

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2024



Presented By
Mishawaka Utilities, Water Division
Juday Creek Water Treatment Plant



PWS ID#: IN5271009



Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2024. Included are details about your source of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

Where Does Mishawaka's Water Come From?

Mishawaka Utilities pumps groundwater from 27 wells that tap the St. Joseph Aquifer and transmits it to our four water treatment plants at Virgil Street, Division Street, Juday Creek, and Gumwood. Mishawaka sits on one of the most prolific aquifers in the United States, if not the world. Through extensive testing every day of the year, we monitor the water that is pumped from the aquifer. Our wellhead protection team watches closely for any spills, dumping, or unapproved and illegal wells. Combined, our treatment facilities provide over two billion gallons of clean drinking water every year to our consumers.

Source Water Assessment

Our Source Water Assessment yielded a susceptibility rating of 'High'. More information can be found here: <https://www.in.gov/idem/cleanwater/information-about/groundwater-monitoring-and-source-water-protection/source-water-assessment-program/>.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. The Utility Board meets every Tuesday at 10:00 a.m. in the Board of Public Works Conference Room on the second floor of City Hall, 100 Lincolnway West.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. U.S. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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) or epa.gov/safewater.



Preventing Winter Freeze-Ups

Winter means colder temperatures and the chance of frozen pipes and meters. The colder the winter, the further down the frost line in the ground moves. If the temperatures should reach the low teens and subzero temperatures, it is recommended you run a small stream of water to prevent freeze-ups. Letting a faucet drip during extreme cold weather can prevent a pipe from bursting. Opening a faucet will provide relief from the excessive pressure that builds between the faucet and the ice blockage when freezing occurs. If there is no excessive water pressure, there is no burst pipe, even if the water inside the pipe freezes.

Think Before You Flush!

Flushing unused or expired medicines can be harmful to your drinking water. Properly disposing of unused or expired medication helps protect you and the environment. Keep medications out of our waterways by disposing responsibly. To find a convenient drop-off location near you, please visit <https://bit.ly/3IeRyXy>.



Water Facts

- We Test Drinking Water Every day of the year seven days a week for an average of over 61 Drinking Water Samples tested each day to help ensure the quality of our Drinking Water.
- The average hardness for Mishawaka Water is 19 grains per gallon.

QUESTIONS?

This report is provided annually as a public service by Mishawaka Utilities so that our consumers may have confidence in the quality of our water. If you have questions about this report, call us at (574) 258-1652 and select the Water Quality Department option to reach our Water Division Manager, Dave Majewski. Learn more about Mishawaka Utilities at mishawaka.in.gov. Further information may be obtained from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) at epa.gov/safewater/ or the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Mishawaka Utilities, PWSID # IN5271009, is a member of American Water Works Association.

Sources 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. 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 occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may 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 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 occur naturally or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, U.S. EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Fiid and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 mean that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791) or visiting epa.gov/safewater.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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 Mishawaka Utilities Water Division is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, or doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead, 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 at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by October 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. The lead service inventory may be viewed at <http://mishawaka.in.gov/lead-free/>. Please contact us at (574) 258-1630, option 5, or MishawakaLeadFree@Mishawaka.in.gov if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.

Water Conservation Tips

You can play a role in conserving water and saving yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

Safeguard Your Drinking Water

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.



How Good Is Mishawaka Water?

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

Mishawaka's drinking water has exceeded the strict standards set forth by the U.S. EPA and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. In this report, you will find where your water comes from along with data about your water quality.

The bottom line: The water is safe to drink!

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if U.S. EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us at (574) 258-1652 if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES								
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE	
Arsenic (ppb)	2024	10	0	1.4	1.4–1.4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes	
Barium (ppm)	2024	2	2	0.22	0.22–0.22	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	
Chlorine (ppm)	2024	[4]	[4]	0.90	0.20–1.4	No	Water additive used to control microbes	
Chromium (ppb)	2024	100	100	2.5	2.5–2.5	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits	
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2024	5	0	1.42	ND–1.42	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Radium 226 (pCi/L)	2024	5	0	0.75	ND–0.75	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	2024	5	0	0.67	ND–0.67	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Fluoride (ppm)	2024	4	4	0.61	0.61–0.61	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
Nickel (ppb)	2024	100	NA	1.6	ND–1.6	No	Naturally occurs in soils, groundwater, and surface waters; often used in electroplating, stainless steel, and alloy products	
Nitrate (ppm)	2024	10	10	1.2	ND–1.2	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	
Nitrate-Nitrite (ppm)	2024	10	10	1.2	ND–1.2	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	
Total Coliform (percent positive samples)	2024	>5%	0	0	NA	No	Naturally present in environment	
Xylenes (ppm)	2020	10	10	0.0005	ND–0.0005	No	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories	
Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community								
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	RANGE LOW-HIGH	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2023	1.3	1.3	0.95	0.009–1.1	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2023	15	0	8.9	0.83–22	1/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	SAMPLE POINT	PERIOD	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	HIGHEST LRAA	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)	4310 E THIRD ST	2024 - 2025	60	0	13	12.8 - 12.8	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	4310 E THIRD ST	2024 - 2025	80	0	33	32.8 - 32.8	By-product of drinking water chlorination

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Sulfate (ppm)	2020	250	NA	53	41-53	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2020	7.8	3.0-7.8	Disinfection by-product
Chlorodibromomethane (ppb)	2020	3.5	1.8-3.5	Disinfection by-product
Chloroform (ppb)	2020	9.8	3.4-9.8	Disinfection by-product
Dibromochloromethane (ppm)	2023	0.0058	0.0055-0.0058	Disinfection by-product
Sodium (ppm)	2023	44	15-44	Erosion of natural deposits
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid [PFBS] (ppt)	2024	3.7	ND-3.7	A group of chemicals used to make coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water
Perfluorobutanoic Acid [PFBA] (ppt)	2024	5.2	ND-5.2	A group of chemicals used to make coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid [PFHxS] (ppt)	2024	4.3	ND-4.3	A group of chemicals used to make coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid [PFOS] (ppt)	2024	4.2	ND-4.2	A group of chemicals used to make coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water
Perfluoropentanoic Acid [PFPeA] (ppt)	2024	3.3	ND-3.3	A group of chemicals used to make coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

Avg (Average): Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly

LRAA: Locational Running Annual Average

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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.

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 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.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

ppb (µg/L) (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (mg/L) (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

ppt (ng/L) (parts per trillion): One part substance per trillion parts water (or nanograms per liter).

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level): These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.

