



Water

Confirming the Quality of Drinking Water in the City of Rolling Meadows



Quality

JUNE 2024

Consumer Confidence Report

'WATER QUALITY' REPORT COMPLIES WITH SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT

The Public Works Department publishes this annual *Water Quality* newsletter to meet the requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and to provide information about Rolling Meadows' water system to our customers.

The Water Operations Division is diligent in its efforts to ensure that drinking water delivered to homes and businesses remains safe and of the highest quality.



A brief customer survey is helping Public Works verify the safety of service lines that connect homes and businesses to City water mains.

TYPES OF SERVICE LINE MATERIALS →

How can you identify what your water service line is made of? Inspect the piping that brings water into your home (usually near your water meter) for the following indicators:

- **PVC/Plastic**
- **Galvanized steel**
- **Copper**
- **Lead** is silver/gray in color and turns bright silver when scratched with a key, screwdriver, or other tool. Lead does **not** possess magnetic properties.

CUSTOMER SURVEY HELPING PUBLIC WORKS IDENTIFY, REPLACE ANY LEAD PIPES THAT MAY CONNECT HOMES TO CITY WATER MAINS

Public Works needs your help completing an inventory of all underground service lines that connect homes and businesses to the City's water main system, as required by the state of Illinois' Lead Service Line Replacement and Notification (LSLRN) Act.

The goal is to identify and document any service lines that are made of lead, and then schedule their removal and replacement. Lead is harmful to human health even at low levels and can enter the water supply when lead-based plumbing materials corrode or wear away.

As part of that effort, the Public Works Department has developed

a brief survey that allows utility customers to identify and report what material their water service lines are made of. [Access the survey here](#) or by scanning the QR code.



Recipients may complete the survey on their own or request an inspection by department employees. We are requesting residents to submit their responses by September 1st, 2024.

For more information, contact the Public Works Department (pw@cityrm.org or 847-963-0500).

REPORT SPOTLIGHTS CITY WATER QUALITY

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) provides basic facts regarding the City's water system, so that individuals have the information necessary to make water consumption decisions based on their personal health.

The annual report provides a general overview of water quality and water system operations. It details where the water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to regulating agency standards. Most of the information and statements contained in this report are required by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency for public knowledge.

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ABOUT WATER QUALITY

If you have any questions about this report or concerns regarding the water system, please contact Mark Kilarski, Utilities Superintendent, at 847-963-0500 (ext. 7022).

City Council meetings sometimes have water system-related topics on the agenda. Meetings are open to the public and are held the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

Visit www.cityrm.org for confirmed dates and times.



THREE-PEAT! CITY EARNS THIRD CONSECUTIVE WATER AMBASSADOR 'GOLD' ACCREDITATION

For the third year in a row, Rolling Meadows has achieved "Gold" level accreditation through the "Water Ambassador" program established by the Illinois Section of the American Water Works Association (ISAWWA).

The initiative helps "elevate public perception, knowledge, and consumer education of the water industry," according to the ISAWWA. The program's

elite Gold certification signifies that Rolling Meadows successfully completed all educational outreach standards designed to engage multiple audiences, including consumers, elected officials, and industry.



Learn more about the Water Ambassador program and access related informational content by visiting www.isawwa.org.

EPA REGULATES CONTAMINANT LEVELS TO ENSURE PUBLIC SAFETY

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protections 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).



WATER QUALITY DATA: CITY OF CHICAGO – 'PARENT WATER SUPPLY' (2023)

Contaminants that may be in water include:	Date of Sample	Violation	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detection	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity Data								
Turbidity	2023	NONE	100%	100%-100%	(% ≤ 0.3 NTU)	n/a	TT(Limit 95% ≤ 0.3 NTU)	Soil Runoff. NTU / Lowest monthly (% ≤ 0.3 NTU)
Turbidity	2023	NONE	0.25	n/a	(NTU)	n/a	TT(Limit 1 NTU)	Soil Runoff. NTU / Highest single measurement
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium	2023	NONE	0.0195	0.0192 – 0.0195	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	2023	NONE	0.33	0.29 – 0.33	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Total Nitrate & Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	2023	NONE	0.33	0.29 – 0.33	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)								
The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by IEPA.								
Unregulated Contaminants								
Sulfate	2023	NONE	27.8	25.0 – 27.8	ppm	n/a	n/a	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Sodium	2023	NONE	8.71	8.43 – 8.71	ppm	n/a	n/a	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; used as water softener.
State Regulated Contaminants								
Fluoride	2023	NONE	0.74	.066 – 0.74	ppm	4	4	Water additive for strong teeth.
Radioactive Contaminants								
Combined Radium (226/228)	2/4/20	NONE	0.95	0.83 – 0.95	pCi/l	0	5	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium	2/4/20	NONE	3.1	2.8 – 3.1	pCi/l	0	15	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than once a year; as a result, not all contaminants were sampled during the CCR calendar year. If any of these contaminants were detected the last time they were sampled, they are included in the table along with the date that the detection occurred.								

TABLE DEFINITIONS

Level 1 Assessment – A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment – 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 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 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.

Date of Sample – If a date appears in this column, the EPA requires monitoring for this contaminant less than once a year, because concentrations do not frequently change. If no date appears in this column, monitoring for this contaminant was conducted during the CCR calendar year.

Level Found – An average of sample result data collected during the CCR calendar year. In some cases, it may represent a single sample if only one sample was collected.

Range of Detection – A range of individual sample results (lowest to highest) that were collected during the calendar year.

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

Action Level Goal (ALG) – The level of the contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment of other requirements which a water system must follow.

Avq. – Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual averages of monthly samples.

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

n/a – Not applicable

nd – Not detectable at testing limits

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

ppm – Parts per million, or milligrams per liter

ppb – Parts per billion

ppt – Parts per trillion

ug/l – Micrograms per liter

pos/mo – Number of positive samples per month

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in drinking water

pCi/l – Picocuries per liter, used to measure radioactivity

%<0.3 NTU – Percent of samples less than 0.3 NTU

% pos/mo – Percent of positive samples per month

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 contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – The highest level of a drinking water disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

2023 VIOLATION SUMMARY TABLE

The Cities of Rolling Meadows and Chicago had no violations to report.

This report follows a format prescribed by the federal government and is published as an annual requirement of the Federal and Illinois EPA.

WATER QUALITY DATA: CITY OF ROLLING MEADOWS WATER SUPPLY (2023)

Contaminants that may be in water include:	Date of Sample	Violation	Highest Range Detected	Range of Detection	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products								
Chlorine	2023	NONE	1.1	1.0 – 1.2	ppm	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	Water additive to control microbes.
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)	2023	NONE	52	25 – 75.4	ppb	No Goal	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acid)	2023	NONE	21	10.27 – 29.4	ppb	No Goal	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium	5/9/22	NONE	0.0388	0.0388 – 0.0388	ppm	2	2	Discharge from drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	5/9/22	NONE	0.91	0.91 – 0.91	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive for strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories.
Iron	5/9/22	NONE	0.547	0.547 – 0.547	ppm	n/a	1	Erosion of natural deposits. This contaminate is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates.
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2023	NONE	0.25	0 – 0.25	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	5/9/22	NONE	23300	23000 – 23300	ppb	n/a	n/a	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; used in water softening regeneration.
Radioactive Contaminants								
Combined Radium 226/228	2023	NONE	6.9	6.9 – 6.9	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Alpha excluding radon & uranium	2023	NONE	38.1	38.0 – 38.1	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium	2023	NONE	0.214	0.214 - 0.214	ug/l	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits.
Contaminants that may be in water include:	Date of Sample	Violation	MCLG	Action Level	90th Percentile	# of Sites Over AL	Units	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead and Copper								
Copper	2023	None	1.3	1.3	0.0552	0	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead	2023	None	0	15	0.929	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Some contaminants are sampled less frequently than once a year; as a result, not all contaminants were sampled during the CCR calendar year. If any of these contaminants were detected the last time they were sampled, they are included in the table along with the date that the detection occurred.								



TABLE FOOTNOTES

Turbidity – A measure of the cloudiness of the water. It's monitored because it's a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of the filtration system and disinfectants.

Unregulated Contaminants – Neither a maximum contaminant level (MCL) nor mandatory health effects language has been established for this contaminant by either state or federal regulations. 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.

Sodium – There is not a state or federal MCL for sodium. Monitoring is not required to provide information to consumers and health officials who are concerned about sodium intake due to dietary precautions. Residents on a sodium-restricted diet should consult a physician about this level of sodium in the water.

Fluoride – Added to the water supply to help promote strong teeth. The Illinois Department of Public Health recommends an optimal fluoride range of 0.9 mg/l to 1.2 mg/l.



Lake Michigan has been the source of all treated water that flows through Rolling Meadows faucets since 1986.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW

We want our customers to be informed about their water quality. The Source Water Assessment for our water supply (Lake Michigan) has been completed by the Illinois EPA. For a copy of this information, please visit our website (www.cityrm.org), stop by the Public Works Department, or call 847-963-0500.

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, visit the Illinois EPA Website at www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl/.

The IEPA considers all surface water sources of community water supply to be susceptible to potential water pollution risks. The very nature of surface water allows contaminants to migrate into the intake with no protection – only dilution. That is 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.

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 water fowl, gulls, and terns that frequent the Great Lakes area. This may concentrate fecal deposits at the intake and compromise 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.

MANDATORY TREATMENT INCLUDES COAGULATION, SEDIMENTATION, FILTRATION, AND DISINFECTION.

CONTAMINANTS MAY BE NATURAL, MAN MADE

Sources of tap and bottled drinking water include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over land or through the ground, it can dissolve naturally-occurring minerals and radioactive materials, and pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. Possible contaminants may be

Inorganic – Salts and metals, which may be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, and farming.

Microbial – Viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Pesticides and Herbicides – These come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic Chemical – Synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes, and petroleum production. They may also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive – Naturally occurring or the result of oil/gas production and mining.

ESPAÑOL

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Source Water Name		Type of Water	Report Status	Location
CC 08 Golf Rd. Delivery Structure	FF IL0315400 TP01	Lake - SW	Active	Golf Road & Wilke Road
CC 09 Apollo Dr. Delivery Structure	FF IL0315400 TP01	Lake - SW	Active	Apollo Drive
CC 10 Quentin Rd. Delivery Structure	FF IL0315400 TP01	Lake - SW	Active	Quentin Road

RUN FAUCETS BEFORE DRINKING OR COOKING TO MINIMIZE POTENTIAL LEAD EXPOSURE

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 Rolling Meadows is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components.

If your faucet has not been used for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes, before using 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 – including testing 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.

DEDICATED PUBLIC WORKS EMPLOYEES ENSURE RELIABILITY OF CITY'S WATER SYSTEM

Employees of the Public Works Department's Water Operations Division take tremendous pride in ensuring the quality and reliability of the City's water system. Their commitment to meeting state and federal water quality mandates involves:

- **Operating** four pumping stations that retain or distribute water as consumption fluctuates throughout the day.
- **Maintaining** water storage requirements of 5.5 million gallons.
- **Managing** redundant operations for use during critical events.

Since 1986, our community has been 100% reliant on Lake Michigan for treated water for daily use. Water pumped from the City of Chicago's

treatment facility is delivered to Rolling Meadows through the Northwest Suburban Municipal Joint Action Water Agency (NSMJAWA), located near O'Hare International Airport, using a network of transmission mains.

Rolling Meadows has three delivery points throughout the City that regulate incoming flow. The daily flow rate is adjusted to meet system demands and maintain a sufficient amount of water for emergency uses, such as firefighting needs.

Should a disruption of water flow from NSMJAWA occur, the City's water system includes four deep wells, emergency generators, and an interconnect with the Village of Palatine to ensure an uninterrupted supply of water.

SUMMER SPRINKLING BAN CONSERVES RESOURCES

To conserve water, City ordinance prohibits lawn sprinkling between 12:00 pm and 6:00 pm, May 15th through September 15th.

The ordinance, revised in 2015 to meet updated conservation standards established by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, also prohibits lawn sprinkling on any two consecutive days.

Per City statute, newly-planted lawns (less than three months old) may be exempt from this provision.

BACK-UP WELLS TESTED ANNUALLY

The City of Rolling Meadows has four (4) backup wells for emergency purposes that are also tested for contaminants on a yearly basis. Raw water test data is available upon request by contacting the Public Works Department at 847-963-0500.

CITY QUALIFIES FOR REDUCED SAMPLING

Because of satisfactory lead and copper sampling results since August 1992, Rolling Meadows has been placed on the reduced site monitoring program by the Illinois EPA. Samples to test for lead levels are collected every three years.

To become eligible for reduced sampling, the City's 90th percentile sample had to be below the EPA requirements of 15 parts per billion. The results were less than 5 parts per billion.

Rolling Meadows drinking water once again meets all United States Environmental Protection Agency and State drinking water standards.