Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
For Calendar Year 2015

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the Village of Forest Park to provide safe drinking water. This report includes drinking water facts, information on violations (if applicable), and contaminants detected in your drinking water supply during calendar year 2015. Each year, we will provide you a new report. If you need help understanding this report or have general questions, please contact the person listed below.

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Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Before we begin listing our unique water quality characteristics, here are some important facts you should know to help have a basic understanding of drinking water in general.

Sources of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater 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 pickup substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Our source of water comes from Purchased Surface 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.

Other Facts about Drinking Water

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).

Source Water Assessments

Source water protection (SWP) is a proactive approach to protecting our critical sources of public water supply and assuring that the best source of water is being utilized to serve the public. It involves implementation of pollution prevention practices to protect the water quality in a watershed or wellhead protection area serving a public water supply. Along with treatment, it establishes a multi-barrier approach to assuring clean and safe drinking water to the citizens of Illinois. The Illinois EPA has implemented a source water assessment program (SWAP) to assist with wellhead and watershed protection of public drinking water supplies.

Forest Park purchases all of its water from Chicago. The City of Chicago utilizes Lake Michigan as its source water via two water treatment plants. The Jardine Water Purification Plant serves the northern areas of the City and suburbs (including Forest Park), while the South Water Purification Plant serves the southern areas of the City and suburbs.

The IEPA considers all surface water sources of community water supply to be susceptible to potential pollution problems. The very nature of surface water allows contaminants to migrate into the intake with "dilution" only. This is the reason for mandatory treatment of all surface supplies in Illinois. Chicago's offshore intakes are located at a distance that shoreline impacts are not usually considered a factor on water quality. At certain times of the year, however, the potential for contamination exists due to wet weather flows and river reversals. In addition, the placement of the crib structures at the intake and thus compromising the source water quality. Conversely, the shore intakes are highly susceptible to storm water runoff, marinas and shoreline point sources due to the influx of groundwater to the lake.

2015 Regulated Contaminants Detected

The next several tables summarize contaminants detected in your drinking water supply. Since water is purchased from the City of Chicago, results indicated with an asterisk (*) were provided to us by them.

2015 Non-Regulated Contaminant Detections

The contaminants indicated with a chevron (^) have been detected within the past five years. State and federal regulations do not require monitoring for these contaminants and no maximum contaminant level (MCL) has been established. These detections are for informational purposes only. No mandated health effects language exists. The CCR Rule does not require that this information be reported; however, it may be useful when evaluating possible sources of contamination or characterizing overall water quality.

2015 UCMR3 Compliance Reporting

In compliance with the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 3 (UCMR3) as required by the EPA, the City of Chicago has monitored for 28 contaminants suspected to be present in Drinking water, but that do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act. The monitoring results were reported to the EPA. The List of UCMR3 contaminants that we have monitored included volatile organic chemicals, metals, perfluorinated compounds, hormones, 1, 4-dioxane and chlorate. The contaminants that were detected in this monitoring program are listed below (*).

Here are a few definitions and scientific terms which will help you understand the information in the contaminant detection tables.

Lead								
	Date Sampled	**MCLG**	**Action Level (AL)**	**90th Percentile**	**# Sites Over AL**	**Units**	**Violation**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Lead	6/1/15-9/30/15	0	15	11.9	0	ppb	n/a	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

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 Village of Forest Park 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. 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*.

Disinfectants & Disinfection Byproducts	**Collection Date**	**Highest Level Detected**	**Range of Levels Detected**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Units**	**Violation**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]	2015	29	16.37 – 43.6	n/a	80	ppb		By product of drinking water disinfection.
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids]	2015	15	10 – 17.73	n/a	60	ppb		By product of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine (as Cl2)	2015	0.9	0.77 - 1	4	4	ppm		Drinking water disinfectant
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium*		0.0201	0.0193 – 0.0201	2	2	ppm		Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate* (as Nitrogen)		0.30	0.28 – 0.30	10	10	ppm		Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Nitrate & Nitrite* (as Nitrogen)		0.30	0.28 – 0.30	10	10	ppm		Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Radioactive Contaminants								
Combined Radium* 226/228 (pCi/L)	02/11/2014	0.84	0.50 – 0.84	0	5			Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Gross Alpha* excluding radon & uranium (pCi/L)	02/11/2014	6.6	6.1 – 6.6	0	15			Decay of natural and man-made deposits
State Regulated Contaminants								
Fluoride*		1.01	0.76 – 1.01	4	4	ppm		Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Unregulated Contaminants								
Sulfate*		27.2	18.8 – 27.2	n/a	n/a	ppm		Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Sodium*		8.48	8.04 – 8.48	n/a	n/a	ppm		Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; used as a water softener
UCMR3								
Chromium*		0.3	0.3 – 0.3	100	100	ppb		Naturally-occurring element; used in making steel & other alloys
Molybdenum*		1.1	1.0 – 1.1	n/a	n/a	ppb		Naturally-occurring element found in ores & present in plants, animals & bacteria, commonly used form molybdenum trioxide
Strontium*		120	110 – 120	n/a	n/a	ppb		Naturally-occurring element; has been used in cathode-ray tube TVs to block x-ray emissions
Vanadium*		0.2	0.2 – 0.2	n/a	n/a	ppb		Naturally-occurring metal; vanadium pentoxide is used as a catalyst and a chemical intermediate
Chromium-6 or Hexavalent Chromium*		0.19	0.18 – 0.19	n/a	n/a	ppb		Naturally-occurring element; used in making steel & alloys

Note: The state requires monitoring of certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of this data may be more than one year old.

Turbidity*				
Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.				
	Limit (Treatment Technique)	**Level Detected**	**Violation**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Lowest Monthly % Meeting Limit	Limit 95% ≤ 0.3 NTU	99.7%		Soil Runoff
Highest Single Measurement	TT=Limit 1 NTU	0.45		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 by IEPA, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violation section.	

Violation Summary Table

We are happy to announce that no monitoring, reporting, treatment technique, maximum residual disinfectant level, or maximum contaminant level violations were recorded during 2015.

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