

CITY OF GEORGETOWN, ILLINOIS
GEORGETOWN PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM
2021

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Illinois Facility # 1830350

Indiana Public Water System Identification # 5283013

Important information for the Spanish-speaking population

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad del agua potable que usted consume. Por favor traduzcalo, o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien y pueda explicarle.

Is our water safe?

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the drinking water that we provided **last year, (2020)**. Included as part of this report are details about where the water that you drink comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Illinois as well as Indiana standards. We are committed to providing you with the information that you need to know about the quality of the water that you drink.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people, such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplant, people with HIV/AIDS or other kind of 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 are appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants and are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Where does our water come from?

The water used by the Georgetown Public Water System is pumped from two wells drilled into a large sand and gravel aquifer located near Cayuga Indiana.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 is a health risk or that it is not suitable for drinking. More information about contaminants and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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, or can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in the raw, untreated water may 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 that result from storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, and mining or farming operations.

: **Pesticides and Herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, 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 operations, and can also, result from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

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

In order to ensure your tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants that may be present in the water provided by public drinking water systems. We are required to treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Moreover, FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants that may be present in bottled water, which must provide the same level of protection for public health.

The following tables list all the contaminants that we detected during the 2020 calendar year. The mere presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise indicated, the data presented in this table is from testing done between January 1 and December 31, 2020. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) and Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) require us to monitor for

certain contaminants at a frequency less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from one year to another. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, may however be more than a year old. In addition to the over 100 parameters monitored throughout the year at an independent EPA certified Lab. the Georgetown Public Water System annually performs over 2300 in-house tests to monitor water quality.

Some of the terms and abbreviations used in this report are:

- MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level, the highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level goal, the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level, the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water.
MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Goal, the level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
AL: Action Level, the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements or action which a system must follow.
TT: Treatment Technique, a required process intended to reduce the level of contaminant in drinking water.
NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, a measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water.
ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter.
ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter.
P*: potential violation or one that is likely to occur in the near future.
n/a: either not available or not applicable.
pCi/L: pico-curies per liter (a measure for radiation):

2020 REGULATED CONTAMINANTS DETECTED										
VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS										
Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Result	Min	Max	Above AL	Violates	Likely Source
2020	1,1,1-trichloroethane (Illinois)	200	200	ppb	0.66		0.51		N	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
2/09/2015	1,1,1-trichloroethane (Indiana)	200	200	Ppb	0.50				N	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
Inorganic Contaminants										
Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Result	Min	Max	Above AL	Violates	Likely Source
2018	Barium (Illinois)	2	2	ppm	0.054				No	Discharge of drilling wastes and or metal refineries, and erosion of natural deposits
2018	Barium (Indiana)	2	2	ppm	0.059				No	Discharge of drilling wastes and or metal refineries, and erosion of natural deposits
02/09/2015	Chromium (Indiana)	100	100	ppb	5				No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
2019	Copper 90th% Value (Illinois)	1.3 AL	1.3	ppm	0.17			0	No	Erosion of natural deposits, Leaching from wood preservatives, Corrosion of household plumbing systems
2020	Copper 90th% Value (Indiana)	1.3 AL	1.3	ppm	0.016			0	No	Erosion of natural deposits, Leaching from wood preservatives, Corrosion of household plumbing systems
2018	Fluoride (Illinois)	4	4	ppm	0.669			0	No	Erosion of natural deposits, Water additive which promotes strong teeth, Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
2018	Fluoride (Indiana)	4	4	ppm	0.8			0	No	Erosion of natural deposits, Water additive which promotes strong teeth, Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
2019	Lead 90th% Value (Illinois)	15 AL	0	ppb	3.0			0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits
07/14/2015	Lead 90th% Value (Indiana)	15 AL	0	ppb	5.0			0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits
11/03/2016	Selenium	50	50	ppb	<5.0	NA	NA		No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries: Erosion of natural deposits
2020	Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen) (IL)	10	10	Ppm	4.6				No	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, Erosion of natural deposits.
2020	Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen) (IND)	10	10	ppm	4.84		5.0		No	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, Erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfectant Byproducts and Precursors										
Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Result	Min	Max	Above AL	Violates	Likely Source
2020	Chlorine (Illinois)				1.20	1.1	1.30		No	Additive for drinking water chlorination
2020	Chlorine (Indiana)	4	4	ppm	1.00		1.00		No	Additive for drinking water chlorination

2019 2018	Total Halo acetic Acids (haa5) IL. Total Halo acetic Acids (haa5) Ind.	60 60		Ppb ppb	3 10				No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
2020 2018	Total Trihalomethanes (IL) Total Trihalomethanes (IND)	80 80	No goal for the total	Ppb ppb	10 16				No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Radiological Contaminants										
Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Result	Min	Max	Above AL	Violates	Likely Source
7/15/2014 2019 (Ind)	Gross Alpha, excluding radon and Uranium	15 15	0	pCi/l	0.243 0.72				No	Erosion of natural deposits
7/15/2014	Combined Radium	5	0	pCi/l	0.929				No	Erosion of natural deposits
4/29/04 09/20/2010	Gross Beta Particle Activity Beta/photon emitters	50 4	0 0	pCi/l mrem/yr	1.85 3.7	1.6 3.7	2.1 3.7		No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Unregulated Contaminants										
Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Result	Min	Max	Above AL	Violates	Likely Source
11/03/2015	Iron	1.0		ppm	<0.010	<0.010	<0.010		No	Erosion of natural deposits
2018	Sodium	n/a		ppm	23				No	Erosion of natural deposits, Leaching
2018	Zinc	5	5	ppm	0.015					
11/03/2015 11/03/2015	Sulfate Manganese (Illinois)	n/a 150		mg/l ppb	51 <1				No No	Erosion of natural deposits
Special Note on Gross Beta:										
The MCL for Gross Beta is 4mrem/year: however, EPA considers 50pCi/l to be the level of concern for Beta Particles.										
Special note on Lead:										
If Present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially to pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Our system 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 .										
Section II - Violations										
Violation Description	Beginning Date	Ending Date	Contaminant							

The health effects for people who drink water containing Trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic Acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Availability of a Source Water Assessment (SWA)

A Source Water Assessment (SWA) has been prepared for our system. According to this assessment, our system has been categorized with a high (detection) susceptibility risk. More information of this assessment can be obtained by contacting Mr. Darin Readnour at (217)-662-2525 at your earliest convenience.

Our Watershed Protection Efforts

Our water system is working with the Georgetown community as well as Cayuga Indiana to increase awareness of better waste disposal practices to further protect the sources of our drinking water. We are also working with other agencies and with local watershed groups to educate the community on ways to keep our water safe. A State Approved Wellhead Protection Program has been developed and implemented to educate the public about the importance of good land use stewardship.

How can I get involved?

If you have any questions about the contents of this report, please contact Mr. Edward E. Hitt at 217-918-5401 or 1-(800)-933-1827. Or, you can join us at our City Council meetings, which are held at 7:00 PM on the first and third Mondays of each month in the Georgetown City Hall located at 208 S. Walnut Street. We have always been and always will be committed to bringing only the best water possible to our customers. Safe drinking water is one of the most precious commodities we have. We encourage you to participate through responsible stewardship. Always use and dispose of herbicides, pesticides, oils and other potential contaminants properly. Contaminants thrown on the ground carelessly may leach into the very supply you draw your life sustaining water from. We are asking for your cooperation to help protect this valuable resource and welcome your input and feedback.

Please Share This Information

Large water volume customers (like apartment complexes, hospitals, schools, and/or industries) are encouraged to post extra copies of this report in conspicuous locations or to distribute them to your tenants, residents, patients, students, and/or employees. This “good faith” effort will allow non-billed users to learn more about the quality of the water that they consume. This report will not be mailed.

Sincerely,

Darin Readnour
Mayor, City of Georgetown

Edward E. Hitt
Operator in Responsible Charge
Georgetown Public Water system