



2024 Water Quality Report

Town of St. John, Indiana

This annual report is intended to provide our water customers with current information regarding the quality of the water delivered by the water system.

The Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) became effective on September 18, 1998, and was promulgated by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Final Rule was published in the Federal Register on August 19, 1998, (63 FR 44512). The CCR became effective 30 days after publication [40 CFR 141.152(a)].

To Our Water Customers,

The report contains information concerning the Town of St. John water pumping and distribution systems (Monix Water Treatment Plant, Facility #IN5245043, and Gates of St. John Water Treatment Plant, Facility #IN5245043-02) for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024. The intent of this report is to summarize the quality of the water we provide to you, our water customers. Our water system tested a minimum of 15 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. With microbiological samples collected, the water system collects disinfectant residuals to ensure control of microbial growth.

Where Your Water Comes From

St. John Municipal Water Utility is groundwater that is supplied to us by six 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 Raw water is withdrawn from the wells and is combined together as it travels into the water treatment plant. At the treatment plant, the raw water travels through a series of iron removal filters. Chlorine is injected to ensure the water's purity and then the finished water is pumped into your home or business. During 2024, the St. John Water Treatment Plants pumped in excess of 1,128,210,000 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 bottle water, may 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.

Information about contaminants and their potential health effects, water resources, water conservation and public health issues may be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791, the Centers

for Disease Control and Prevention website www.cdc.gov or the Indiana Department of Health website www.in.gov/isdh.

The hardness level of the Town's water ranges between 26-30 grains per gallon. If your residence has a water softener, you will need to know this information when programming the softener. The Town of St. John did not experience any positive TC (Total Coliform) samples in 2024. From 6-7-24 to 7-16-24, the Town of St. John purchased 63,390,000 gallons of water from Schererville Water Department who purchases treated surface water (Lake Michigan) from Indiana American Water Northwest. You can view the annual water quality report for Indiana American Water Northwest Indiana Operations online at <https://www.amwater.com/ccr/greatergaryarea.pdf>.

Special Information on Lead

St. John's water testing did not detect a discernable presence of lead; however, it is possible that lead levels may be higher in your home than those found in other homes in the community. There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health problems in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed) and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risk of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks. 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 cooking. The Town of St. John has completed its inventory of Lead Service Lines in compliance with the Federal Lead and Copper Revision. The inventory results may be reviewed at the public transparency dashboard website <https://pws-ptd.120wateraudit.com/StJohn-IN>.

For more information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and tips and steps you can take to minimize exposure, visit EPA's website at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Special Health Information

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. Contaminants may be found in drinking water that could cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily cause for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor or color of the drinking water, please contact Public Works at 219-365-4655. Immuno-compromised persons such as a person with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, a person who may 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 and their potential health effects are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

QUESTIONS?

Contact the Public Works Department at 219-365-4655 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.**

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.

Visit the Town of St. John on-line at www.stjohnin.com

Disinfectant	Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MRDLG	MRDL	Violation	Major Sources
Chlorine–2024	1 ppm	0.94-1.7	4	4	N	Water additive used to control microbes

Regulated Contaminants: In the tables below, we have shown the regulated contaminants that were detected. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, information provided in this table refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results.

Lead & Copper	90th Percentile: 90% of levels were less than	Range of Sampled Results	AL	Sites Over AL	Violation	Major Sources
Copper 2020 - 2023	0.8012 ppm	0.0251-1.7743	1.3	1	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead 2020 – 2023	2.7 ppb	1-7.9	15	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Regulated Contaminants	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Major Sources
2,4-D–2024	.11 ppb	0-0.11	70	70	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Barium–2023	0.0213 ppm	0.0068-0.0213	2	2	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride–2023	0.671 ppm	0.635–0.671	4	4	N	Erosion of natural deposits which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Radiological Contaminants	Level Detected	Range	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Major Sources
Combine Radium (-226 & -228) -2024	0.984 pCi/L	0.432-0.984	0	5	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha excl. Radon/Uranium-2024	.6935 pCi/L	0.3238-0.6935	0	15	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-226–2024	0.379 pCi/L	0-0.379	0	5	N	
Radium-228-2024	0.605 pCi/L	0.432-0.605	0	5	N	

Definitions of Abbreviations

AL	Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
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)
AVG	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.
LRAA	Locational Running Annual Average.
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.
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 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.
Mrem	Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
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.

During the period covered by this report, there were no violations and no deficiencies.