South Palos Township Sanitary
8102 W 119th Street, Unit 1130 Palos Park, Illinois 60464

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

for the period of
January 1st, 2024 to December 31st, 2024

IL0310140

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Drinking Quality Report. This report is intended to keep you informed about the quality of the water and services we provide on a daily basis. Our ongoing goal is to ensure that you have a safe and reliable supply of drinking water. The source of the drinking water supplied to South Palos Township Sanitary District comes from the City of Chicago through the City of Palos Heights. This report offers a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are dedicated 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.

For further details regarding this report, please reach out to Harold Cowger at 708-821-7894. You are also welcome to attend a District Board meeting, which takes place on the third Wednesday of each month at the District Office. These meetings offer an opportunity for community members to engage directly with board members and stay informed about District initiatives and developments.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe.
Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que loentienda bien.

Celem tego raportu jest dostarczenie ważnych informacji na temat wody pitnej i wysiłków podejmowanych przez system wodny w celu zapewnienia bezpiecznej wody pitnej.

يهدف هذا التقرير إلى تزويدك بمعلومات مهمة حول مياه الشرب والجهود التي يبذلها نظام المياه لتوفير مياه الشرب المأمونة.

Source of Drinking Water

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 pickup 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 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 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 activities.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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

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

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. South Palos Township Sanitary District 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 and 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 you water tested, Harold "Bud" Cowger at 708-821-7894. 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.

Susceptibility to Contamination

Source of Water: Chicago

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 for 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.

Source Water Name; CC-1-Meter Vault 133rd Street and 82nd Street FF IL0312370 TP01: Lake Type: SW

The South Palos Township Sanitary District regularly tests our drinking water for various substances in compliance with Federal and State laws. The tables below display the results of our monitoring activities from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. You may encounter several unfamiliar terms and abbreviations. We have provided definitions below to assist you in understanding these terms.

2024 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.

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.

Copper Range: 24 ug/L to 98 ug/L **Lead Range:** 1.0 ug/L to 1.4 ug/L

To obtain a copy of the system's led tap sampling data and system service line inventory: Contact the District Office at 708-448-3166

The District has developed and submitted to the IEPA a service line material inventory, a copy of which is available at https://water.epa.state.il.us/dww/index.jsp

Lead & Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2024	1.3	1.3	0.096	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Definition of Terms

Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual averages of monthly samples.

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

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 (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 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 Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL: the highest level of a 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 a drinking water disinfectant 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.

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

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

Water Quality Test Results ***SPTSD***

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.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or MRDLG: the level of a drinking water disinfectant 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL: the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

mrem; Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).

ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion- or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

Regulated Contaminants

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 on the future.

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

Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCGL	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2024	0.8	0 - 0.8	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2024	9	4.8 - 7.3	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalome-thanes (TTHM)	2024	28	14.56 – 27.3	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Violation Summary Table

Chlorine

Some people with use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containg chlorine will in excess of the MDRL could experience stomach discomfort.

Violation Type	Monitoring, routine (DBP), Major
Violation Begin	10/01/2024
Violation End	10/31/2024
Violation Explanation	A clerical error occurred in October 2024, resulting in the omission of chlorine level testing from our original request. This oversight has implications for our overall assessment.
Violation Solution	This issue was promptly addressed to ensure compliance with accurate water quality testing standards. The chlorine testing samples collected in November 2024 met the required standards.

One of the main goals of the water department is to keep our valued residents informed about their water quality. The South Palos Township Sanitary District would like to invite you to call Harold “Bud” Cowger, District Water Operator, (708-821-7894) with any questions you might have regarding this report. 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.

Respectively Submitted,
Harold “Bud” Cowger - District Water Operator in Charge

2024 Water Quality Data

DATA TABULATED BY CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF WATER MANAGEMENT
0316000 CHICAGO

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 the samples collected in 2024.*

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.*

N/A: *Not applicable*

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

ontaminant (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 %: 99.7%	99.7% - 100%		
Turbidity (NTU/Highest Single Measurement) *Soil runoff*	N/A	TT (Limit 1 NTU)	0.39	N/A		
Inorganic Contaminants						
Barium (ppm) *Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits*	2	2	0.0203	0.0198 – 0.0203		
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm) *Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits*	10	10	0.39	0.36 – 0.39		
Total Nitrate & Nitrite (as Nitrogen) (ppm) *Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits*	10	10	0.39	0.36 – 0.39		
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)						
TOC	The percentage of TOC removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by IEPA.					
Unregulated Contaminants						
Sulfate (ppm) *Erosion of naturally occurring deposits*	N/A	N/A	28.2	25.3 – 28.2		
Sodium (ppm) *Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used as water softener*	N/A	N/A	9.18	8.87 – 9.18		
State Regulated Contaminants						
Fluoride (ppm) *Water additive which promotes strong teeth*	4	4	0.76	0.67 – 0.76		
Radioactive Contaminants						
Combined Radium (226/228) (pCi/L) *Decay of natural and man-made deposits.*	0	5	0.95	0.83 – 0.95		02-04-2020
Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium (pCi/L) *Decay of natural and man-made deposits.*	0	15	3.1	2.8 – 3.1		02-04-2020

Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5)

As required by UCMR 5, EPA's latest monitoring cycle, the City of Chicago has completed monitoring for 25 perfluorinated & polyfluorinated alkyl substances, 4 perfluorinated alkyl acids, and lithium in its drinking water for four quarters in 2024. None of the contaminants were detected in our drinking water.

UpCi/L: Picocuries per liter, used to measure radioactivity

nits 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.

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 no state or federal MCL for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials who have concerns about sodium intake due to dietary precautions. If you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician about the level of sodium in the water.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

Source Water Location

The City of Chicago utilizes Lake Michigan as its source water via two 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 where 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

2024 VOLUNTARY MONITORING

The City of Chicago has continued monitoring for Cryptosporidium, Giardia and E. coli in its source water as part of its water quality program. No Cryptosporidium or Giardia was detected in source water samples collected in 2024. Treatment processes have been optimized to provide effective barriers for removal of Cryptosporidium oocysts 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 2024, 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

For more information, please contact
Patrick Schwer
At 312-744-8190

Chicago Department of Water Management
1000 East Ohio Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by: The City of Chicago Department of Water Management Water System ID# IL0316000

WATER USAGE AND CONSERVATION

Average Water Usage

The table below lists the average daily water usage per family based on data supplied by the American Water Works Association and Badger Water Meter Company. Your family's actual water usage may vary from these averages based on your habits and the season, especially during summer months.

Family size	gallons per day	gallons per week	gallons per month
1	**70**	**490**	**2,100**
2	**140**	**980**	**4,200**
3	**210**	**1,470**	**6,300**
4	**280**	**1,960**	**8,400**
5	**350**	**2,450**	**10,500**
6	**420**	**2,940**	**12,600**
7	**490**	**3,430**	**14,700**
8	**560**	**3,920**	**16,800**

This page is designed to provide you with important information about water usage and conservation. Your water usage, measured in thousands of gallons, is reflected on your water/sewer bill. We read your water meter once every two months.

Here, you will find details about your meter, typical water usage in households, conservation tips, and any watering restrictions that may apply. Thank you for taking the time to understand your water usage and how to conserve this valuable resource.

Water usage rates for some typical devices are listed below. You may be surprised at the amount of water some devices use!

Device	Gallons	Most Common Issue
Toilet Flush	2 to 6 gallons per flush	Worn-out or faulty flapper valve.
Shower	30 to 50 gallons per shower	Leaking shower heads /worn seals
Dishwasher	20 gallons per run	Clogged filters/cracks in drain hose/door seals
Washing machine	40 gallons per load	Door seal/ damaged hoses/ faulty drain pump
Sink Faucet	3 gallons per minute	Damaged washers / loose or broken parts
Lawn Sprinkling	600 gallons per day	Low-head drainage /faulty valves/broken sprinkler heads
Small Leak	170 gallons per day	Faulty faucets & toilets
Large Leak	1,000 gallons per day	Damaged pipe joints / Appliance & Fixture Failures

Hidden leaks, often found in walls or under floors, can cause significant damage and increased water bills if not addressed promptly. Signs include damp spots, musty odors, and unexplained rises in water usage. Regularly monitoring your water meter, checking for leaks around appliances, and inspecting areas prone to leaks (like under sinks and toilets) can help identify hidden leaks early.

District Bulletin Board

Do you Have a Pool, In-House or In-Ground Sprinkler System?

Backflow Preventor Inspections Are Due!

Subject: Ordinance O-01-11 Required Back-Flow Prevention

The South Palos Township Sanitary District is responding to the standards set by the Illinois Pollution Control Board (IPCB) and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) concerning back flow preventers. The regulations prevent the contamination of all public water supply systems due to back-flow of contaminants or pollutants through the potable water service connection. The IEPA requires all residences with in-ground sprinkler systems, fire suppression systems or swimming pools connected to District's water supply (Lake Michigan Water) to have RPZ (reduced pressure zone) back flow preventers. The IEPA also requires that RPZ back flow preventers undergo a yearly inspection and certification by a plumber licensed by the State of Illinois and certified in back-flow inspection, testing, and repair. A list of certified Cross-Connection Control Inspectors is available at the District Office.

Be advised, these yearly inspections are **mandator**y, and are the responsibility of the home owner. Please have your tester send the inspection report to District Office, 8102 W 119th Street- Unit 1130, Palos Park, Illinois 60464. Please submit inspection results no later than October 31, 2022

If you have questions about the devices mentioned above contact Harold (Bud) Cowger , The District's Water Operator in Charge at 708-821-7894.

RPZ VALVE