

The City of Bloomington's
Utilities Service Board (USB)
meets every other Monday at
5:00 pm. USB meetings are public and
citizens are welcome to attend, observe,
and record. For more information
concerning meetings, contact the
Director's Office at
600 East Miller Drive
Bloomington, Indiana 47401
812-349-3650

www.bloomington.in.gov/utilities



<https://www.epa.gov/watersense/start-saving>



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2019 WATER QUALITY REPORT



City of Bloomington Utilities Water Quality Office

Mayor John Hamilton

Public Water System ID
IN 5253002

www.bloomington.in.gov/utilities

In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) prescribe regulations to limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. This publication describes those guidelines for the City of Bloomington's drinking water. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly persons, and infants can be particularly at risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. 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).



Important Information about Lead in Water:

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 lead service lines and home plumbing. 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 the water for drinking and cooking.

If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, test methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Notice of Violation:

The City of Bloomington Utilities (CBU) was out of compliance for Optimal Water Quality Control Parameters (OWQCP) and optimal ranges for distribution system corrosion control during the first monitoring period of 2018. CBU was out of compliance for Calcium for 18 days before the Calcium range was corrected and/or resampled. OWQCPs are part of the Lead and Copper Rule and are aimed at maintaining corrosion control treatment for the distribution system. IDEM issued a Notice of Violation for OWQCP Excursions. The corrective action for CBU includes optimizing treatment and resuming initial distribution site lead and copper monitoring for 60 lead and copper distribution site samples for two consecutive six-month periods.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua potable. Tradúzcalo o pídale a alguien que se lo explique.

이 서류는 식수에 관한 중요한 정보를 담고 있으니, 필요하면
다른이에게 번역이나 낭독을 하게하여 내용을 숙지하시기 바랍니다.

Your Drinking Water Source

The source of the City of Bloomington’s drinking water is surface water from Monroe Reservoir, located nine miles southeast of Bloomington. The City of Bloomington has received a copy of the Indiana-Monroe Reservoir Source Water Assessment. Federal guidelines require the State of Indiana to issue Source Water Assessments in order to identify significant or possible sources of contamination. Information concerning Monroe Reservoir’s Source Water Assessment is available by contacting the City of Bloomington’s Water Quality Office. CBU participates in EPA’s Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule. Contact the Water Quality Office for more information or copies of results related to this testing program.

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, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic waste water 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, include synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

2018 Table of Detected Contaminants

Substance	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)	Highest Level Detected	Viola-tion	Ideal Goals (EPA's MCLG's)	Sources of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants					
Total Coliform Bacteria	5 percent	1.0 percent	No	0	Naturally present in the environment
Heterotrophic Plate Count	Treatment Technique (TT)	130 CFU/ml	No	0	Natural lake bacteria, wildlife, septic systems
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	minimum 35% removal	41.2% removal average ¹	No	0	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity	Treatment Technique	0.13 turbidity units ²	No	0	Soil runoff
Radioactive Contaminants					
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium ³	15 pCi/L	1.16 pCi/L	No	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium-228 ³	5 pCi/L	0.162 pCi/L	No	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants					
Barium	2 ppm	0.017 ppm	No	2 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	TT; Action Level = 1.3 ppm	0.025 ppm ^(90th Percentile) 4	Yes ⁵	1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Chloramines (as Chlorine)	4.0 ppm (MRDL)	3.2 ppm ⁶	No	4 ppm (MRDLG)	Water additive to control microbes
Fluoride	4 ppm	1.13 ppm ⁷	No	4 ppm	Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Lead	TT; Action Level = 15 ppb	6.2 ppb ^(90th Percentile) 4	Yes ⁵	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Organic Contaminants					
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	80 ppb LRAA	52.8 ppb LRAA ⁸	No	0	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	60 ppb LRAA	46.0 ppb LRAA ⁹	No	0	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Atrazine	3 ppb	0.1 ppb	No	3 ppb	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops

LISTED ABOVE are 14 contaminants detected in Bloomington's drinking water during 2018. All are within allowable levels. Not listed are the over 60 primary contaminants tested for and not detected.

DEFINITIONS:

90th Percentile - Ninety percent of samples had lower values than the value indicated.

Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

CFU/ml - Colony forming units per milliliter.

Colony Forming Unit - An area of visually distinct bacterial growth which may result from a single bacterium or pairs, clusters or chains of bacteria.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) - Average of sample data at a given sampling site over the four most recent quarters of sampling.

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 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 (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 (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 contamination.

pCi/l - Picocuries per liter is a measure of radioactivity in water. A picocurie is 10⁻¹² curies and is the quantity of radioactive material producing 2.22 nuclear transformations per minute.

ppm - Parts per million. Equivalent to milligrams per liter (mg/l).

ppb - Parts per billion. Equivalent to micrograms per liter (ug/l).

Total Organic Carbon (TOC) - A measurement of natural and man-made organic material in the water. TOC reacts with disinfectants to form disinfection byproducts.

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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- 1 Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal percentages ranged from 30.1% to 48.0%.
- 2 Turbidity levels ranged from 0.02 to 0.13 with an average of 0.04 turbidity units. The lowest level of compliance on a monthly basis was 100%.
- 3 Data listed are from 2015 and are the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.
- 4 One site exceeded the Action Level for Lead. No sites exceeded the Action Level for Copper.
- 5 Violation notation is due to Alkalinity and Hardness levels collected during sampling which were not within the range recognized by IDEM for providing corrosion control. This is due to the source water not having enough alkalinity or hardness. CBU continues to evaluate methods to increase these in our water treatment process.
- 6 Chloramine levels ranged from 1.18 to 3.2 ppm, with an average of 2.38 ppm.
- 7 Fluoride levels ranged from 0.27 to 1.13, with an average of 0.72 ppm.
- 8 Total trihalomethane levels ranged from 31.9 to 90.4 ppb per individual monthly sample. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have increased risk of getting cancer.
- 9 Haloacetic acids (HAA5) levels ranged from 22.0 to 81.0 ppb per individual monthly sample. Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

