WHAT ELSE MIGHT CONCERN ME?

For more information, call
The Hammond Water Filtration Plant
Hammond Water Works Department
at 219-853-6439.

Member of:
American Water Works Association
Indiana Rural Water Association
West Shore Water Producers Association

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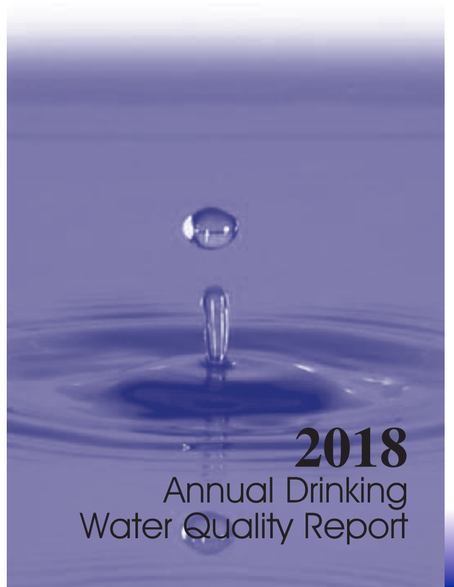

2018 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

HOW GOOD IS HAMMOND WATER?

This is an Annual Water Quality Report delivered by the Hammond Water Works Department. Included is a listing of results from water quality tests as well as an explanation of where our water comes from and tips on how to interpret the data. We're proud to share our results with you. Please read them carefully. We are proud to report that the water provided by the Hammond Water Works Department meets or exceeds established water quality standards.

We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting drinking water. Regular meetings of the Board of Directors occur on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of every month, at 6505 Columbia Avenue at 6:30 pm. The public is welcome.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

Hammond Water Works Department is supplied by surface water from Lake Michigan.

WHAT ARE WE DOING TO MAKE THINGS BETTER?

In 1995, the Hammond Water Works changed over to granular activated carbon rather than anthracite as a filter media to control taste and odor. We have continued using this filter media and have recently invested four million dollars on various improvements to our Lake Michigan based Filtration Plant. Hammond residents continue to enjoy the lowest water rates in the State of Indiana.

Mayor Thomas McDermott, Jr.

WATER FACT

You can survive about a month without food, but only 5 to 7 days without water.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

WATER FACT

Only 1% of the earth's water is available for drinking water.

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.

WHERE DOES WATER COME FROM?

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 include:

(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

(B) 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.

(C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

(D) 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.

(E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Concerning Lead and Your Water

When 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 private service lines and home plumbing. The Hammond Water Works 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 the 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 (800-426-4791) or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater.lead.

IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

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).

HOW TO READ THIS TABLE

The results of tests performed in 2018 or the most recent testing available are presented in the table. Important definitions are presented below:

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 a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. **MCLGs** allow for a margin of safety.

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

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

WATER FACT

The average five-minute shower takes between 25-50 gallons of water.

SUMMARY OF WATER QUALITY DATA

MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS	DATE TESTED	UNIT	GOAL (MCLG)	MAXIMUM ALLOWED (MCL)	DETECTED LEVEL	RANGE OF VALUES TESTED	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS
Total Coliform	2018	% of Samples	0	≥5	2.5%	n/a	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity [1]	2018	NTU	n/a	TT	0.05-0.14	n/a	Soil runoff
	Limit (Treatment Technique)			Level Detected		Violation	
Highest Single Measurement	1 NTU			0.14 NTU		N	Soil runoff
Lowest Monthly % Meeting Limit	0.3 NTU			100%		N	Soil runoff

INORGANIC CHEMICALS	DATE TESTED	UNIT	MCLG	MCL	LEVEL	RANGE	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2018	ppm	10.0	10.0	0.38	n/a	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage
Barium	2018	ppm	2.0	2.0	0.019	n/a	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2018	ppm	4	4	1.0	0.2-1.8	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

LEAD AND COPPER	DATE SAMPLED	MCLG	ACTION LEVEL (AL)	90TH PERCENTILE	# SITES OVER AL	UNITS	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS
Copper [2]	09/20/2017	1.3	1.3	0.55	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives. Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead [3]	09/20/2017	0	1.5	8.1	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS	DATE TESTED	UNIT	MCLG	MCL	LEVEL	RANGE	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS
Total Haloacetic Acids	2018	ppb	n/a	60	5.3	3.0-7.5	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2018	ppb	n/a	80	18.07	9.8-26.1	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine	2018	ppm	n/a	4.0	1.97	1.5-2.2	By-product of drinking water chlorination

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS	COLLECTION DATE	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVELS DETECTED	MCLG	MCL	UNITS	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	2018	0.54	0.54-0.54	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

WATER QUALITY TABLE FOOTNOTES

1. 100% of the samples tested were below the treatment technique level of 0.3 NTU. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
2. None of the samples tested for copper exceeded the current action level of 1.3 ppm.
3. None of the samples test for lead exceeded the current action level of 15.0 ppb.

SOURCE WATER INFORMATION

The Surface Water Source for The City of Hammond and its wholesale customers comes from Lake Michigan. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management has assessed all surface water sources. In Indiana all surface waters are considered to be susceptible to contamination. Therefore, chemical treatment, filtration, and lab analysis ensures high quality drinking water. For more information please contact IDEM-Drinking Water Branch at (800) 451-6027.

The Hammond Works Department conducted testing under the EPA (UCMR-4) Unregulated Containment Monitoring Rule 4 in 2018. Unregulated Contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards, this testing is to assist the EPA in determining, if any future regulation is warranted. These results will be on file with The Hammond Water Filtration Plant.

KEY TO TABLE

AL = Action Level
MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
TT = Treatment Technique
nd = none detected
n/a = not applicable

WATER FACT

Each person uses about 100 gallons of water a day at home.