



Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Eastern Heights Utilities, Inc.
Bloomfield, Indiana

Eastern Heights Utilities, Inc. is pleased to present this year's Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to keep you informed about the quality of your drinking water over the past year. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT AND WELLHEAD PROTECTION

A Source Water Assessment has been completed for our community. The source of our drinking water is groundwater produced from nine production wells, in three well fields, located within the community. The wells are completed in a sand and gravel aquifer. A Source Water Assessment has indicated that the drinking water system is *highly susceptible to contamination*.

To help protect our water supply wells, Eastern Heights Utilities has implemented a Wellhead Protection Plan that focuses on public awareness, education, spill prevention, and reporting. Information on what you can do to help protect our drinking water supply is included in this report.

If you have questions concerning your water utility or this report, please contact Mr. Chris Wilson at (812) 384-8261. If you would like additional information, you are welcome to attend our regularly scheduled Utility Board Meetings, held at the Utility Office (316 N. Washington Street, Bloomfield, IN). Meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 PM. We encourage you to participate and give us your feedback.

SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS

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. Eastern Heights Utilities 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 water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Ground Water and Drinking Water website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the EPA's Ground Water and Drinking Water website.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Eastern Heights Utilities has completed monitoring for unregulated substances as a part of a study to help the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) determine their occurrence in drinking water and whether or not these substances need to be regulated. Unregulated substances are those that do not yet have a drinking water standard set by the EPA. A complete copy of the monitoring results is available at the Utility Office (316 N. Washington Street, Bloomfield, IN). Please contact Mr. Chris Wilson at (812) 384-8261 if you would like to view the results. If you would like additional information on the EPA's Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule, please visit EPA's Ground Water and Drinking Water website.

Our system collected samples under the U.S. EPA Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR) for 29 PFAS compounds and Lithium. This monitoring is being conducted so the EPA can receive occurrence data for these compounds to determine what additional compounds may need to be regulated in drinking water. We collected samples in June 2023 and did not detect any of the compounds. If you would like to view our results, contact our office at (812) 384-8261.

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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by visiting the Environmental Protection Agency's Ground Water and Drinking Water website at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/forms/contact-us-about-ground-water-and-drinking-water>.

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 from human activity.

HOUSEHOLD TIPS FOR PROTECTING OUR DRINKING WATER SUPPLY AND WATERSHED

- Participate in watershed clean-up activities.
- Limit your use of chemicals, fertilizers, pesticides, and other hazardous products. Buy only what you need, reducing the amount to be later discarded. Follow label directions.
- Check your car, boat, motorcycle and other machinery for leaks and spills. Collect leaks with a drip pan until repairs can be made. Clean up spills by absorbing the spill. Do not rinse with water or allow it to soak into the ground.
- Recycle used oil, automotive fluids, batteries, and other chemical products. Do not dispose of these hazardous products in toilets, storm drains, wastewater systems, creeks, alleys, or the ground. These actions pollute the water supply.
- Utilize the Greene County Solid Waste Management District's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Center located in Switz City. The Center is located at 4316 West Base Line Road. Call 812-659-3788 to schedule an appointment.

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DEFINITIONS

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

Below the Detection Limit (BDL) - Substance not detected in the sample.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The "Maximum Allowed" is 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. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated substances, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The "Goal" is 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The "Maximum Allowed" is the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The "Goal" is the level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

Not Applicable (N/A) – No MCLG and/or MCL has been established for these substances.

Parts Per Billion (PPB) - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts Per Million (PPM) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Picocuries Per Liter (pCi/L) - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

TABLE NOTES

- (1) Levels detected for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile value as calculated from a total of 30 samples.
- (2) Maximum level detected for chlorine represents the highest Running Annual Average of monthly samples.
- (3) Maximum levels detected for HAA5s and TTHMs represent the highest Locational Running Annual Average based on two sample locations.
- (4) Maximum level detected for Total Coliform Bacteria represents the number of positive monthly samples. This detection was an isolated incident. Further testing showed no detections.
- (5) Unregulated substances are those that do not yet have a drinking water standard set by the EPA. MCLs and MCLGs have not been established for all unregulated substances.

AVERAGE WATER QUALITY DATA FOR 2023

Eastern Heights Utilities routinely monitors for substances in your drinking water according to all Federal and State laws. The following table provides the results from our most recent monitoring. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of our data, while representative, could be more than one year old.

Name of Substance	Date Sampled	Violation Yes/No	Maximum Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Substance in Drinking Water
<u>Inorganic Substances</u>								
Barium	02/13/2023	No	0.045	0.037 to 0.045	PPM	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	2023	No	0.195 ⁽¹⁾	0.011 to 0.921	PPM	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (adjusted)	02/13/2023	No	0.779	0.17 to 0.779	PPM	4	4	Water additive that promotes strong teeth.
Lead	2023	No	2.14 ⁽¹⁾	BDL to 13.1	PPB	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	2023	No	4.68	2.33 to 4.68	PPM	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	02/13/2023	No	20.8	6.86 to 20.8	PPM	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits.
<u>Disinfection Substances</u>								
Chlorine Residual	2023	No	1 ⁽²⁾	0.3 to 1.5	PPM	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	Water additive used to control microbes.
HAA5s (Haloacetic acids)	10/16/2023	No	14 ⁽³⁾	2.23 to 14.3	PPB	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total TTHMs (Trihalomethanes)	10/16/2023	No	5 ⁽³⁾	3.46 to 5.13	PPB	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
<u>Microbiological Constituents</u>								
Total Coliform Bacteria	2023	No	1 ⁽⁴⁾	—	—	0	1 positive sample	Naturally present in the environment
<u>Unregulated Substances</u>								
Bromide	2019	No	31.7	27.9 to 31.7	PPB	N/A ⁽⁵⁾	N/A ⁽⁵⁾	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Manganese	2019	No	18.9	7.14 to 18.9	PPB	N/A ⁽⁵⁾	N/A ⁽⁵⁾	Naturally-occurring element.
<u>Radioactive Substances</u>								
Gross Alpha	01/27/2020	No	2.8	1.5 to 2.8	pCi/L	N/A	15	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 228	01/27/2020	No	2.3	0.83 to 2.3	pCi/L	N/A	5	Erosion of natural deposits.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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, storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemicals, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive materials, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.