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***Is our water safe?***

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the drinking water we provided last year. Included as part of this report are details about the source of the water you drink, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Indiana standards. We are committed to providing you this information about the quality of the water you drink. There were no violations or deficiencies identified during this period.

***Do I need to take special precautions?***

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 transplant, 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).

***What is the source of our water?***

The source of the water for the City of Washington comes from eight wells situated Southwest and Northwest of the city and adjacent to the White River. Treatment consists of the addition of chlorine, fluoride, and potassium permanganate for sequestering iron and manganese. The Water Treatment Plant is located on 3023 Cosby Road.

***Why are there contaminants in my 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 the 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.

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 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 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 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 which limit 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.

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).

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

***Availability of a Source Water Assessment (SWA)***

A Source Water Assessment (SWA) has been prepared for our system. According to this assessment, our system has been categorized with a moderate (detection) susceptibility risk. More information on this assessment can be obtained by contacting our office at 812-254-3911.

***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. We are also working with other agencies and local watershed groups to educate the community on ways to keep our water safe.

***Public Involvement Opportunities***

***City council and Board of works meeting is every two weeks. Any questions on this report. Contact Jim Loyd at 812-254-3911.***

***Please Share This Information***

Large water volume customers (like apartment complexes, hospitals, schools, and/or industries) are encouraged to post extra copies of this report in conspicuous locations or to distribute them to the 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.

***Water Quality Data***

The table below lists all the contaminants detected during the calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate 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, 2024. 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 be more than one year old.

In the tables below, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we’ve provided the following definitions:

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

**Action Level Goal (ALG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

**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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level or 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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL:** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants. Our water system tested a minimum of 15 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. With the microbiological samples collected, the water system collects disinfectant residuals to ensure control of microbial growth.

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

**Variances and Exemptions:** State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**Avg:** Average - Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

**LRAA:** Locational Running Annual Average

**mrem:** millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

**ppb:** micrograms per liter (ug/L) or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

**ppm:** milligrams per liter (mg/L) or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

**picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

**na:** not applicable.

Disinfectant	Date	Highest RAA	Unit	Range	MRDL	MRDLG	Typical Source
CHLORINE	2024	1	Ppm	0.5 – 2.6	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

Regulated Contaminants

In the tables below, we have shown the regulated contaminants that were detected. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, information provided in this table refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results.

Lead & Copper	Period	90 <sup>TH</sup> Percentile: 90% of your water utility levels were less than	Range of Sampled Results (low-high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2020-2023	0.279	0.005-0.867	Ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD	2020-2023	13	2-86	Ppb	15	2	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

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 are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but 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>.

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS	N. 150 W.	2023 - 2024	6	5-8	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS	E. Todd Rd.	2023 - 2024	7	5-7	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS	E. 250 N.	2023 - 2024	8	5-9	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS	Troy Rd.	2023 - 2024	8	6-12	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	N. 150 W.	2023 - 2024	15	12-18	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	E. Todd Rd.	2023 - 2024	16	11-17	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	E. 250 N.	2023 - 2024	24	12-20	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	Troy Rd.	2023 - 2024	20	12-27	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIUM	6/12/2023	0.051	0.051	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling, refineries, deposits
				l	3		Erosion & Decay of natural deposits.
FLUORIDE	6/12/2023	0.53	0.53	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive, Discharge from fertilizer and factories
NITRATE	7/8/2024	0.672		ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer

There were no violations or deficiencies identified during this period.