

LA GRANGE HIGHLANDS
SANITARY DISTRICT



2026
Consumer
Confidence
Report



Is My Water Safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)) for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2025, as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about the source of your water, its composition, and how it compares to standards established by regulatory agencies. This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. This report is a snapshot of last year's 2025 water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

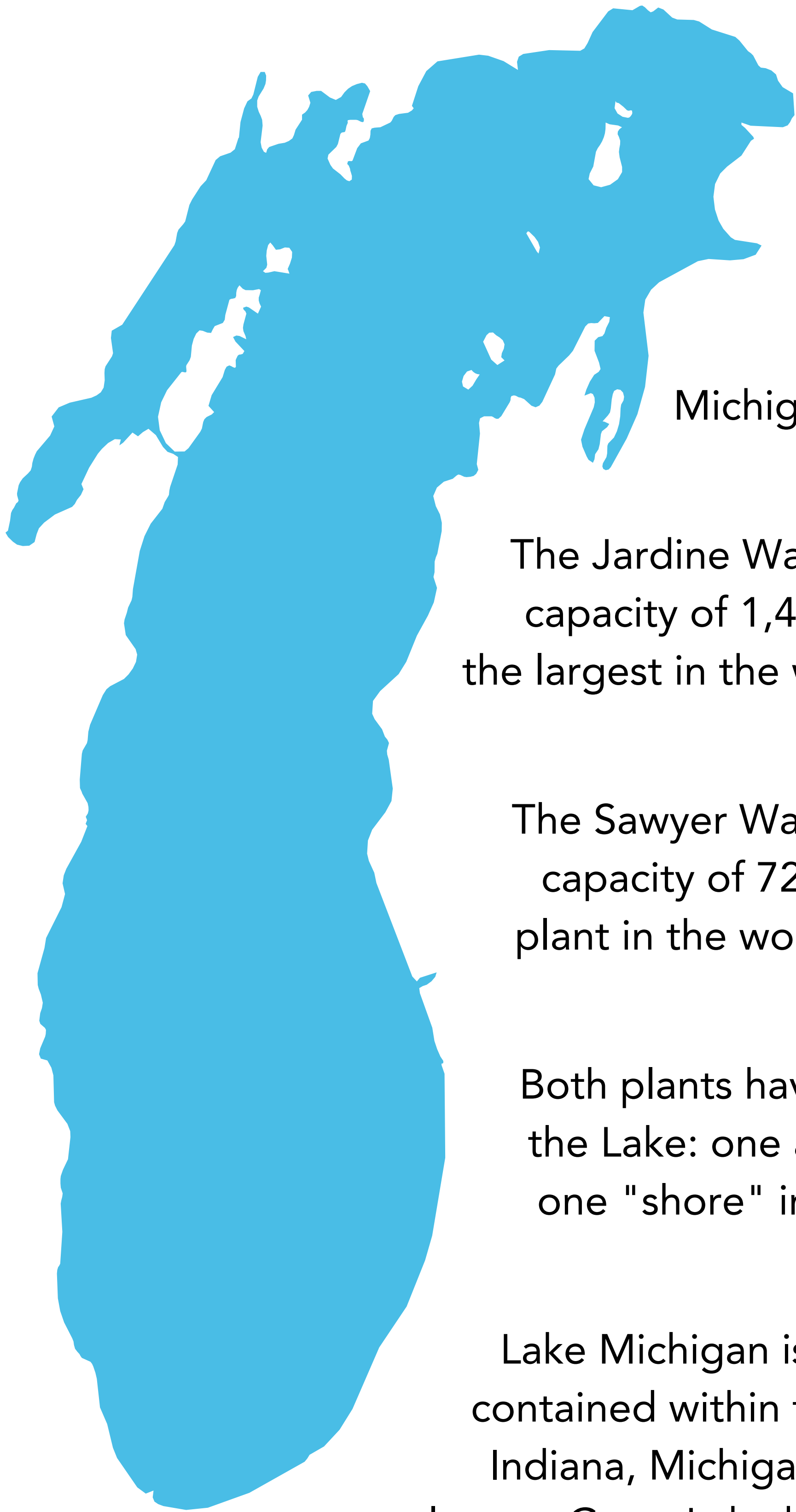
Do I Need to Take Special Precautions?

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 healthcare providers. Environmental Protection Agency (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 Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

How Can I Get Involved?

LHSD Board Meetings are held in the conference room at 5900 Willow Springs Road on the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 5 pm. The dates are as follows for the second half of CY2026: July 21st, August 18th, September 15th, October 20th, November 17th, & December 15th.

WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?



The source of drinking water used by La Grange Highlands Sanitary District (LHSD) is 100% purchased surface water from the City of Chicago.

The City of Chicago utilizes Lake Michigan as its source water via two water treatment plants.

The Jardine Water Purification Plant (JWPP), with a capacity of 1,458 million gallons per day (MGD), is the largest in the world and serves the northern areas of the city and suburbs.

The Sawyer Water Purification Plant (SWPP), with a capacity of 720 MGD, is the second largest water plant in the world and serves the southern areas of the city and suburbs.

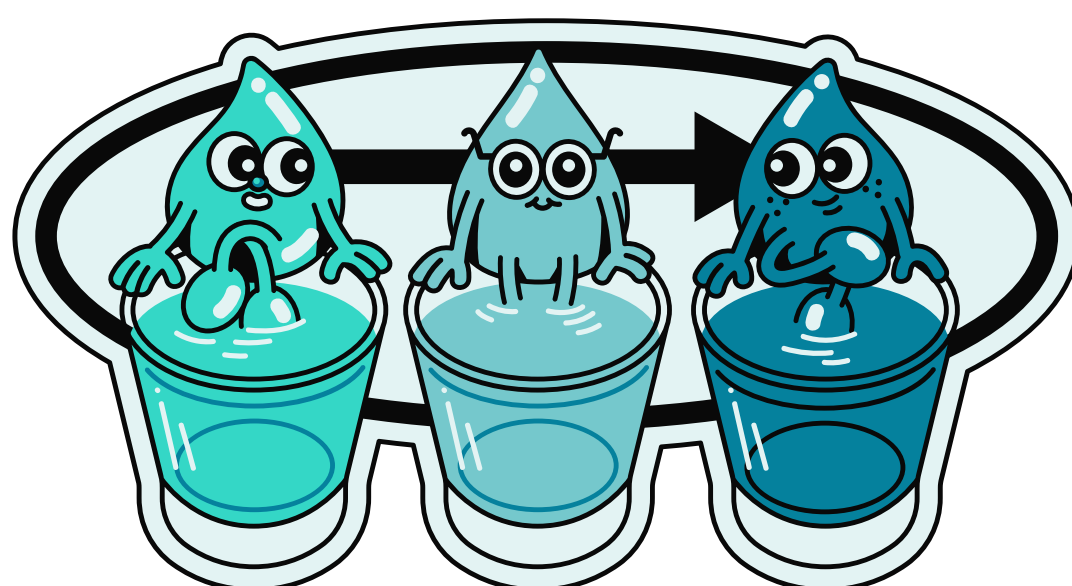
Both plants have two intakes that draw water from the Lake: one approximately 2 miles offshore, and one "shore" intake located within the property of the water treatment plants.

Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake that is entirely contained within the United States. It borders Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin, and is the second largest Great Lake by volume, with 1,180 cubic miles of water, and the third largest by area.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT & ITS AVAILABILITY

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. The Illinois EPA (IEPA) 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 source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the IEPA. To view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessments, including: Importance of Source Water; Susceptibility to Contamination Determination; and documentation/recommendation of Source Water Protection Efforts, you may access the IEPA website at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl>. You can find both the City of Chicago and LHSD Source Water Assessment Summary here.

The IEPA considers all surface water sources of the 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. 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 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 stormwater 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 EPA's 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and 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, the EPA 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 that must provide the same protection for public health.



RESULTS OF 2025 VOLUNTARY MONITORING

The City of Chicago has continued monitoring 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. For more information on Chicago's voluntary monitoring procedures, please contact Patrick Schwer at 312-744-8190, Chicago Department of Water Management, 1000 East Ohio Street, Chicago, IL 60611.

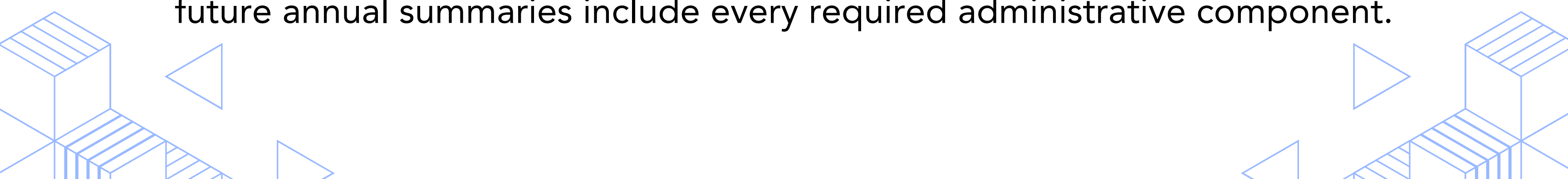


2025 CCR REPORTING UPDATE

The Consumer Confidence Rule requires community water systems to prepare and distribute an annual report to their customers detailing water quality parameters.

LHSD received an administrative reporting violation (violation type: CCR adequacy/availability/content) regarding the omission of specific data formatting elements in last year's 2025 report. This was strictly an administrative reporting omission regarding text and table placement; the water itself met all safety criteria, and there were no water quality or public health standard violations.

The administrative reporting period and violation began on July 1, 2025, and is fully resolved with the publication of this report. The formatting elements and historical details from the August 2023 testing cycle that were omitted from last year's summary, specifically the lead and copper data ranges, the copper detect table, and the mandatory data availability notice, have been fully included in this current report. You can review this complete information in detail under the "Additional Information for Lead" section of this report below. The District has fully integrated these elements into our compliance reporting workflows to ensure all future annual summaries include every required administrative component.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR LEAD

The system inventory does not include lead service lines. As part of the District's 2024 Meter Replacement Program, all service meters in the system were replaced. During this process, no lead service lines, galvanized lines requiring replacement, or service lines of unknown material were identified. This comprehensive program confirmed that the system contains no lead service lines. The following link can be used to access service line inventory information - <https://lagrhighsd.org/wp2018/service-line-material-inventory/>.

The Lead and Copper Rule requires water suppliers to deliver water that is minimally corrosive, thereby reducing the likelihood that lead and copper will be introduced into the drinking water from the corrosion of customer lead and copper plumbing materials. In addition, the Rule requires water suppliers to educate their customers about specific measures that can be used to reduce lead levels in home drinking water caused by lead in household plumbing materials, the primary source of lead in drinking water. Every community water supply must collect samples for lead and copper from IEPA-approved locations throughout the distribution system. The total number of required samples is dependent on the population served and past monitoring results; LHSD is required to collect 20 samples. Initial monitoring is conducted in six-month periods, which can be reduced to every three years with continued compliance.

Because LHSD completed two initial rounds of six-month sampling followed by two consecutive years of annual monitoring with 90th percentile results safely below the action level, LHSD qualified for a reduced, triennial monitoring frequency. Consequently, the District is only required to test for lead and copper once every three years. The last round of testing was completed in August 2023. During this monitoring period, individual sample results ranged from <1 to 1.3 ppb for lead, and 0.003 to 0.27 ppm for copper. As detailed in the table below, our 90th percentile values remain safely below compliance thresholds, with zero sampling sites exceeding the action level. Complete lead tap sampling data is available for review upon request and can also be found on the IEPA's Drinking Water Watch website.

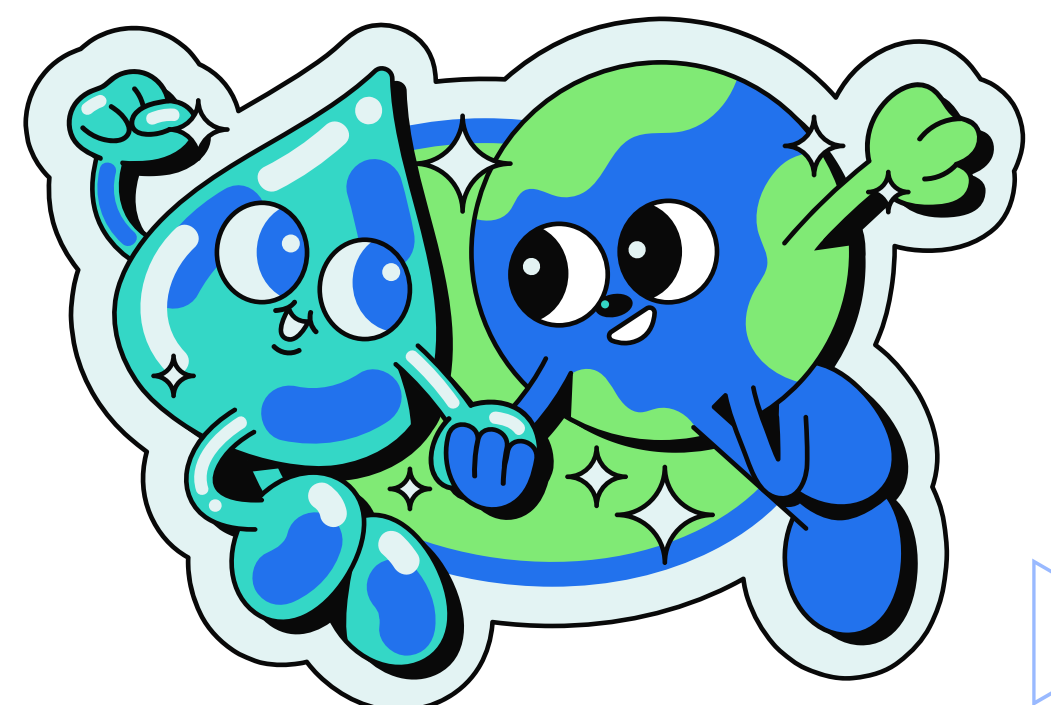
Regulated Contaminants Detected	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile	No. of Sites Over AL	Sample Date	Violation	Typical/Likely Source of Contamination
Lead & Copper (Source: IEPA Drinking Water Watch)							
Lead (ppb)	0	15	0	0	8/31/2023	No	Corrosion of lead service lines, lead pipes, and lead-based solder used to join copper plumbing; Deteriorating lead-based paint; Lead-contaminated dust; Lead-contaminated residential soil
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.088	0	8/31/2023	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR LEAD

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. LHSD 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 running 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. For information on testing options and resources, contact LHSD (Public Water System ID: IL0315860) at 708-246-5657 or info@lagrhighsd.org. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>. For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home and the health effects of lead, visit EPA's Web site at www.epa.gov/lead, the CDC Web site at www.cdc.gov/nceh/lead, call the National Lead Information Center at 800-424-LEAD, or contact your health care provider or local health department.

To view our complete lead tap sampling data on the IEPA Drinking Water Watch website, please follow these steps:

1. Go to the website home page at <https://water.epa.state.il.us/dww/index.jsp>.
2. Enter our water system name (La Grange Highlands Sanitary District) in the Water System Name field, or enter our ID number (IL0315860) in the Water System No. field.
3. Click the "Search For Water Systems" button.
4. Click on our water system number when it appears in the results to open the Water System Detail page.
5. In the left-hand navigation menu, click on "Chem/Rad Samples/Results by Analyte," and choose "Lead" to view the sample results.

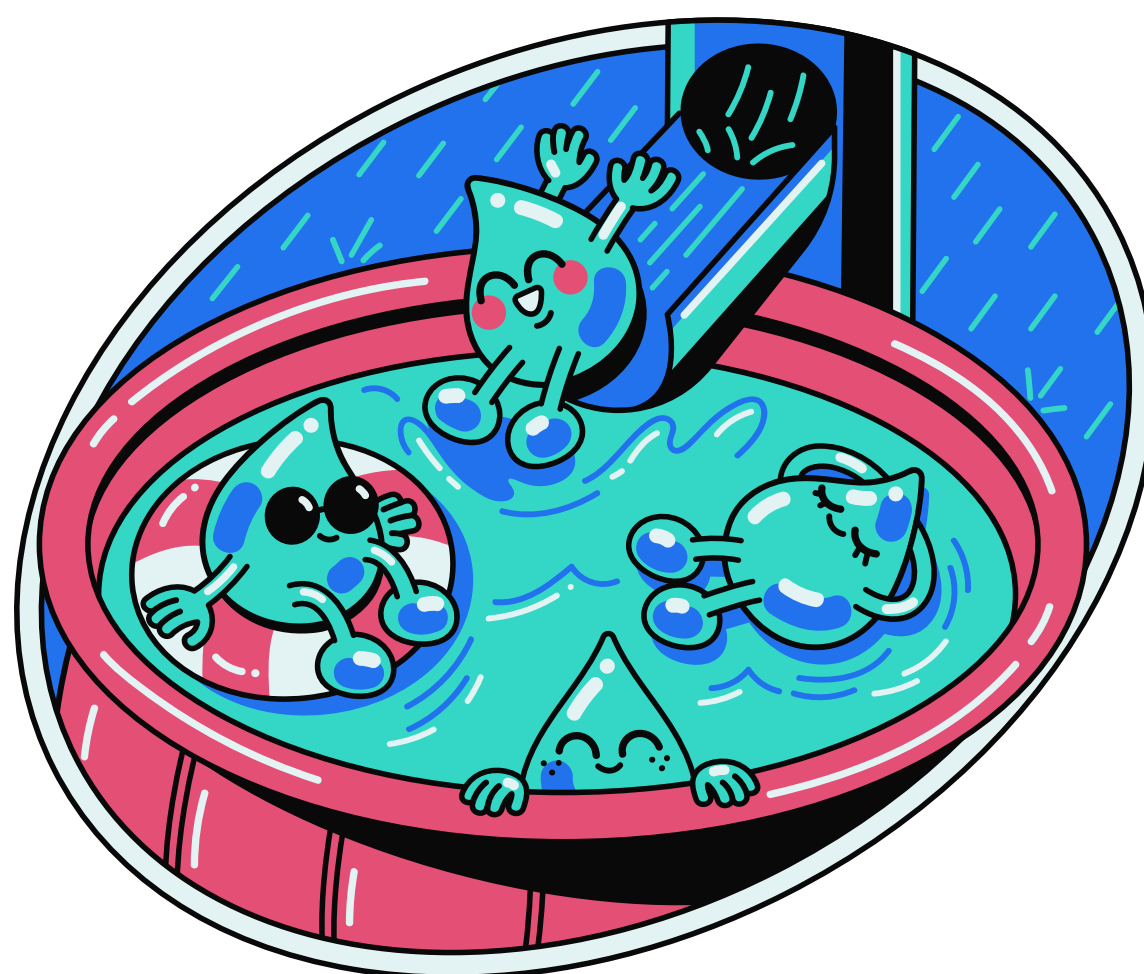




WATER QUALITY DATA TABLES

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, 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 improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table are from testing done in the calendar year of the report. 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. In this table, 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 below the table.



Detected Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Highest Level Detected	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical/Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products (Source: IEPA Drinking Water Watch)								
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	1.2	1.1	1.2	2025	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	25	17.38	24.8	2025	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	NA	80	41	37.3	40.5	2025	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants (Source: Chicago Department of Water Management)								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	0.54	ND	0.54	2025	No	Natural erosion of rock and mineral deposits, particularly in groundwater. It is also released through human activities such as pesticide application, mining, smelting, and wood preservatives.
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0191	0.0182	0.0191	2025	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm) <i>Fluoride is a state-regulated contaminant. The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) recommends an optimal fluoride level of 0.7 ppm with a range of 0.6 ppm to 0.8 ppm.</i>	4	4	0.75	0.65	0.75	2025	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	10	10	0.36	0.32	0.36	2025	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm) <i>Optional - 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.</i>	NA	NA	9.1	8.67	9.1	2025	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Leaching; Used as water softener
Turbidity (Source: Chicago Department of Water Management)								
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	0.3	0.29	NA	NA	2025	No	Soil runoff
100% of the samples were below the TT value of 0.3. A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation. The highest single measurement was 0.29. Any measurement in excess of 1 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.								
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) (Source: Chicago Department of Water Management)								
The percentage of TOC removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by IEPA.								
Radioactive Contaminants* (Source: Chicago Department of Water Management) <i>*Illinois only requires monitoring for these contaminants every few years because concentrations do not change frequently.</i>								
Gross Alpha emitters (pCi/L) <i>excluding radon and uranium</i>	0	15	3.1	2.8	3.1	2/4/2020	No	Decay and erosion of natural and man-made deposits
Combined Radium (226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.95	0.83	0.95	2/4/2020	No	Decay and erosion of natural and man-made deposits

Unit Descriptions

Term	Definition
NA	Not applicable
ND	Not detected
NR	Monitoring not required, but recommended
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units: Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
pCi/L	picocuries per liter, used to measure radioactivity
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$), or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L), or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

Important Drinking Water Definitions

Term	Definition
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
Date of Sample	If a specific date appears in this column, the IEPA requires monitoring for this contaminant less than once per year because the concentration does not frequently change.
Highest Level Detected	This column represents the highest single sample reading of a contaminant of all the samples collected in 2025.
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.
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.
MNR	Monitored, Not Regulated
MPL	State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.
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.
Range of Detections	This column represents a range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest that were collected during the CCR calendar year.
TOC	Total Organic Carbon
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Unregulated Contaminant	An MCL for this contaminant has not been established by either state or federal regulations, nor has mandatory health effects language. The purpose for monitoring this contaminant is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water, and whether future regulation is warranted.
Variations and Exemptions	State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
90th Percentile	Compliance with the lead and copper action levels is based on the 90th percentile lead and copper levels. This means that the concentration of lead and copper must be less than or equal to the action level in at least 90% of the samples collected.

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR AVAILABILITY OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING DATA



IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

AVAILABILITY OF MONITORING DATA FOR UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS FOR LA GRANGE HIGHLANDS SANITARY DISTRICT

Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that this data is available. All measurements were below the minimum reporting level. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact Jason Shepler at 708-246-5657 or 5900 Willow Springs Road, LaGrange Highlands, IL 60525.

The Chicago Department of Water Management also tested and received results for sulfate, an unregulated contaminant.

Detected Unregulated Contaminant	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Highest Level Detected	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical/Likely Source of Contamination
				Low	High			
Inorganic Contaminant (Source: Chicago Department of Water Management)								
Sulfate (ppm)	NA	NA	27.2	26.8	27.2	2025	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits

This notice is being sent to you by La Grange Highlands Sanitary District. State Water System ID #: IL0315860.

Date Distributed: June 2026.



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.



Use a water-efficient showerhead

They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 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.



Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair, and shaving



Save up to 500 gallons a month!

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.

Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full



You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month!

Water plants only when necessary

Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely

Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.



Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!



SOURCE WATER PROTECTION TIPS

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways.

Volunteer in your community

Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.



Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier

Stencil a message next to the street drain, reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides



They contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.

Pick up after your pets



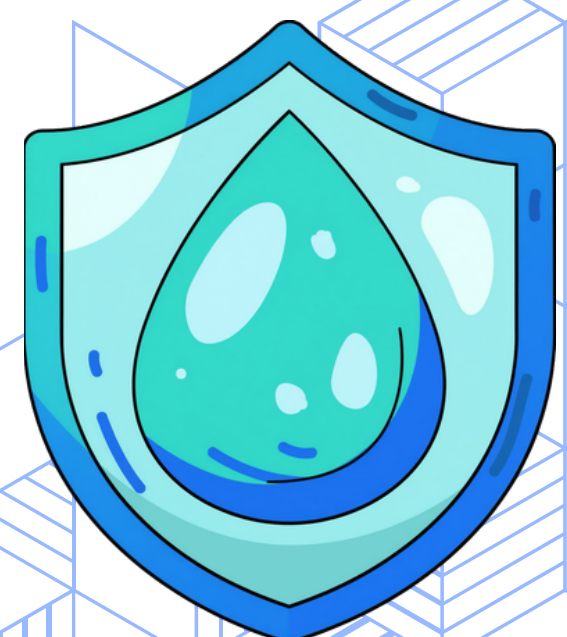
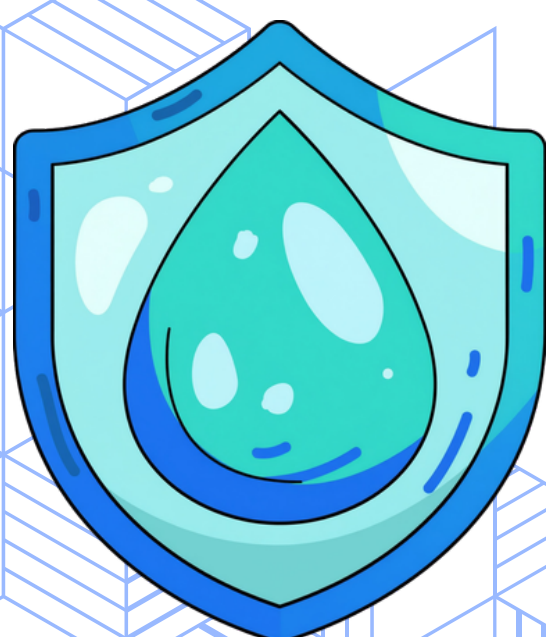
Dispose of chemicals properly

Take used motor oil to a recycling center.

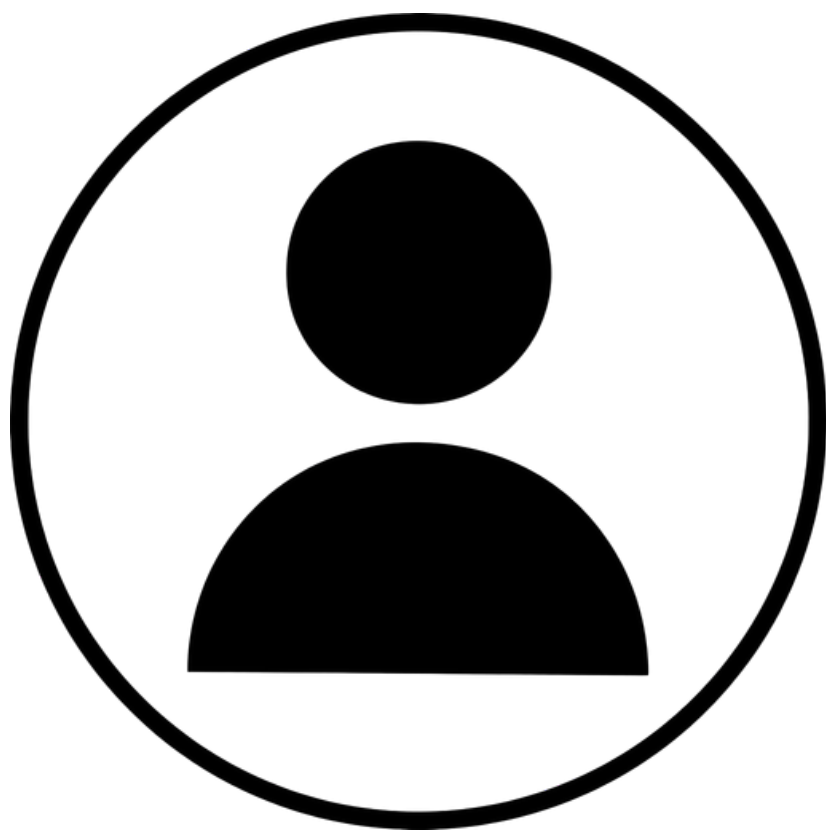


If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources

Or consider connecting to a public water system!



*For more information
regarding this report,
please contact:*



**CONTACT NAME:
JASON SHEPLER**



**ADDRESS:
5900 WILLOW
SPRINGS ROAD
LA GRANGE
HIGHLANDS, IL
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**PHONE:
708-246-5657**