2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report Honeysuckle Water System

Your annual water quality report

As operator of a public drinking water system, City Utilities is required to publish and distribute an annual report on the quality of the drinking water we provide to our customers. This report must be provided prior to July 1st of each year. It includes results of water quality tests performed during the previous calendar year along with information about the source of your drinking water, how the water is treated, and how you can be involved in protecting your drinking water quality.

City Utilities is committed to providing you with great value -- the best water at the best possible price. Our employees work hard every day to protect public health and safety. We welcome your feedback. If you have comments about the quality of the drinking water or services you receive from City Utilities, please let us know by calling 260-427-8311 or emailing us at waterquality@cityoffortwayne.org.

Where does your water come from?

Homes in the Honeysuckle subdivision receive their drinking water from two groundwater wells near Spencerville, Indiana. The wells draw water from the Huntertown Aquifer System, Western Part, and are owned and operated by Fort Wayne City Utilities. An average of over 10,000 gallons of water per day is drawn from the wells. City Utilities operates a small water treatment and pumping plant on Twin Fawn Trail where water is treated and tested before it is distributed through the water main system to Honeysuckle customers.

Protecting water at the source

City Utilities has developed and implemented a Wellhead Protection Plan (WHPP) as required by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) to protect the quality of the ground water that supplies the Honeysuckle water system. The area covered by the WHPP includes every property within a 3,000 foot radius around the wells and the Honeysuckle water treatment plant.

The goal of the WHPP is to maintain high-quality drinking water by preventing contaminants from reaching the aquifer and the wells that provide your drinking water. The plan includes the following:

- Identification of existing and potential sources of contamination
- Development of a contingency plan for emergencies and for future water supply needs
- Creation of a local planning team to assist with the protection of the Honeysuckle water wells

Your involvement in protecting your drinking water source is essential. To keep you up to date with information about the Honeysuckle water system and the associated wellhead protection area, City Utilities has a webpage for Honeysuckle customers and neighbors. It can be found at utilities.cityoffortwayne.org/honeysuckle-water-system or by searching the internet for "Fort Wayne Honeysuckle water system."

City Utilities invites you to participate with the local planning team. A team meeting is typically held in October of each year as part of a public information and outreach event for Honeysuckle customers. Watch for your invitation in the mail this fall.

Testing for safety and quality

City Utilities monitors water quality in the Honeysuckle water system on a schedule as required by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). Sampling is done in accordance with City Utilities' standardized sampling protocol. Test results from January 1, 2021—December 31, 2021 are summarized on the next page.

CITY UTILITIES
WATER THAT WORKS

Water Quality Test Results for 2021

The table below shows substances that are regulated by the US EPA that were detected in finished drinking water distributed by City Utilities through the Honeysuckle water system between January 1 and December 31, 2021. Compliance is based on the highest result obtained during the year for each substance. Some tests are required only once per year because the US EPA and State of Indiana have determined that the concentration of these substances does not change frequently. For tests required only once per year there is no range of results in the table.

In 2021, your tap water met or was better than all US EPA and state drinking water health and safety standards require.

Contaminant	Units	MCLG	MCL	Compliance Achieved	Highest Level Detected	Range	Typical Sources
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products							
Chlorine	ppm	4	4	Yes	1.19	0.29 - 1.19	Additive used in water treatment process to control bacteria
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ppb	NA	60	Yes	0	0 - 0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	ppb	NA	80	Yes	0.9	0 - 1.8	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Compounds							
Barium	ppm	2	2	Yes	0.15	0.15 - 0.15	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosions of natural deposits
Chromium	ppb	100	100	Yes	0	0 - 0	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	ppm	10	10	Yes	0.396	0.171- 0.396	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic systems; sewage discharge; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (measured as Nitrogen)	ppm	1	1	Yes	0.197	0.018 - 0.197	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic systems; sewage discharge; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	ppm	0	NONE	NA	24	24	Naturally present in the environment
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	Yes	0.7	0.7 - 0.7	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Microbial Contaminants							
Total Coliform	% of positive samples monthly	0	5	Yes	0	0 - 0	Naturally present in the environment
Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs)							
Testing not required in 2021							
Synthetic Organic Compounds (SOCs)							
Testing not required in 2021							
Lead and Copper					90th percentile		
Copper (last testing period was Sept. 2018)	ppm	1.3	90% of samples taken below AL = 1.3	Yes	0.197	Samples taken = 5 Exceeding AL = 0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (last testing period was Sept. 2018)	ppb	0	90% of samples taken below AL = 15	Yes	7.2	Samples taken = 5 Exceeding AL = 0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants							
Gross alpha excluding radon & uranium (collected 5/1/2017)	pCi/L	0	15	Yes	1.09	1.09 – 1.09	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-228 (collected 5/1/2017)	pCi/L	0	5	Yes	1.16	0.704 – 1.16	Erosion of natural deposits

How to read the water quality table

MCLG — Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: established by the US EPA, 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.

MCL — Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water per regulations set by the US EPA. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as is feasible using the best available treatment technology.

AL — Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers implementation of a required type of treatment or other requirements that the water system must follow.

Highest Detected Level: The highest level of a contaminant detected and used for comparison against the acceptable or required level. The detected level may be the highest single measurement or it may be an average depending on the prescribed testing protocol.

Range: The lowest to the highest values for all samples tested for each contaminant. If only one sample/test is required, no range is shown.

NA: Not applicable

pCi/L: Picocuries per liter

ppm: Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

%: Percentage of monthly or annual samples that tested positive or that exceeded a certain level

Why do we test the water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants in drinking water – below the limits set by regulatory agencies - does not indicate that the water poses a health risk. The US EPA and the State of Indiana require City Utilities to regularly test the drinking water we produce and distribute to make sure that it remains safe.

Keeping drinking water safe

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) sets regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water coming from public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. The US EPA also requires that public water systems make an annual report, such as this one, to all of their customers. However, bottled water producers don't face the same reporting requirement.

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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. It can also 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 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 land 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 stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Drinking water and your health

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly persons and infants, can be particularly at risk for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen that may be found in surface water such as rivers, lakes and streams throughout the US. Typically *Cryptosporidium* is not found in water coming from wells. Ingestion of *Cryptosporidium* may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection with symptoms including nausea, diarrhea and abdominal cramps. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause this disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people, infants, small children and the elderly are at greater risk for developing a life-threatening condition.

Guidelines from the US EPA and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

A word about lead

Fort Wayne City Utilities regularly tests water from a number of homes in the community to determine lead levels. Water that comes out of the Honeysuckle Water Treatment Plant meets all state and federal requirements for lead. However, in some buildings and homes lead levels in water may go up because of the types of pipes and plumbing fixtures used in those structures.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children.

Lead in drinking water comes primarily from materials and components associated with water service lines and home plumbing. Fort Wayne City Utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components that bring water from our main lines into your house or those within individual buildings.

When water has been sitting in home plumbing for several hours, lead may enter the water from plumbing fixtures. You can minimize your potential for lead exposure by letting the water run before using it. Turn on the cold water and let it run until you feel the water get noticeably cooler before you use the water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about the level of lead in your water, you may want to have your water tested by a private laboratory. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

You may also contact Fort Wayne City Utilities at 260-427-8311, visit our website at utilities.cityoffortwayne.org/

or contact the Indiana State Department of Health at 317-233-1250 or the Fort Wayne-Allen County Department of Health at 260-449-8600 for more informa· on on health risks and on reducing lead exposure.

What you can do to keep your water safe

Treatment technologies used in the Honeysuckle Water System remove or significantly reduce these contaminants, making the water safe to drink in compliance with regulatory standards. However, there are things residents can do to help protect drinking water quality. One of the potential sources of ground water contamination – and thus a potential contaminant of the Honeysuckle Water System – is household hazardous waste.

The key to reducing the potential for groundwater contamination from household chemicals is using as little as possible and properly disposing of unwanted amounts of these chemicals and their containers. More ideas may be found on City Utilities' website at utilities.cityoffortwayne.org/

Another way you can help protect groundwater quality is by reporting any fuel and/or chemical spills or leaks. If the leak or spill poses an imminent threat to public health or safety, please dial 911 immediately. Please also report the spill to City Utilities by calling 260-427-6054.

City Utilities would also appreciate receiving notification if you add or remove any potential sources of contamination that may be used or stored on your property, or if you make any changes to the activities taking place on your property that could affect ground water quality. Please contact City Utilities by calling 260-427-8311.

City Utilities' Mission

To support public safety and public health and enhance regional economic development by delivering high quality, affordable water, wastewater and stormwater services in ways that protect the environment.

Important Information Sources

Honeysuckle Water System
Michele Gerke – Water Quality Manager
260-427-8311 or 260-427-1303
utilities.cityoffortwayne.org/

Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM
1-888-233-7745
in.gov/idem/cleanwater/2450.htm

EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline
1-800-426-4791
https://ww.epa.gov/sdwa

Aviso Importante

Este reporte contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.
En español: 260-427-8311.