# WEST CHICAGO #IL0430900 2024 Annual Water Quality Report
**(January 1- December 31, 2024)**

## INTRODUCTION

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. This report summarizes the quality of water that was provided to you during the 2024 calendar year, provides details about the sources of your water, information on violations (if applicable), and contaminants detected in your drinking water supply during calendar year 2024. Each year, we will provide you a new report. If you need help understanding this report or have general questions, please contact the Department of Public Works at (630)293-2255. We believe that you will find this Report helpful in answering your questions regarding the quality and safety of your drinking water.

The City of West Chicago remains committed to maintaining and improving your water treatment and distribution systems. In demonstrating this commitment, we routinely test your tap water according to United States Environmental Protection Agency and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency health standards. In addition, our water treatment plant, which is now into its seventeenth year of operation, is allowing us to meet the drinking water quality standards set forth by the USEPA.

**Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

## DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

In addition to supplying high quality drinking water, there are ongoing programs to rehabilitate wells and replace aging water mains, services, and appurtenances. A routine valve maintenance program keeps interruptions of service to our customers at a minimum and our fire hydrant maintenance program assures our system fire hydrants work correctly. Annual water system leak surveys are conducted to insure operational efficiency. City Staff also provides inspection services of water main improvements installed as part of private development projects to ensure regulatory compliance.

The City of West Chicago continues its commitment to provide our community with present and future infrastructure improvements of the highest standards, combined with sound fiscal decision making. These efforts assure all of our valued customers of the City's commitment to providing a safe and reliable source of drinking water for years to come.

If you have any questions, please feel free to attend a regularly scheduled City Council Meeting. The Council meets on the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 475 Main Street, West Chicago.

## WEST CHICAGO'S SOURCE WATER

The City of West Chicago uses groundwater provided by nine wells drilled into two different geological formations. These formations consist of the Ironton-Galesville and Silurian dolomite aquifers. An aquifer is a geological formation that contains water. The formations are comprised either of sandstone or dolomite. The IEPA has performed an assessment of the City of West Chicago's source water. Based on information obtained in a Well Site Survey, published in March 1997 by the Illinois EPA, sixteen potential sources or possible problem sites were identified within the survey area of West Chicago's wells. Furthermore, information provided by the Leaking Underground Storage Tank and Remedial Project Management sections of the IEPA indicated several additional sites with ongoing remediation which may be of concern. The IEPA has determined that the source water obtained from West Chicago's Wells #3, #5, #9, #10, and #12 (deep wells) are not susceptible to contamination. However, the source water obtained from Wells #6, #7, #8 and #11 (shallow wells) are susceptible to possible contamination. These shallow wells typically utilize water supplied by a sand and gravel aquifer, which by nature are unconfined and in close proximity to potential sources of contamination. The City of West Chicago's source water is monitored and no contamination has been found.

Further information on our community water supply's source water assessment is available at the Water Treatment Plant, 1400 Hawthorne Lane, West Chicago, IL 60185 between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. To view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessments, including: Importance of Source Water; Susceptibility to Contamination Determination; and documentation/recommendation of Source Water Protection Efforts, you may access the Illinois EPA website at http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl.

## THE EPA WANTS YOU TO KNOW

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-comprised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with Human Immunodeficiency Virus /Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome or other immune system disorders, some elderly persons and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Sources of drinking water (both tap 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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Possible contaminants consist of:

**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 waste water 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems; and
**Radioactive contaminants,** which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) 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 indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

# City of West Chicago – 2024 Regulated Contaminants Detected

The next several tables summarize contaminants detected in your drinking water supply.

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

| | |
|---|---|
| AL | Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. |
| Avg | Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly samples. |
| MCL | Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal 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 disinfectant allowed in drinking water. |
| MRDLG | Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal: The level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs allow for a margin of safety. |
| N/A | Not Applicable |
| NTU | Nephelometric Turbidity Units ( a measure of water clarity) |
| pCi/L | picocuries per liter ( a measure of radioactivity) |
| ppb | parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L) - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water. |
| ppm | parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L) - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water. |
| TT | Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. |

| | Lead and Copper | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | **Date Sampled** | **MCLG** | **Action Level (AL)** | **90th Percentile** | **Range of Levels Detected** | **# Sites Over AL** | **Units** | **Violation** | **Likely Source of Contamination** |
| **Copper** | 2024 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.0905 | 0.0027 – 0.5150 | 0 | ppm | N | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |
| **Lead** | 2024 | 0 | 15 | 4.70 | ND – 35.2 | 1 | ppb | N | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits. |

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 City of West Chicago is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, 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, 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 in your water, you may wish to have your water tested, contact Eddie A Ramos, 630-293-2255 at the City of West Chicago. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at *http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*.

In accordance with the Lead Service Line Replacement and Notification Act (LSLRNA), the City is required to annually publish an inventory of water service materials on its distribution system by April 15th of each year. In addition, to maintaining an inventory of service line materials in the City's jurisdiction, the City is required to manage a long-term plan for the replacement of lead services. Please visit **https://westchicago.org/public-works/#leadservicelines** to view the replacement plan and inventory.

For complete 2024 Lead and Copper test results, please visit **https://westchicago.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/2024-LCR-Results.pdf**

| | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Disinfectants & Disinfection Byproducts** | | | | | | | | |
| **Chlorine** | 2024 | 1.1 | 1.0 – 1.1 | MRDLG = 4 | MRDL = 4 | ppm | N | Water additive used to control microbes |
| **Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*** | 2024 | 7 | 4.8 – 9.0 | No goal for the total | 60 | ppb | N | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| **Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)*** | 2024 | 37 | 25.9 – 48.0 | No goal for the total | 80 | ppb | N | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| **Inorganic Contaminants** | | | | | | | | |
| **Barium** | 2024 | 0.0361 | 0.0361 - 0.0361 | 2 | 2 | ppm | N | Erosion from naturally occurring deposits. Discharge from metal refineries. Discharge of drilling wastes. |
| **Chromium** | 2024 | 3.04 | 3.04 – 3.04 | 100 | 100 | ppb | N | Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits |
| **Fluoride** | 2024 | 0.51 | 0.51 – 0.51 | 4 | 4.0 | ppm | N | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. |
| **Selenium** | 2024 | 0.235 | 0.235 – 0.235 | 50 | 50 | ppb | N | Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines |
| **Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)** | 2024 | ND | | 10 | 10 | ppm | N | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching septic tanks, and sewage; Erosion |
| **Sodium** | 2024 | 36.4 | 36.4 – 36.4 | N/A | N/A | ppm | N | Erosion from naturally occurring deposits. Used in water softener regeneration. |
| **Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides** | | | | | | | | |
| **Benzo(a)pyrene (ppt)** | 2024 | 30 | 30 – 30 | 0 | 200 | ppt | N | Leaching from linings of water storage tanks and distribution lines |
| **Radiological Contaminants** | | | | | | | | |
| **Combined Radium 226/228** | 2024 | 1.53 | 1.53 - 1.53 | 0 | 5 | pCi/L | N | Erosion of natural deposits |
| **Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium** | 2024 | 1.77 | 1.77 – 1.77 | 0 | 15 | pCi/L | N | Erosion of natural deposits |
| ***Note: The State requires monitoring of certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of this data may be more than one year old.*** | | | | | | | | |

*Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future.

# City of West Chicago – 2024 Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5)

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires that once every five years EPA issue a list of unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems (PWSs). The Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) was published on December 27, 2021. This action provides EPA and other interested parties with scientifically valid data on the national occurrence of these contaminants in drinking water. Consistent with EPA's PFAS Strategic Roadmap, UCMR 5 will provide new data that will improve EPA's understanding of the frequency that 29 PFAS (and lithium) are found in the nation's drinking water systems, and at what levels. The monitoring data on PFAS and lithium will help EPA make determinations about future regulations and other actions to protect public health under SDWA.

| | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **1H,1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorodecane sulfonic acid (8:2FTS) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **1H,1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (4:2FTS) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **1H,1H, 2H, 2H-perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (6:2FTS) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **N-ethyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid (NEtFOSAA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **N-methyl perfluorooctanesulfonamidoacetic acid (NMeFOSAA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO DA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **nonafluoro-3,6-dioxaheptanoic acid (NFDHA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluoro(2-ethoxyethane)sulfonic acid (PFEESA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluoro-3-methoxypropanoic acid (PFMPA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluoro-4-methoxybutanoic acid (PFMBA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluorodecanoic acid (PFDA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluorododecanoic acid (PFDoA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluoroheptanesulfonic acid (PFHpS) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluoropentanesulfonic acid (PFPeS) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluorotetradecanoic acid (PFTA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluorotridecanoic acid (PFTrDA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **perfluoroundecanoic acid (PFUnA) (mg/L)** | 2024 | ND | N/A | | | N |
| **Lithium** | 2024 | 36.8 | N/A | | ppb | N |

## Violation Summary Table

**No monitoring, reporting, treatment techniques, maximum residual disinfectant level, or maximum contaminant level violations were recorded during 2024.**

## Data Table Footnotes

All the data contained in the 2024 Regulated Contaminants Detected table represents the most recent monitoring period for each individual test.

**Alpha Emitters-**Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) over many years have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**Combined Radium-**Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**Lead-** Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that levels in your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791), http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

**Iron**-This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the State has set an MCL for this contaminant for supplies serving a population of 1,000 or more. The water treatment plant was designed to remove iron as well as hardness from the drinking water.

**Sodium**-There is not a State or Federal MCL for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials that are concerned about sodium intake due to dietary precautions. If the level is greater than 20 mg/l, and you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician.