City of Palos Heights
Public Works
7607 W. College Drive
Palos Heights, IL 60463

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PUBLIC WORKS BULLETIN BOARD

From The City of Palos Heights Public Works Department

Subject Ordinance Code 50.28 Water Sprinkling

The City of Palos Heights is requesting your cooperation on the subject ordinance. During the months of May, June, July, August and September, water may only be used for sprinkling gardens or lawns between the hours of 7:00 am and 10:00 am or between the hours of 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm on even- numbered days of the calendar month on premises bearing even numbered street numbers, and odd- numbered days of the calendar month on premises bearing odd- numbered street numbers.

Cross Connection Control Ordinance 150.671

A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) requires that all water systems in the State of Illinois have an effective Cross Connection Control Program. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and insuring that no contaminants can, under any flow condition, enter the distribution system. In order to provide the best program possible, the City of Palos Heights has contracted with Backflow Solutions, Inc to survey and compile residential and commercial water customer data and determine if cross connections exist. By working together and cooperating in this critical program, we can further protect our water from potential contamination.

Phone: (708) 361-1806
Fax: (708) 361-8430

PALOS HEIGHTS PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

7607 West College Drive, Palos Heights, Illinois 60463

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT
CITY OF PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. 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. Our water source is surface water drawn from Lake Michigan and treated by the City of Chicago. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets **all** state and federal requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Adam Jasinski at the Palos Heights Public Works Department at (708) 361-1806. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Water and Sewer Committee meetings. They are held the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall.

The Palos Heights Public Works Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The enclosed tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2023. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

Enclosed are the water quality tables from the City of Chicago, our source supply, and samples collected by the City of Palos Heights.

In these tables you will find many terms and abbreviations that may not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we provided definitions to better explain the constituents.

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2023 Water Quality Data

-Definition of Terms-

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): 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.

Highest Level Detected: This column represents the highest single sample reading of a contaminant of all samples collected in 2023, except where a specific date is indicated.

Range of Detections: This column represents a range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest that were collected during the CCR calendar year.

Date of Sample: If a date appears in this column, the Illinois EPA requires monitoring for this contaminant less than once per year because the concentrations do not frequently change. If no date appears in the column, monitoring for this contaminant was conducted during the Consumer Confidence Report calendar year.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

ND: Not detectable at testing limits. **N/A:** Not applicable

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): The average of 4 consecutive quarterly results at each monitored sample location. LRAA should not exceed 80 μg/L for TTHM and 60 μg/L for HAA5

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Mrem: millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the average person)

ppm mg/l: milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
ppb ug/l: micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
na: not applicable.
Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Water Quality Test Results

2023 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Lead and Copper

Definitions:

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

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2023	1.3	1.3	0.093	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Violations: NONE

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfections by-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2023	1	1 - 1	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2023	22	8.99 - 35.9	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TThm)	2023	44	20.71 - 58.8	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

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.

2023 Source Water Assessment Summary

The Illinois EPA implemented a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) to assist with watershed protection of public drinking water supplies. The SWAP inventories potential sources of contamination and determined the susceptibility of the source water to contamination. The Illinois EPA has completed the Source Water Assessment Program for our supply.

Further information on our community water supply's Source Water Assessment Program is available by calling DWM at 312-742-2406 or by going online at http://dataservices.epa.illinoi.gov/swap/factsheet.aspx

Maximum Contamination Levels (MCL) are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for <u>many</u> regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 3 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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. We 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations that 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.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thanks for your understanding.

We at the City of Palos Heights Public Works Department work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

MEMBER
ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

CITY OF PALOS HEIGHTS
7607 W. COLLEGE DRIVE
PALOS HEIGHTS, ILLINOIS 60463-1074

PHONE (708) 361-1800
FAX (708) 361-9711

EDUCATIONAL STATEMENTS REGARDING COMMONLY FOUND DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS FOR THE 2023 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

"All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or is man made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials," All 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The 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 can dissolve naturally occurring minerals and radioactive materials, and pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or 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 may 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 may also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems; and
- Radioactive contaminants, which may be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

2023 SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Our community water supply purchases water from another water supply. The following information relates to that supply's source water.

Source Water Location

The City of Chicago utilizes Lake Michigan as its source water treatment plants. The Jardine Water Purification Plant serves the northern areas of the City and suburbs, while the Sawyer Water Purification Plant serves the southern areas of the City and suburbs. Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake that is entirely contained within the United States. It borders Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin, and is the second largest Great Lake by volume with 1,180 cubic miles of water and third largest by area.

Source Water Assessment Summary

The Illinois EPA implemented a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) to assist with watershed protection of public drinking water supplies. The SWAP inventories potential sources of contamination and determined the susceptibility of the source water to contamination. The Illinois EPA has completed the Source Water Assessment Program for our supply.

Susceptibility to Contamination

The Illinois EPA 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 no protection, only dilution. This is the reason for mandatory treatment of all surface water 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 may serve to attract waterfowl, gulls and terns that frequent the Great Lakes area, thereby concentrating fecal deposits 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.

Further information on our community water supply's Source Water Assessment Program is available by calling DWM at 312-742-2406 or by going online at http://dataservices.epa.illinois.gov/swap/factsheet.aspx

2023 Voluntary Monitoring

The City of Chicago has continued monitoring for Cryptosporidium, Giardia and E. Coli on its source water as part of its water quality program. No Cryptosporidium or Giardia was detected in source water samples collected in 2023. Treatment processes have been optimized to provide effective barriers for removal of Cryptosporidium Oocyst and Giardia cysts in the source water, effectively removing these organisms in the treatment process. By maintaining low turbidity through the removal of particles from the water, the possibility of Cryptosporidium and Giardia organisms getting into the drinking water system is greatly reduced. In 2023, CDWM has also continued monitoring for hexavalent chromium, also known as chromium-6. USEPA has not yet established a standard for chromium-6, a contaminant of concern which has both natural and industrial sources. Please address any questions or concerns to DWM's Water Quality Division at 312-744-8190. Data reports on the monitoring program for chromium-6 are posted on the City's website which can be accessed at the following address below:
http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/water/supp_info/water_quality_resultsandreports/city_of_chicago_emergincontaminantstudy.html

Thinking Green and Water Conservation

Think about water. It's yours for the asking. All you have to do is turn on a faucet. But, now think again. The water we use doesn't come from nowhere. It is carefully processed – clean, safe, and piped directly into your home – a valuable resource that shouldn't be wasted.

7 ways to conserve and think green…

1. When washing dishes by hand, don't let the water run while rinsing. Fill one sink with wash water and the other with rinse water.
2. Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered and not your house, sidewalks or driveway and sprinkle in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler for less evaporate.
3. Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
4. Shorten your shower by a minute or two and you'll save up to 150 gallons per month.
5. Upgrade older toilets and fixtures to newer more efficient models.
6. Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
7. Turn off water while brushing your teeth, and can save you up to 45 gallons a month.

Water conservation is a good way of life. Remember where it comes from and where it goes. It isn't hard to conserve water; it doesn't change our lives drastically. Think about water – and when you do – think about conserving it.

2023 Water Quality Data

-Definition of Terms-

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Treatment Technique (TT): *A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.*

ND: *Not detectable at testing limits.* ***N/A:*** *Not applicable*

Detected Contaminants

Contaminant (unit of measurement) Typical Source of Contaminant	*MCLG*	*MCL*	*Highest Level Detected*	*Range of Detections*	*Violation*	*Date of Sample*
Turbidity Data						
TURBIDITY (NTU Lowest Monthly %≤0.3 NTU) Soil runoff.	N/A	TT(Limit: 95% ≤0.3 NTU)	Lowest Monthly % 100.0%	100.0% - 100.0%		
TURBIDITY (NTU/Highest Single Measurement) Soil runoff.	N/A	TT(Limit 1 NTU)	0.25	N/A		
Inorganic Contaminants						
BARIUM (ppm) Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.	2	2	0.0195	0.0192 - 0.0195		
NITRATE (AS NITROGEN) (ppm) Runoff from fertilizer use: Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	10	10	0.33	0.29 - 0.33		
TOTAL NITRATE & NITRITE (AS NITROGEN) (ppm) Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	10	10	0.33	0.29 - 0.33		
Total Organic Carbon						
TOC [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						

Contaminant (unit of measurement) Typical Source of Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Violation	Date of Sample
Unregulated Contaminants						
SULFATE (ppm) Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.	N/A	N/A	27.8	25.0 - 27.8		
SODIUM (ppm) Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used as water softener.	N/A	N/A	8.71	8.43 - 8.71		
State Regulated Contaminants						
FLUORIDE (ppm) Water additive which promotes strong teeth.	4	4	0.74	0.66 - 0.74		
Radioactive Contaminants						
COMBINED RADIUM (226/228) (pCi/L) Decay of natural and man-made deposits.	0	5	0.95	0.83 - 0.95		2/4/2020
GROSS ALPHA excluding radon and uranium (pCi/L) Decay of natural and man-made deposits.	0	15	3.1	2.8 - 3.1		2/4/2020

-Unit of Measurement-

ppm - *Parts per million, or milligrams per liter*
ppb - *Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter*
NTU - *Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in drinking water*
%<0.3 NTU - *Percent samples less than 0.3 NTU*
pCi/L - *Picocuries per liter, used to measure radioactivity*
ND - *Analyte not detected at or above the reporting limit*

Water Quality Data Table Footnotes

TURBIDITY
Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS
A maximum contaminant level (MCL) for this contaminant has not been established by either state or federal regulations, nor has mandatory health effects language. The purpose for monitoring this contaminant is to assist USEPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water, and whether future regulation is warranted.

FLUORIDE
Fluoride is added to the water supply to help promote strong teeth. The Illinois Department of Public Health recommends an optimal fluoride level of 0.7 mg/l with a range of 0.6 mg/l to 0.8 mg/l.

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 you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician about this level of sodium in the water.