

# 2019 Water Quality Report



This is your annual water quality report for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2018. Each year the Village of Mundelein issues this report to provide you information about the quality of our drinking water, the source of our water, how it is treated, and the regulated compounds it contains. These reports are issued in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. For more detailed information about our water's quality, including test results for unregulated compounds, contact Rob Haley at the Village of Mundelein Water Division at 847-949-3273 or Melissa Olenick at CLCJAWA at 847-295-7788, visit our website at <http://waterquality.mundelein.org> , email at [molenick@clcjawa.com](mailto:molenick@clcjawa.com), or visit the CLCJAWA web page at [www.clcjawa.com](http://www.clcjawa.com). *Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

## FROM THE SOURCE

Villages purchase water from the Central Lake County Joint Action Water Agency. CLCJAWA is an inter-governmental cooperative, directed by the communities it serves: Grayslake, Gurnee, Lake Bluff, Lake Villa, Libertyville, Lindenhurst, Mundelein, Round Lake, Round Lake Beach, Round Lake Heights, Round Lake Park, Volo, Wauconda and Lake County representing the unincorporated areas of Knollwood and Rondout, Vernon Hills, Wildwood, Grandwood Park and Fox Lake Hills.

## THE TREATMENT PROCESS

Our water is pumped from Lake Michigan and treated at CLCJAWA's Paul M. Neal Water Treatment Facility in the Village of Lake Bluff. The enhanced water purification process used by CLCJAWA is unique. First, the water is treated with ozone to kill organisms and break down contaminants. Ozone is produced on-site from air, bubbled into the water, and then converted back into oxygen. The water is then mixed with coagulant to remove sediment and other material from the water. Once clarified, the water is further refined as it passes through filters containing activated carbon and fine sand to remove any remaining cloudiness or turbidity. Turbidity is then measured to determine water clarity. Treatment facilities monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of their filtration and disinfection systems. At CLCJAWA, turbidity is checked every ten seconds in numerous locations by automatic monitoring equipment, and twice a day, by hand, in the laboratory (see results on page 3).

The water is treated with ultraviolet light to inactivate any remaining organisms. Finally, the purified water is treated with chlorine to protect it as it travels through the water main, fluoride for dental health, and a small amount of an often used food additive called phosphate. Phosphate protects the water from the metals, such as lead and copper, found in home plumbing systems.

CLCJAWA received the Excellence in Water Treatment award for the last 13 years. CLCJAWA was the third facility in the nation to achieve this distinction presented by the Partnership for Safe Water. This voluntary water quality program, sponsored in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, holds its awardees to higher standards than required by current Federal and State drinking water regulations.

**CLCJAWA and the Village of Mundelein were in full compliance with all State and Federal drinking water regulations in 2018.**

## DELIVERY TO YOUR TAP

CLCJAWA utilizes over 50 miles of pre-stressed concrete, ductile iron and PVC water main to deliver water to your community. Mundelein Public Works Department, in turn, maintains its own water distribution system that delivers the water to homes, schools and businesses in the community.

The Village of Mundelein stores, pumps and delivers the water through its water system to over 10,000 metered customers. The Village maintains and is responsible for over 100 miles of water main, 1,500 fire hydrants and 1,700 valves.



*Figure 1: New drinking water pipeline prior to installation as part of the 2018 JAWA system improvements and expansion.*

## LAKE MICHIGAN EXPOSURE TO CONTAMINANTS

The Illinois EPA, using the Great Lakes Protocol, completed source water assessment in April 2003. Lake Michigan is a surface water source and like all surface waters, is susceptible to potential contaminants. The very nature of surface water allows contaminants to migrate to the intake with no protection, only dilution. CLCJAWA's intake is ranked as moderately sensitive to potential contaminants. There are no potential contamination sources within the intake's critical assessment zone. However, the combination of land use, storm sewer outfalls, and the proximity of North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD) pumping stations in the immediate area add to the susceptibility of CLCJAWA's intake. NSSD discharges their treated waste water to the Des Plaines River and not into Lake Michigan.

Access the following website at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl> to view a summary of the source water assessment.

We are all participants in the water cycle. Our individual activities impact the rivers and lakes in our watershed and those into which our waste water plants discharge. Please properly use, store, and dispose of all medications and household chemicals. Visit the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County website for disposal options and information at [www.swalco.org](http://www.swalco.org).

## LEAD AND DRINKING WATER

Elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially in pregnant women and young children. Some homes with old lead service lines, lead plumbing, or copper plumbing with lead solder, may have lead and copper in their water. To minimize these levels, the Illinois EPA requires that CLCJAWA add phosphate to our water at a concentration of 0.3 ppm orthophosphate. This commonly used food ingredient thinly coats the inside of your premise plumbing.

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. For the best quality and to minimize the potential for lead and copper exposure, you may flush your tap until the water is cool or for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using the water for drinking or cooking. To know with certainty whether you have lead or copper in your drinking water, have your water tested at a certified laboratory.

As of January 16, 2017, all schools kindergarten through 5th graders, as well as day care facilities, must test all water sources used for cooking and drinking for the presence of lead. Any facilities constructed after 2000 are not required to complete the testing at this time. Schools should notify parents of the results, if any levels exceed 5 ppb at any location, as well as any actions the schools are taking to reduce the levels. Water providers are currently generating an inventory of all known lead service lines in use, and are issuing public notification to homeowners of local water main construction or repair work that might increase the risk of lead exposure.

For more information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure, contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or go to <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

## Water Quality Contaminants Detected in 2018

Contaminant (unit of measure) Typical Source of Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	MCLG	MCL	Range of Detection	Violation	Date of Sample
<b>MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS</b>						
<b>Total Coliform Bacteria (% Pos/Month)</b> Naturally present; human and animal fecal waste	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5% per month</b>	<b>none</b>	<b>In Compliance</b>	<b>Monthly</b>
<b>E. Coli (% Pos/Month)</b> Naturally present; human and animal fecal waste	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0% per month</b>	<b>none</b>	<b>In Compliance</b>	<b>Monthly</b>
Turbidity (NTU/Lowest Monthly % < 0.3 NTU) Lake Sediment; soil runoff	100% below 0.3 NTU	none	0.3 NTU	100%	In Compliance	Monthly
Turbidity (NTU/Highest Single Measurement) Lake Sediment; soil runoff	0.049	none	1 NTU	0.02 – 0.049	In Compliance	1/8/2018 Monthly
<b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>						
Nitrate as nitrogen (ppm) Runoff from fertilizer; leaching from septic; natural erosion	0.4	10	10	Single Sample	In Compliance	11/6/2018
Barium (ppm) Discharge of drilling wastes & metal refineries; natural erosion	0.018	2	2	Single Sample	In Compliance	11/6/2018
<b>Copper (ppm)</b> Corrosion of household plumbing systems; natural erosion	<b>0.19</b> 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	<b>1.3</b>	<b>AL=1.3</b>	<b>0</b> Sites over AL	<b>In Compliance</b>	<b>8/07/2017</b>
<b>Lead (ppb)</b> Corrosion of household plumbing systems; natural erosion	<b>2.7</b> 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	<b>0</b>	<b>AL=15</b>	<b>0</b> Sites over AL	<b>In Compliance</b>	<b>8/07/2017</b>
<b>DISINFECTANT/DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS</b>						
<b>HAA5 Haloacetic Acids (ppb)</b> By-product of drinking water disinfection	<b>4</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>0 – 4.91</b>	<b>In Compliance</b>	<b>Quarterly</b>
<b>TTHMs Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)</b> By-product of drinking water disinfection	<b>22</b>	<b>None</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>7.39 – 27.2</b>	<b>In Compliance</b>	<b>Quarterly</b>
Bromate (ppb) By-product of drinking water disinfection	7.30	0	10	0 – 7.30	In Compliance	8/9/2018 Quarterly
<b>Chlorine (ppm)</b> Drinking water disinfectant	<b>0.5</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0.5 – 0.6</b>	<b>In Compliance</b>	<b>Monthly</b>
TOC (Total Organic Carbon)	The % of TOC removal was measured each month & the system met all removal requirements set by IEPA					
<b>STATE REGULATED CONTAMINANTS</b>						
Fluoride (ppm) Water additive that promotes strong teeth; natural erosion	0.7	4	4	0.5 – 0.7	In Compliance	8/9/2018 Monthly
Sodium (ppm) Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; water softener	8.0	none	none	Single Sample	In Compliance	11/6/2018
<b>RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS</b>						
Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L) Decay of natural and man-made deposits	0.92	0	5	Single Sample	In Compliance	4/13/15
Gross Alpha Emitters (pCi/L) Erosion of natural deposits	0.39	0	15	Single Sample	In Compliance	4/13/15

The table above lists all of the regulated compounds detected in our water. Bolded compounds were sampled by the Village; all other compounds were sampled by CLCJAWA. The values shown in the level detected column are those used by the EPA to determine compliance with drinking water standards. Because each compound is regulated differently, this value may be a running average, a 90<sup>th</sup> percentile or a maximum single value. The sample data column indicates the date when the sample was collected. When more than one sample is collected, this column shows the date of the maximum value.

### Units of Measure:

ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter  
 ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter  
 pCi/: picocuries per liter used to measure radioactivity  
 NTU: nephelometric turbidity unit that measures clarity in drinking water

### Definition of Terms:

Action Level (AL): level that triggers special treatment or other required action by water plants.  
 Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): the highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.  
 Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): level of a contaminant below which there is no known or expected health risk  
 Treatment Technique (TT): required process used to reduce contaminants in drinking water.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain 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 may be obtained by calling the US Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Both tap and bottled water come from rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring materials and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in untreated water include:

- Microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria can be naturally occurring or may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, and livestock operations.
- Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides come from sources such as agricultural and residential storm water runoff.
- Organic chemical contaminants including synthetic and volatile organic compounds are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production but can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic system.
- Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil, gas and mining activities.

## ABOVE AND BEYOND

Our tap water quality is consistently monitored by the Village, by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), in the CLCJAWA Water Quality Lab, and by other independent labs. This aggressive water quality assurance program is thorough: bacteriological tests are conducted six times more often than required, water clarity is monitored every 10 seconds, and our water is checked for over three hundred contaminants annually.

## REGULATORY AGENCIES

To ensure tap water safety, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in our drinking water. Water quality may be judged by comparing our water to USEPA benchmarks for water quality. One such benchmark is the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG). The MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. This goal allows for a margin of safety. Another benchmark is the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). An MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. An MCL is set as close to an MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Some people may be more vulnerable to drinking water contaminants than the general population. Immune 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 from their health care providers about drinking water. The USEPA and Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

The Village Board has a monthly meeting schedule, and the public is always welcome to attend any of these meetings. Our Mayor is also a member of the Board of Directors of CLCJAWA, which meets regularly. Please visit the website at [www.clcjawa.com](http://www.clcjawa.com) for the current meeting schedule. CLCJAWA provides tours of the water treatment facility, and staff members are also available for public speaking or for school visits. Please contact the Village or CLCJAWA for more information.

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VILLAGE OF  
**Mundelein**  
Incorporated in 1909

