2025 Water Quality Report

Spanish (Espanol)

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Is my water safe?

Mandated by the federal and state branches of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), routine testing has confirmed that Alsip's water meets or exceeds all water quality standards set by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). We are pleased to present the annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2025 as required by the SDWA. This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with this information, as informed customers are our best allies.

Where does my water come from and how is it treated?

The Village of Alsip purchases Lake Michigan surface water from the City of Chicago. Your water is treated in a sequence that includes coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. Coagulation removes dirt and other particles suspended in the source water by adding chemicals (coagulants) to form tiny sticky particles called "floc," which attract the dirt particles. Flocculation (the formation of larger flocs from smaller flocs) is achieved using gentle, constant mixing. The heavy particles settle naturally out of the water in a sedimentation basin. The clear water then moves to the filtration process where the water passes through sand, gravel, charcoal or other filters that remove even smaller particles. A small amount of chlorine or other disinfection method is used to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water before water is stored and distributed to homes and businesses in the community. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century.

Source water assessment and susceptibility to contamination

The Illinois EPA implemented a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) to assist with watershed protection of public drinking water supplies. The SWAP inventories potential sources of contamination and determines the susceptibility of the source water to contamination. The Illinois EPA has completed the SWAP for our supply. Further information on our community water supply's SWAP is available by calling the Village of Alsip Water Department at 708-385-6902. 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, you may access the Illinois EPA SWAP factsheet website at http://dataservices.epa.illinois.gov/swap/factsheet.aspx.

The Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of community water supply to be susceptible to potential pollution problems. The very nature of surface water allows contaminants to migrate into the intake with no protection only dilution, for which the Illinois EPA has set mandatory treatment of all surface water supplies. Chicago's offshore intakes are located at a distance that 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 waterfowl, gulls and terns that frequent the Great Lakes area, thereby concentrating fecal deposits at the intake and thus compromising 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.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;
Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;
Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses;
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 storm water runoff, and septic systems;
Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the quantity 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 protection for public health.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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/Centers for Disease Control (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).

Additional Information for Lead

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 Village of Alsip is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap., taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested, contact the Village of Alsip. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5-minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They are inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants and lawn only when necessary.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information on conserving water with Water Sense certified plumbing fixtures.

Cross Connection Control Survey

Please visit the village website to complete a short survey about equipment connected to your plumbing system. Go to: https://villageofalsip.org/wp/cross-connection-control/ and click on Take The Survey. The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and ensuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below, please contact the Water Department so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property
- Decorative pond
- Fire sprinkler system

Water Quality Data Tables

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the quantity of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The tables below list all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report unless noted otherwise. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. Although many more contaminants were tested for, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. In these tables you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions.

For more information please contact:

Contact: Tom Kopanski
Village of Alsip Water Commissioner
Address: 4500 West 123rd St.
Alsip, IL 60803
Phone: 708-385-6902

LAWN WATERING RESTRICTIONS

In an effort to conserve water for fire protection, health and environmental reasons, water conservation measures are in effect from May 15th through September 15th each year.

WATER ONLY ON THESE DAYS, BETWEEN 6PM - 10AM

ODD NUMBERED ADDRESSES	→ ODD NUMBERED DAYS	EVEN NUMBERED ADDRESSES	→ EVEN NUMBERED DAYS

IMPORTANT DRINKING WATER DEFINITIONS	
Term	**Definition**
MCLG	**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal**: 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.
MRDLG	**Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal**: 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.
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.
TT	**Treatment Technique**: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
MRDL	**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level**: 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.
Highest Level Detected	This column represents the highest single sample reading of a contaminant for all samples collected.
Range	This column represents the range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest, for all samples collected.
Date of Sample	If a date appears in this column, the Illinois EPA requires monitoring for this contaminant less than once per year because the concentrations do not frequently change. If no date appears in the column, monitoring for this contaminant was conducted during the Consumer Confidence Report calendar year.
Violation	This column indicates if a violation of an MCL, TT or AL exceedance was recorded during the CCR calendar year.
AL	**Action Level**: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
90th Percentile	The value for which 90% of the samples tested are less than or equal to and 10% are higher. This value is used to determine if the Action Level for Lead and Copper has been exceeded.
LRAA	**Locational Running Annual Average**: The average of 4 consecutive quarterly results at each monitored sample location.

Data Tabulated by the Village of Alsip Water Department

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS								
Contaminants	**MCLG or MRDLG**	**MCL or MRDL**	**Highest Level Detected**	**Range**		**Sample Date**	**Violation**	**Typical Source**
				Low	**High**			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products **(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)**								
Chlorine (as CL2) (ppm)	4	4	1.1	1	1.2	2025	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	19.0	10.0	23.0	2025	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	46.0	13.7	59.0	2025	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	1	2	NA	NA	2025	No	Naturally present in the environment

LEAD AND COPPER							
Contaminants	**MCLG**	**AL**	**90th Percentile**	**Sample Date**	**# Samples Exceeding AL**	**Exceeds AL**	**Typical Source**
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.073	8/2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.21	8/2023	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Data Tabulated by Chicago Department of Water Management

TURBIDITY							
	Treatment Technique (Limit)	Level Detected	Range		Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
			Low	High			
Turbidity - Highest single measurement	1	0.29	NA	NA	NTU	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity - Lowest monthly % meeting limit	0.3	100%	NA	NA	NTU	No	Soil runoff

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range		Units	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Barium	2	2	0.0191	0.0182	0.0191	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	10	10	0.36	0.32	0.36	ppm	No	Run off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Total Nitrate & Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen]	10	10	0.36	0.32	0.36	ppm	No	Run off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
STATE REGULATED CONTAMINANTS								
Fluoride*	4	4	0.75	0.65	0.75	ppm	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth.

*Fluoride is added to the water supply to help promote strong teeth. The Illinois Department of Public Health recommends an optimal fluoride level of 0.7 mg/L with a range of 0.6 mg/L to 0.8 mg/L.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS								
Sodium**	NA	NA	9.10	8.67	9.10	ppm		Erosion from naturally occurring deposits. Used in water softener.
Sulfate	NA	NA	27.2	26.8	27.2	ppm		Erosion from naturally occurring deposits.

**There is no State or Federal MCL for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials who have concerns about sodium intake due to dietary precautions. If you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician about the level of sodium in the water.

TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON (TOC)	
TOC	The percentage of TOC removal was measured each month and the system met all removal requirements

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS								
Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range		Units	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High				
Combined Radium 226/228	0	5	0.95	0.83	0.95	pCi/L	2/4/2020	No	Decay of natural and man-made products
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	0	15	3.1	2.8	3.1	pCi/L	2/4/2020	No	Decay of natural and man-made products.

ABBREVIATIONS	
Term	Definition
NA	Not applicable
ND	Not detectable at testing limits
NR	Monitoring not required, but recommended.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit: used to measure the cloudiness in drinking water
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
positive samples/month	Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive

Level 1 Assessment:

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that potential pathways exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessments to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments. During the past year we were required to conduct one Level 1 assessment. One Level 1 assessment was completed. In addition, we were required to take Zero corrective actions and we completed Zero of these actions.

Service Line Material inventory

The Village of Alsip inventoried our service line materials and do not have any lead or galvanized service lines. For a complete service line material inventory go to www.villageofalsip.org/wp/water-department and click on Water Service Line Material Inventory.

Raw Water Well Data

We do not have any raw water well data available at this time; however, any other available data can be provided upon request.

Lead Tap Sampling Results

The Lead Tap Sampling Results are available www.villageofalsip.org/wp/water-department and click on Lead Tap Sampling Results 2023.

Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5)

In accordance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 (UCMR 5), we are required to monitor for certain unregulated contaminants in our drinking water. These are substances that do not yet have EPA-established drinking water standards but are being studied to determine their potential health effects and occurrence in public water systems. The monitoring conducted under UCMR 5 helps the EPA make informed decisions about future regulations. Our testing includes monitoring for 30 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) and lithium for two quarters in 2025. The complete list of UCMR5 contaminants can be found here: https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fifth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule.

City of Chicago Voluntary Monitoring

The City of Chicago Department of Watershed Management(CDWM) has continued monitoring for Cryptosporidium, Giardia and E. coli in its source water as part of its water quality program. No Cryptosporidium or Giardia was detected in source water samples collected in 2025. Treatment processes have been optimized to provide effective barriers for the removal of Cryptosporidium oocysts and Giardia cysts in the source water, effectively removing these organisms in the treatment process. By maintaining low turbidity through the removal of particles from the water, the possibility of Cryptosporidium and Giardia organisms getting into the drinking water system is greatly reduced.

In 2025, CDWM has also continued monitoring for hexavalent chromium, also known as chromium-6. USEPA has not yet established a standard for chromium-6, a contaminant of concern which has both natural and industrial sources. Please address any questions or concerns to DWM's Water Quality Division at 312-744-8190. Data reports on the monitoring program for chromium-6 are posted on the City's website which can be accessed at the following address:
https://www.chicago.org/city/en/depts/water/supp_info/water_quality_resultsandreports/city_of_chicago_emergincontaminantstudy.html

VIOLATION SUMMARY TABLE

- The village of Alsip is pleased to report zero violations for 2025