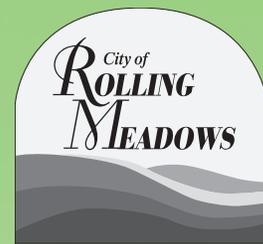




Water Quality

Consumer Confidence Report

Confirming the Quality of Drinking Water in the City of Rolling Meadows • June 2014



Dedicated Water Division Employees Ensure Safe Water Supply

Once again this year, Rolling Meadows drinking water has met all United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and state drinking water standards.

That's something the staff members in the Water Operations Division of the Department of Public Works take great pride in: delivering water that consistently meets drinking water quality requirements. Water Division employees:

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



Water taken directly from Lake Michigan at the Jardine Filtration Plant near Navy Pier (above) is pumped to the Northwest Suburban Municipal Joint Action Water Agency, which supplies water to Rolling Meadows.

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 Joint Action Water Agency (NSM-JAWA), 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 JAWA occur, the water system includes four deep wells and emergency generators to ensure an uninterrupted supply of water.

Report Spotlights Water Quality

The 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.

Rolling Meadows Water Facts (2013): Did You Know?

- Water Division employees collected and analyzed 584 water samples.
- Residents and businesses used nearly 741 million gallons of water during the year.
- Public Works employees flushed 738 fire hydrants.
- Public Works processed 2,751 JULIE utility locate requests.

Answers to Questions about Water Quality

If you have any questions about this report or concerns regarding the water system, please contact John Somogyi, Public Works Department Superintendent of Water Operations, at 847-963-0500 (ext. 7012).

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.

Report Complies with Safe Drinking Water Act

The Rolling Meadows Department of Public Works publishes this annual Water Quality newsletter to meet the requirements of the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and to provide information about the City's 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.

Water Quality Data: City of Chicago – ‘Parent Water Supply’ (2013)

Contaminants that may be in water include:	*Date of Sample	Violation	Level Found	Range of Detection	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity Data								
Turbidity		None	100%	100-100%	(%≤0.3 NTU)	n/a	TT (95%≤0.3 NTU)	Soil runoff. NTU/Lowest monthly (%≤0.3NTU.
Turbidity		None	0.18	n/a	(NTU)	n/a	TT=1NTU max	Soil runoff. NTU/Highest single measurement.
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium		None	0.0205	0.0204-0.0205	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic		None	0.77	0.519-0.767	ppb	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics waste.
Selenium		None	2.48	ND-248	ppb	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)		None	0.362	0.351-0.362	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Total Nitrate & Nitrite (as Nitrogen)		None	0.362	0.351-0.363	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Total Organic Carbon								
TOC (Total Organic Carbon)	The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by the IEPA.							
Unregulated Contaminants								
Sulfate		None	11.9	ND-11.9	ppm	n/a	n/a	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Sodium		None	7.84	7.42-7.84	ppm	n/a	n/a	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used as water softener.
State Regulated Contaminants								
Fluoride		None	0.9	0.856-0.922	ppm	4	4	Water additive that promotes strong teeth.
Radioactive Contaminants								
Combined Radium (226/228)	3/17/08	None	1.38	1.300-1.380	pCi/l	0	5	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Gross Alpha (excluding Radon and Uranium)	3/17/08	None	0.88	0.090-0.880	pCi/l	0	15	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

Water Quality Data: City of Rolling Meadows Water Supply (2013)

Contaminants that may be in water include:	*Date of Sample	Violation	Level Found	Range of Detection	Unit of Measure	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Regulated Contaminants Detected								
Total Coliform Bacteria (Improper collection: sample retaken 7/10/2013)	7/8/13	None	1 Positive	n/a	n/a	0	1 Positive Monthly Sample	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform and E. Coli		None	0	n/a	n/a	0	0	Naturally present in the environment.
Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Products								
Chlorine	12/31/13	None	0.9	0.6-1	ppm	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	Water additive to control microbes.
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)	2013	None	40	15.02-46.6	ppb	No Goal	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acid)	2013	None	15	9.53-19.08	ppb	No Goal	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Inorganic Contaminants								
Arsenic	2013	None	1.01	1.01-1.01	ppm	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronic production waste.
Barium	2013	None	0.0433	0.0433-0.0433	ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from drilling wastes and metal refineries.
Fluoride	2013	None	0.984	0.984-0.984	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive for strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Iron	2013	None	2.45	2.45-2.45	ppm	n/a	1	Erosion of natural deposits. <i>This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates.</i>
Manganese	2013	None	18	18-18	ppb	150	150	Erosion of natural deposits. <i>This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates.</i>
Nitrate (Measured as Nitrogen)	2013	None	0.027	0-0.027	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrite (Measured as Nitrogen)	2013	None	0.027	0-0.027	ppm	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	2013	None	21.9	21.9-21.9	ppm	n/a	n/a	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used in water softening regeneration.
Zinc	2013	None	0.00721	0.00721-0.00721	ppm	5	5	Naturally-occurring; Discharge from metal refineries. <i>This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates..</i>
Radioactive Contaminants								
Combined Radium (226/228)	2013	None	20	7-20	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Alpha (excluding Radon and Uranium)	2013	None	33.8	14.3-33.8	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits.

EPA Hotline Offers Water Quality Information

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, potential health effects, and ways to lessen the risk of infection are available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

EPA Limits Contaminant Levels

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).

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. To minimize potential exposure to lead, run 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.

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.

2013 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.

Page 2 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.

Page 2 Table Definitions

MCLG (maximum contaminant level goal) – 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.

MCL (maximum contaminant level) – 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.

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

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

n/a – Not applicable

nd – Not detectable at testing limits

TT (treatment technique) – 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

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 or equal to 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.



Illinois EPA's 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. If you would like a copy of this information, please 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 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 where shoreline impacts are not usually considered a factor on water qual-

ity. 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.



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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.

ECRWSS
POSTAL PATRON



'WaterSense' Program Promotes Conservation, Saves Residents Money

The Environmental Protection Agency's WaterSense partnership program is designed to protect the future of our nation's water supply by helping consumers make smart water choices that **save money and conserve limited natural resources**.

According to EPA data, Americans could save more than \$50 million in energy costs and conserve 6 billion gallons of water per year if just 10% of homes in the United States installed bathroom faucets or faucet accessories featuring the WaterSense label.

Products and services carrying the WaterSense label are certified to be at least 20% more efficient – without sacrificing performance. The program brings together a variety of stakeholders to:

-  Provide consumers with easy ways to save water, as both a label for products and an information resource.
-  Encourage innovation in manufacturing.
-  Promote the value of water efficiency and decrease water use.

Visit www.epa.gov/watersense to learn more.

Sprinkling Ban: May 15 – September 15, Noon to 6 p.m. DAILY