

2011 QUALITY WATER REPORT

St. John, Indiana



To Our Water Customers,

The report you are about to read contains information concerning the Town of St. John water pumping and distribution systems (Monix Water Treatment Plant; Facility #5245043 and Gates of St. John Water Treatment Plant; Facility #5245043-02) for the calendar year of 2011 (January 1 to December 31, 2011). Please take a moment to review its contents. The intent of this report is to briefly summarize the quality of the water we provide to you, our water customers.

Where Your Water Comes From

Our Town uses groundwater that is supplied to us by four wells that are drilled into an underground aquifer. An aquifer, quite simply, is an underground geological formation that contains water. Raw water is withdrawn from these four wells and is mixed together as it travels into the water treatment plants. At the treatment plants the raw water travels through a series of iron removal filters. Chlorine is injected to assure the water's purity and then the finished water is pumped into your home or business. During 2011, the St. John Water Treatment Plants pumped in excess of 555,910,000 gallons of drinking water.

What Your Water Contains

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 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, storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemicals, 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 materials, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas productions and mining activities.

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 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.

Health Notes Concerning Drinking Water

St. John's water testing did not detect a discernable presence of lead however, it is possible that lead levels in your home may be higher than those found in other homes in the community. **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 Town of St. John Water District 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 cooling. 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>.**

TABLE OF TESTING RESULTS

The following table represents the findings of tests that are performed of our Town water supply. The tests listed below may not be required to be performed each year. Therefore, the date of the last required sample may be prior to the year 2011. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

Definitions of Abbreviations

ALG	Action Level Goal – 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. (referenced to Lead and Copper)
AL	Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. (referenced to Lead and Copper)
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level – The highest level of 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.
Mrem/yr	Millirem per year
mg/L	Millirems per year
N/A	Not Applicable
pCi/L	Picocuries (unit of measurement for a radioactive particle) per liter
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.
ug/L	Micrograms per liter.

	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	VIOLATION	Major Sources
Barium - 2011	0.0056 ppm	2 ppm	2 ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Beta/photon emitters - 2011	4.5 mrem/yr	4	0	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Chlorine - 2011	1 ppm	4	4	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chromium - 2011	16 ppb	100 ppb	100 ppb	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Copper - 2011	0.78 ppb	AL -1.3 ppb	1.3 ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate – 2011	4.5 ppb	6	0	N	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories.
Fluoride - 2011	0.7 ppm	4 ppm	4 ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive, which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Gross alpha excluding Radon and uranium - 2011	1 pCi/L	15 pCi/L	0	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead – 2011	5 ppb	AL -15 ppb	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate – 2011	NON-DETECT	10 ppm	10 ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium – 2011	5.2 ppb	50	50	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
TTHM & HAA5 – 2011	NON-DETECT	80/60 ppb	N/A	N	By product of drinking water chlorination.

QUESTIONS?

Contact the Public Works Department at 365-4655 or visit the Town's website at www.stjohnin.com to find out dates, times and locations for your Town Council and water board meetings. Also, for your convenience there is a copy of the Town's drinking water system's Wellhead Protection Plan at the Clerk-Treasurers office located in the Municipal Building and the Public Works Department located in the Public Works Facility. The Town Council and Water Board members welcome any public involvement or input.

About the cover

Have you noticed the fire hydrants in the Town of St. John have a new look? For the past couple of weeks the Public Works Department has been busy converting the fire hose coupler on each fire hydrant to a new one called a "**Quick Coupler or Storz**". These couplers were purchased through grant money the St. John Fire Department had received, and will serve as a faster means of gaining access to the water supply when needed.

Educate your family about the importance of conserving water and keeping our environment clean. Check out the American Water Works Association Web site at www.awwa.com.

