamination within the village's regulatory control and maintaining the functionality of the well system. These are achieved through dedication to the operational reliability and redundancy of the system, diligent monitoring, and regular maintenance of the village's potable water supply system.

The Illinois EPA has determined that the source water supply for the New Lenox community wells is not susceptible to contamination. For more information regarding the Village of New Lenox SWAP, please contact our Water Department at (815) 215-4800. To obtain a copy, please visit <https://www.newlenox.net/pview.aspx?id=27226&catid=528>

Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The percentage of total organic carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month, and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by Illinois EPA.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if it needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	Village of New Lenox Lake Water		City of Chicago		New Lenox Emergency Backup Groundwater		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH		
Arsenic (ppb)	2021	10	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	7.03	0.574–7.03	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2023	2	2	NA	NA	0.0195	0.0192–0.0195	0.032 ¹	0.0106–0.032 ¹	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2023	[4]	[4]	0.9	0.6–1.1	1 ²	1–1 ²	NA	NA	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chromium (ppb)	2021	100	100	NA	NA	NA	NA	7.95	6.01–7.95	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2020	5	0	NA	NA	0.95	0.83–0.95	3.24 ¹	2.19–3.24 ¹	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Di(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate (ppb)	2023	6	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.47	1.47–1.47	No	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	4	4	NA	NA	0.74	0.66–0.74	0.34 ¹	0.29–0.34 ¹	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2020	15	0	NA	NA	3.1	2.8–3.1	9.49 ¹	3.78–9.49 ¹	No	Decay of natural and human-made deposits
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs]–Stage 2 (ppb)	2023	60	NA	18	10.8–27.8	11.9 ²	5.8–15.2 ²	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Iron (ppb)	2021	1,000 ³	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	2,140	554–2,140	No	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits
Manganese (ppb)	2021	150 ⁴	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	27.9	ND–27.9	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	2023	10	10	NA	NA	0.33	0.29–0.33	NA	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

REGULATED SUBSTANCES (CONTINUED)

				Village of New Lenox Lake Water		City of Chicago		New Lenox Emergency Backup Groundwater			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Sodium (ppm)	2023	NA ⁵	NA	NA	NA	8.71	8.43–8.71	42.2 ¹	29.9–42.2 ¹	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; used in water softener regeneration
Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)	2023	TT	NA	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Nitrate + Nitrite (ppm)	2023	10	10	NA	NA	0.33	0.29–0.33	NA	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes]–Stage 1 (ppb)	2023	80	NA	40	19.55–63.5	25.1 ²	12.8–37.6 ²	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity ⁶ (NTU)	2023	TT	NA	NA	NA	0.25	NA	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2023	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	NA	NA	100	NA	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

				Village of New Lenox Lake Water		City of Chicago					
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE		
Copper (ppm)	2023	1.3	1.3	0.1103	0/35	0.12 ²	0/30 ²	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits		
Lead (ppb)	2023	15	0	1.93	0/35	7.7 ²	1/30 ²	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits		

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES⁷

				Village of New Lenox Lake Water		City of Chicago		New Lenox Emergency Backup Groundwater			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE			
Sulfate (ppm)	2023	NA	NA	27.8	25.0–27.8	NA	NA	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits			

¹ Sampled in 2021.

² Sampled in 2022.

³ Iron is not currently regulated by the U.S. EPA; however, the state has set an MCL for supplies serving a population of 1,000 or more.

⁴ Manganese is not currently regulated by the U.S. EPA; however, the state has set an MCL for supplies serving a population of 1,000 or more.

⁵ Sodium is not currently regulated by the U.S. EPA; however, the state has set an MCL for this contaminant for supplies serving a population of 1,000 or more.

⁶ Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

⁷ No MCL or mandatory health effects language have been established for this contaminant by either state or federal regulations. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the U.S. EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other required actions by the water supply.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

ppb (µg/L) (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (mg/L) (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

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

