Tell City Water Department

Consumer Confidence Report for 2023

Important Information for the Spanish-speaking population

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad del agua potable que usted consume. Por favor traduzcalo, o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien y pueda explicarle.

Is our water safe?

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the drinking water that we provided last year. Included as part of this report are details about where the water you drink comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Indiana standards. We are committed to providing you with all the information that you need to know about the quality of the water that you drink.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some People may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people, such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplant, people with HIV/AIDS or other kinds of 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 has set guidelines with appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants which are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Where does our water come from?

Tell City's drinking water is drawn up out of an aquifer, through a number of wells; we do not get water directly from the Ohio River.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk or that it is not suitable for drinking. More information about contaminants and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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 dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, or can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in the raw, untreated water may 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 that result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, and mining or farming operations.
- ***Pesticides and Herbicides,*** which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- ***Organic Chemical Contaminants,*** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum operations, and can also result from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- ***Radioactive Contaminants,*** which can be naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants that may be present in the water provided by public drinking water systems. We are required to treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Moreover, FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants that may be present in bottled water, which must provide the same level of health protection for public health.

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the contaminants that we detected during the 2022 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise indicated, the data presented in this table is from testing done between January 1 and December 31, 2022. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) requires us to monitor for certain contaminants at a frequency less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from one year to another. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, may however be more than one year old.

Some of the terms and abbreviations used in this report are:

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level, the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant level, the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant level Goal, the level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

AL: Action Level, the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements or action which a system must follow.

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

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, a measure of the clarity (of cloudiness) of water.

ppm: parts per million, a measure for concentration equivalent to milligrams per liter.

ppb: parts per billion, a measure for concentration equivalent to micrograms per liter.

PCi/L: picocuries per liter, a measure of radiation.

P*: Potential violation, one that is likely to occur in the near future once the system has sampled for four quarters.
N/A: either not available or not applicable.
ND: Not detected, the result was not detected at or above the analytical method detection level.

Our Watershed Protection Efforts

Our water system is working with the community to increase awareness of better waste disposal practices to further protect the sources of our drinking water. Even though our water is obtained by pumping water from an aquifer with wells, pollution or other contamination can still leach into our system or enter the Ohio River through runoff and enter other communities' water sources. We are working with other agencies and with local watershed groups to educate the community on ways to keep our water safe.

Public Involvement Opportunities

If you have any questions about the contents of this report, please contact the Tell City Water Department Office at 812-547-3266, Superintendent Brent Badger at 812-548-4044, or the Tell City Water Treatment Plant at 812-547-3751. You can also feel free to attend our monthly Water Board meetings, which are regularly held on the third Monday of the month at 7:00 PM at City Hall. We encourage you to participate and to give us your feedback.

Please Share This Information

Large water volume customers (like apartment complexes, hospitals, nursing homes, schools and/or other industries) are encouraged to post extra copies of this report in conspicuous locations or to distribute them to your tenants, residents, patients, students and/or employees. This "good faith" effort will allow non-billed customers to learn more about the quality of the water that they consume.

Section I - Contaminants Detected

Inorganic Contaminants

Date	Contaminant	MCLG	Action Level	Units	Result	Min	Max	Above AL # Repeats	Violation	Likely Sources
3/5/2022	Fluoride	4		mg/l	0.73				No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and Aluminum factories.
6/16/2022	Nitrate (as N)	10		mg/l	1.87				No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of naturral deposits
3/11/2020	Barium	2	2	ppm	0.0728				N	Discharge of drilling wastes, Discharge from metal refineries, Erosion of natural deposits.

Disinfection byproducts & Precursors

Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Result	Min	Max	Above AL # Repeats	Violation	Likely Sources
2022	Chlorine	MRDL = 4	MRDLG=4	ppm	1				No	Water Additive used to control microbes.
9/22/22	Total Halocetic Acids	60		Ug/l	6.75				No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
9/14/22	Total Trihalomethanes	80		Ug/l	24.0				No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Radiological Contaminants

Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Result	Min	Max	Above AL # Repeats	Violation	Likely Sources
Collected 2022	Gross Alpha, Excl. Radon & Uranium	0	15	pCi/L	1.37				N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Collected 2022	Beta/Photon Emitters	4	0	mrem/yr	7.4				N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Collected 2022	Combined Radium 226/228	5	0	pCi/L	0.6				N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

Volatile Organic Compounds

Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Result	Min	Max	Above AL # Repeats	Violation	Likely Sources

Regulated Contaminants

Date	Contaminant	MCLG	Action Level	Units	Result	Min	Max	Above AL # Repeats	Violation	Likely Sources
Valid Until 12/31/22	Lead	0	15	ppb	2				No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Valid Until 12/31/22	Copper	1.3	1.3	mg/l	0.182				No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems

Violations Table

Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR)

The Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) seeks to prevent waterborne diseases caused by E coli. E coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, and young children.

Violation Type	Violation Begins	Violation End	Violation Explanation
Monitoring, Routine, Minor (RTCR)	9/1/2022	9/30/2022	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

Health effects associated with other possible contaminants

Lead

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 Tell City Water Department 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.