

Let me be strong for you.

If only our water infrastructure could talk to us. The pipes beneath our streets might remind us that they need constant attention to remain steadfast and efficient. They might also remind us that only tap water keeps us healthy, protects us from fire, supports our economy and provides the high quality of life we enjoy.

We are all stewards of the water infrastructure that previous generations handed down to us, and our water bills pay to keep those pipes strong and reliable. For more information about what your tap water delivers, visit www.cityofelgin.org/water



Only Tap Water Delivers™

Presented in cooperation with  American Water Works Association

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2014



This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. For more information regarding this report contact: Kyla Jacobsen - 847-931-6160. The source of drinking water used by ELGIN is surface water and deep well water. Water issues are discussed at City Council meetings which are held the 2nd and 4th of every month.

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.

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).

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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

For more information on the Water Department and water quality visit the website at www.cityofelgin.org/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.

WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS

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 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 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.

Maximum residual disinfectant level (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.

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

ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

N/A: not applicable.

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

ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

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

PCI/L: Picocuries per liter, measure of radiological contamination.

LEAD & COPPER

CONTAMINANT	MCLG	ACTION LEVEL (AL)	90TH%	NO. OF SITES OVER THE AL	VIOLATION STATUS
COPPER	1.3 PPM	1.3	0.156 PPM	0	NO VIOLATION
LEAD	0 PPB	15	14.5 PPB	7	NO VIOLATION

DISINFECTANTS & DISINFECTANT BY-PRODUCTS

CONTAMINANT	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVELS DETECTED	MCLG	MCL	VIOLATION STATUS
CHLORAMINES	2.8 PPM	2.4 - 2.8	4	4	NO VIOLATION
HALOACETIC ACIDS	35 PPB	4.8 - 65.4	N/A	60	NO VIOLATION
TRIHALOMETHANES	65 PPB	14.64 - 85.1	N/A	80	NO VIOLATION

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVELS DETECTED	MCLG	MCL	VIOLATION STATUS
BARIUM	0.554 PPM	0.0414 - 0.554	2	2	NO VIOLATION
FLOURIDE	1.14 PPM	1.07 - 1.14	4	4	NO VIOLATION
NITRATES	2.25 PPM	0.0932 - 2.25	10	10	NO VIOLATION
SODIUM	79 PPM	29 - 79	N/A	N/A	NO VIOLATION

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS

CONTAMINANT	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVELS DETECTED	MCLG	MCL	VIOLATION STATUS
COMBINED RADIUM	0.77 PCI/L	0 - 0.77	0	5	NO VIOLATION
GROSS ALPHA EXCLUDING RADON AND URANIUM	0.77 PCI/L	0 - 0.77	0	15	NO VIOLATION

SOURCE WATER INFORMATION

SOURCE WATER NAME

INTAKE (22155) Fox River Intake
WELL 1 (22159)
WELL 1A (22165)
WELL 2 (22160)
WELL 2A (22166)
WELL 3 (22161)
WELL 3A (22167)
WELL 4 (22162)
WELL 4A (22168)
WELL 5 (22163)
WELL 5A (22169)

FOX RIVER INTAKE AT
SLADE AVE WELL 1
AIRLITE WELL 1
SLADE AVE W2
AIRLITE WELL 2
SLADE AVE W3
AIRLITE WELL 3
SLADE AVE W4
AIRLITE WELL 4
SLADE AVE W5
AIRLITE WELL 5

TYPE OF WATER

SW
GW
GW

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. 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 City Hall or call our water operator, Kyla Jacobsen, at 847-931-6160. 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>.

Surface Water-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. In addition, any potential sources of contamination located near the wells are also displayed. The Illinois EPA has determined that the Elgin wells are not susceptible to IOC, VOC, or SOC contamination. This determination is based on a number of criteria including: monitoring conducted at the wells; monitoring conducted at the entry point to the distribution system; and the available hydrogeologic data for the wells. In anticipation of the U.S. EPA's proposed Ground Water Rule, the Illinois EPA has determined that the Elgin community water supply wells are not vulnerable to viral contamination. This determination is based upon the evaluation of the following criteria during the Vulnerability Waiver Process: the community's wells are properly constructed with sound integrity and proper site conditions; there is a hydrogeologic barrier that restricts pathogen movement; all potential routes and sanitary defects have been mitigated such that the source water is adequately protected; monitoring data did not indicate a history of disease outbreak; and the sanitary survey of the water supply did not indicate a viral contamination threat. However, having stated this, the U.S. EPA is proposing to require States to identify systems in karst, gravel, and fractured rock aquifer systems as sensitive. Water systems utilizing these aquifer types would be required to perform routine source water monitoring. Because the community's wells are constructed in a confined aquifer, which should provide an adequate degree of protection to prevent the movement of pathogens into the wells, well hydraulics were not considered to be a significant factor in the vulnerability determination.

TURBIDITY

	LIMIT (TREATMENT TECHNIQUE)	LEVEL DETECTED	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
HIGHEST SINGLE MEASUREMENT	1 NTU	0.25 NTU	NO	SOIL RUNOFF
LOWEST MONTHLY % MEETING LIMIT	0.3 NTU	100%	NO	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, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.