

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome 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. USEPA/Center for Disease Control and Prevention 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).

Other Monitoring and Questions about the Water Quality Report: In addition to the required testing of our water system for regulated contaminants, the Bloomington Water Department performs voluntary tests for additional substances and microscopic organisms to make certain our drinking water is safe and of high quality. If you are interested in more detailed information or have questions about this report, contact Kevin Whitehouse, Superintendent of Water Purification, or Jill Mayes, Laboratory Manager, at 309-434-2150.

Source Water Assessment Summary: The Illinois EPA has compiled source water assessments for all community water supplies including the City of Bloomington. The Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of public water supply to be susceptible to potential pollution problems. Hence the reason for mandatory treatment of all public water supplies in Illinois. Mandatory treatment includes coagulation, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection. Primary sources of pollution in Illinois lakes can include agricultural runoff, land disposal (septic systems), and shoreline erosion.

The Illinois EPA Source Water Assessment for our water supply is available upon request by calling Kevin Whitehouse at 309-434-2150. To view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessment, 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: <https://dataservices.epa.illinois.gov/swap/factsheet.aspx>

Security: The City of Bloomington Water Department is working to continually improve the security of our water system. Since our water supply and distribution system is large, we ask all our customers to be aware of any suspicious activities involving the water system. If anything suspicious is noted, please call the Water Department at 309-434-2225.

Service Line Material Inventory Now Available

The Water Department has developed a publicly available inventory of service line materials. Service lines are the pipes that connect the water main in the street to a shut off and from a shut off to household plumbing. The inventory will help customers learn or identify their service line materials. The Water Department will be removing lead and galvanized lines requiring replacement over time. The City of Bloomington has adopted a three-part rate increase beginning on May 1 of 2024 continuing through May 1 of 2027, so that basic lead service line replacement from the curb stop to the house will be at no cost to the homeowner. This work will begin upon final approval of the Lead Service Plan by the IEPA in April of 2027 and will continue for the following 10 years. To learn about your service line material, please visit: www.bloomingtonil.gov/leadservice or contact the Water Department at (309) 434-2225.

The 2023 Water Quality Report for Bloomington may be viewed online at URL: www.bloomingtonil.gov/waterqualityreport

Water Supply Protection and Watershed Planning: The City of Bloomington is actively involved in watershed protection and lake management activities. Long term water supply planning includes management of our existing resources and development of new sources. Our interim water supply plan is linked at the City of Bloomington webpage: <https://www.bloomingtonil.gov/interimwatersupplyplan>.

The City, and its partners, develop and take actions in the watershed that protect and improve the water quality in the streams, lakes, and support recreational activities, such as fishing, in our lakes. Our vision is to achieve the highest possible source water quality through cooperative actions with farmers, landowners, citizens, and local governments.

Our source water goals are to reduce nutrients (nitrate nitrogen and phosphorus) and sediment levels in the water coming into the lakes. Lower levels of nutrients in the water will decrease the occurrence and severity of excessive algal growth. Lower levels of sediment coming into the lakes will decrease the amount of sediment filling up the lakes. This will increase the life of the lakes for use as a water source.

Actions in our watershed range from promoting and using best management practices for storm water, lawn care, septic systems, and nutrient management programs. Other actions include stream restoration, lake shoreline stabilization, and wetland construction.

We partner and cooperate with many different groups. The McLean County SWCD assists us in implementing our source water protection program and helps us partner with farmers and landowners in our watershed. We work with Friends of EverBloom to stabilize stream banks and lake shorelines to reduce sediment and improve fish habitat. We benefit from good representation by state, federal, and local agencies and citizen groups in our program. The combined efforts of all helps lead to success in reaching our shared goal of protecting and improving the water quality of our water sources.



2023 Annual Consumer Report on the Quality of Tap Water

The City of Bloomington Water Department is committed to providing residents with a safe and reliable supply of high-quality drinking water. We test our water using sophisticated equipment and advanced procedures. The City of Bloomington Water Department's water meets state and federal standards for both appearance and safety. This annual "Consumer Confidence Report," required by the Safe Drinking Water Act, tells you where your water comes from, what our tests show about it, and other things you should know about drinking water.

Overview

We at the Bloomington Water Department are grateful for the opportunity to provide safe drinking water to our customers. To ensure that your water is the best quality possible, the City is continually making improvements to our treatment facilities and is actively engaged in reservoir and watershed management.

The City performs monitoring for the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA) Clean Lakes Program for the Lake Bloomington and Evergreen Lake reservoirs. Information on the conditions of the reservoirs, sources of possible contamination, and plans for improving our reservoirs will be part of the study reports. We are or have been actively engaged in research projects with McLean County Soil and Water Conservation District (McLean County SWCD), Illinois State University, the University of Illinois, the Nature Conservancy, Friends of Everbloom and many other agencies. The goal of these projects is to lessen the impact that farming, construction, and other activities on the land that drains into our reservoirs have upon water quality.

If you would like to learn more about the decision-making process that affects drinking water quality, please feel welcome to attend any of the regularly scheduled council meetings. The City Council meets on the 2nd and 4th Mondays every month in the Government Center Chambers on the 4th Floor. All City Council meetings are open to the public, are ADA accessible, and are also live streamed on the City's YouTube Channel at: <https://www.youtube.com/c/cityofbloomingtonil/videos>. Meeting agendas can be found at <https://www.bloomingtonil.gov/government/city-council/meetings-agendas>.

Water Sources

The City of Bloomington obtains water from two man-made reservoirs, the Lake Bloomington reservoir and Evergreen Lake reservoir. The Lake Bloomington reservoir is fed by runoff from 70 square miles of land while the drainage area for the Evergreen Lake reservoir is 41 square miles.

AN EXPLANATION OF THE WATER-QUALITY DATA TABLE

The table shows the results of our water quality analyses. Every regulated contaminant that we detected in the water, even the minutest traces, is listed here. The table contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (Maximum Contaminant Limit), the ideal goals for public health (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal), the amount detected, the usual sources of such contamination, footnotes explaining our findings, and a key to units of measurement. Definitions of Maximum Contaminant Level and Maximum Contaminant Level Goal are important. The data presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

Table Definitions and Abbreviations

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

Average: Regulatory compliance with some Maximum Contaminant Levels are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Highest Level Detected: In most cases, the “Highest Level Detected” is the annual average of all samples collected during the calendar year. It may represent a single sample, if only one sample was collected. For contaminants monitored quarterly, a quarterly average is calculated using all routine/confirmation samples collected during the quarter. For chloramines, a running annual average is calculated each month by adding the monthly averages and dividing by twelve. For disinfection by-products, a running annual average is calculated for each location by adding the quarterly results and dividing by four. The highest average of all locations is used in the table.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goals as feasible using the best available technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: The level of a contaminant in drinking-water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or 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 or MRDLG: The level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA: Not applicable

ND: None detected

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Unit of turbidity (cloudiness) measurement.

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water or milligrams per liter (mg/L).

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water or micrograms per liter (µg/L).

Range of Detections: The range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest that were collected during the sample period. It may represent a single measurement if only one sample was collected.

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

Year Sampled: While most monitoring was conducted in 2023, certain substances are monitored less than once per year because the levels do not change frequently.

2023 Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	Year Sampled	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range Of Detections	Violation
<i>Inorganic Contaminants – Measured in the water leaving the drinking water treatment plant</i>							
Barium	2023	ppm	2	2	0.026	Single measurement	No
	Typical sources: Discharge of drilling wastes, metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.						
Fluoride	2023	ppm	4	4.0	0.823	0.548-0.823	No
	Typical sources: Water additive which promotes strong teeth						
Iron	2023	ppm	NA	1	0.016	ND-0.016	No
	Typical sources: Erosion of natural deposits.						
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	2023	ppm	10	10	Highest quarterly average 4	0.23-6.3	No
	Typical sources: Runoff from fertilizer wastes, leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits. Quarterly averages are calculated using all routine and confirmation samples collected during a quarter.						
Sodium	2023	ppm	NA	NA	15	Single measurement	No
	Typical sources: Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; used in water softening						
<i>Disinfection/ Disinfectant By-Products – Measured in the water distribution system</i>							
Chloramines	2023	ppm	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	3.1*	3 - 3.4	No
	Typical sources: Water additive to control microbes.						
*For chloramines, a running annual average is calculated each month by adding the monthly averages and dividing by twelve. The highest annual average of all months is listed. Some data from the previous year is used in this calculation.							
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2023	ppb	NA	60	26* Highest locational running average	14.5 - 35	No
	Typical sources: By-product of drinking water chlorination.						
Total Trihalo-methane (TTHM)	2023	ppb	NA	80	35* Highest locational running average	27 – 34.8	No
	Typical sources: By-product of drinking water chlorination.						
*For HAA5 and TTHM disinfection by-products, a running annual average is calculated for each location by adding the quarterly results and dividing by four. The highest locational running annual average of all locations is listed. Some data from the previous year is used in this calculation.							
<i>Lead and Copper - Measured in the water distribution system</i>							
Contaminant	Year Sampled	Unit	MCLG	AL	90 TH Percentile	# Sites over AL	Violation
Copper	2023	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.076	0	No
	Typical sources: Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.						
Lead	2023	ppb	0	15	1.3	0	No
	Typical sources: Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits						
<i>Turbidity - Measured in the water leaving the drinking water treatment plant</i>							
	Year Tested	Limit (TT)	Level Detected	Violation			
Turbidity Highest single measurement	2023	1 NTU	0.244 NTU	No			
	Typical sources: Soil runoff						
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	2023	0.3 NTU	100 %	No			
	Typical sources: Soil runoff						
<i>Total Organic Carbon – Measured in the untreated water and the water leaving the water treatment plant</i>							
The percentage of Total Organic carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements.							

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

2023 Detected Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminant	Year Sampled	Units	MCLG	MCL	Health Based Guidance Level	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	2023	ppb	NA	NA	NA	0.0017	ND – 0.0052
	Likely source of Contamination - Per- or polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) are synthetic substances used in a variety of consumer products and industrial applications including non-stick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain-resistant fabrics and carpets, cosmetics, firefighting foams, electroplating, and products that resist grease, water, and oil.						

Special Notice for Availability of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Data

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Availability of Monitoring Data for Unregulated Contaminants for Bloomington

The Bloomington Water system that supplies your water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have drinking water standards set by EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that this data is available. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact Jill Mayes, Bloomington Water Department, at (309) 434-2225 or send a request to Bloomington Water Department, 603 W. Division St., Bloomington, IL 61701.

This notice is being sent to you by the Bloomington Water Department. State Water System ID#: IL1130200. Date Distributed: 5/28/2024, 6/4/2024, 6/11/2024, 6/18/2024

ABOUT THE DATA

Nitrate: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

Sodium: This contaminant is not currently regulated and there is no MCL for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials who are concerned about sodium intake due to dietary precaution. If you are on a sodium restricted diet, consult a physician about this level.

Turbidity: Turbidity is a measure 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. As a treatment requirement, turbidity levels of water leaving the water treatment plant cannot be greater than 0.3 Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU) in more than 5% of our routine measurements and is never to exceed 1.0 NTU.

Lead Monitoring: 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 City of Bloomington 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 cold 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Required Additional Health Information: To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide 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 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.

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 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 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 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, storm water runoff, and residential use.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, 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.