



VILLAGE OF McCOOK

ILLINOIS

2024 Consumer Confidence Report
Public Water Supply Facility ID: IL0311740
Terrance Carr, Mayor
Kevin LasCola, Chief Water Operator, (708) 447-2776

June, 2025

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

Dear McCook Water Customer,

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is being issued by the Village of McCook, in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) and in conjunction with the City of Chicago, for the monitoring period from January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024. The report provides critical information about the quality and source of your drinking water. Throughout 2024, the Village of McCook ensured that the water provided to consumers complied with the monitoring and testing requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Illinois EPA (IEPA) drinking water standards.

How can I get involved?

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more, you are welcome to attend to attend our regularly scheduled Village Board meetings on the first and third Mondays of each month at 6:00 PM (unless otherwise posted) at the Village Hall boardroom, located at 5000 Glencoe Avenue, McCook, IL 60525. These meetings are open to the public.

If you have any questions about this CCR or your water system, please contact **Kevin LasCola, Chief Water Operator at (708) 447-2776**. Additional information pertaining to our community water system, such as Village Water Infrastructure projects can be found at: <https://www.villageofmccook.org/>.

I would like to share this information with my neighbors or loved ones:

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. Copies of this information will be available at the Village Hall.

Lawn Care Recommendations

To conserve water, the Village of McCook advises that you water your lawn deeply and infrequently. The ideal amount of water per week is one inch, as over-watering can deplete soil nutrients and cause disease problems.

In compliance with the water conservation guidelines established by the Illinois EPA, sprinkling restrictions are enforced in the Village of McCook. Specifically, sprinkling is prohibited between the hours of noon to 6:00 PM from May 15 to September 15.

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 ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference. If you would like to learn more, please visit www.epa.gov/watersense.

- Consider replacing faucets and toilets with ones that have a WaterSense label. WaterSense-labeled products are designed to use less water without sacrificing performance.
- Check for toilet leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, color will appear in the bowl within 15 minutes. (Make sure to flush as soon as the test is done, since food coloring can stain the tank.)
- Repair dripping faucets and showerheads. A drip rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year..
- A full bathtub can require up to 70 gallons of water, while a 5-minute shower uses only 10 to 25 gallons. Turning off the tap while brushing your teeth can save up to 8 gallons per day.
- Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes, or lower the water settings for smaller loads.
- Water your lawn or garden during the cool morning hours instead of midday to reduce evaporation. Look for sprinklers that produce droplets, not mist, or use soaker hoses or trickle irrigation for trees and shrubs.
- Set sprinklers to water lawns and gardens only. Make sure you're not watering the street or sidewalk. Try not to overwater your landscaping—learn your plants' water needs and water different types appropriately.

Where does my water come from?

In 2024, the Village of McCook purchased approximately 2.1 billion gallons of water from the City of Chicago, of which 260 million gallons of water were distributed to the Village's water customer base. The Village of McCook receives this water into the Pumping Station and Water Storage Complex situated behind the Village Hall. Subsequently, it is then distributed through an extensive water main grid system, providing water to residential, commercial, and public facilities throughout the village.

The City of Chicago, which supplies water to McCook, draws its drinking water from Lake Michigan, the only Great Lake located entirely within the United States, bordered by Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Water is treated at two major facilities: the Jardine Water Purification Plant, serving northern areas, and the Sawyer Water Purification Plant, serving southern areas. Lake Michigan, the second-largest Great Lake by volume, holds about 1,180 cubic miles of water. Because Chicago relies on this surface water source, water quality is closely monitored through regular assessments conducted by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA).

Source Water Assessment Summary

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. This is the reason for mandatory treatment for all surface water supplies in Illinois. 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.

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 determined the susceptibility of the source water to contamination. The Illinois EPA has completed the Source Water Assessment Program for our supply.

Further information on our community water supply's Source Water Assessment Program is available by calling DWM at (312)742-2406 or by going online at <https://dataservices.epa.illinois.gov/swap/factsheet.aspx>.

Mandatory Water Testing

The Village of McCook and the City of Chicago conduct water sampling as mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Chicago, as the source water provider, tests for a broader range of contaminants, in accordance with EPA specifications.

The Village of McCook tests the water supply for chlorine content daily to maintain the optimum levels for the consumers' needs. On a monthly basis, bacteriological samples are taken. On a yearly basis, samples are submitted for Total Trihalomethane (TTHM) Analysis. Samples are also provided for lead and copper monitoring on a schedule established by the IEPA. All testing and reports are performed according to the requirements of IEPA.

Susceptibility to Contamination

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 **USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)**.

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Common contaminants that might be present in the 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, 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.

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/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).

Definitions

<p>Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.</p> <p>Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.</p> <p>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 CCR calendar year.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): 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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of 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.</p>	<p>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.</p> <p>Range of Detections: This column represents a range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest that were collected during the CCR calendar year.</p> <p>Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.</p> <p>ND: Not detectable at testing limits. N/A: Not applicable</p> <p>Sodium: 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.</p> <p>Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.</p> <p>Unregulated Contaminants: A maximum contaminant level (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 USEPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water, and whether future regulation is warranted.</p>
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Copper Testing

Copper Monitoring Period: 06/01/2024 - 09/30/2024

Copper Range: Not Detected to 143.0 µg/L

The Village of McCook tests its water supply for copper contamination. The 2024 test results shown in the downloadable table, indicates that the Village is in compliance with IEPA copper regulations.

To obtain a copy of the system's lead and copper tap sampling data: <https://www.villageofmccook.org/2024-Lead-and-Copper.pdf> or call Kevin LasCola, Chief Water Operator at (708) 447-2776.

Copper Educational Statement

The Village of McCook tests its water supply for copper contamination. The 2024 test results, shown in the table, indicate that the Village is in compliance with IEPA copper regulations.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. Please with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

Lead Testing & Lead Testing Sites

Lead Monitoring Period: 06/01/2024 - 09/30/2024

Lead Range: Not Detected to Not Detected

The Village of McCook tests its water supply for lead contamination through designated lead testing site locations. The 2024 test results shown in the downloadable table indicate that the Water Commission is in compliance with IEPA lead regulations.

To obtain a copy of the system's lead and copper tap sampling data: <https://www.villageofmccook.org/2024-Lead-and-Copper.pdf> or call Kevin LasCola, Chief Water Operator at (708) 447-2776.

Lead Educational Statement

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 McCook 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 Standard 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 **Kevin LasCola, Chief Water Operator at (708) 447-2776**. 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>.

What are the risks if exposed to lead above the action level?

Infants and Children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Lead Service Line Inventory

Our Community Water Supply has developed a service line material inventory. Our system inventory contains lead service lines.

The Village of McCook, in coordination with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), has completed a comprehensive review of its water service infrastructure to identify any potential lead service lines. Based on detailed inspections and historical construction records, the Village has determined that lead service lines are present in its system. This initiative reflects the Village's commitment to protecting public health, maintaining safe drinking water, and ensuring transparent communication with its residents.

To obtain a copy of the system's service line inventory: <https://villageofmccook.org/2024-LSL-Inventory.pdf> or call, Kevin LasCola, Chief Water Operator at (708) 447-2776.

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UCMR5 Information

The Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) program, administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is crucial for assessing and addressing emerging threats to water quality across the nation. By monitoring contaminants not yet regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the EPA gains valuable insights into potential health risks and informs future regulatory decisions. The EPA uses the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring (UCM) program to collect data for contaminants suspected to be present in drinking water, but that do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Every five years the EPA reviews the list of contaminants, largely based on the Contaminant Candidate List. **The Village of McCook was not selected** to participate in the 2024 UCMR5 program by the EPA. For more information about the UCMR program, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr>.

2024 City of Chicago Voluntary Monitoring

The City of Chicago 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 2024. Treatment processes have been optimized to provide effective barriers for 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 2024, 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 below:

http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/water/supp_info/water_quality_resultsandreports/city_of_chicago_emerigincontaminantstudy.html

For more information, please contact
Patrick Schwer at 312-744-8190
Chicago Department of Water Management
1000 East Ohio Street
Chicago, IL 60611

This notice is being sent to you by:
The City of Chicago
Department of Water Management
Water System ID# IL03166000

Contaminant / Additives		MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Units	Municipality	Violation	Collection Date	Likely Source of Contaminants
Regulated Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products										
Chlorine		MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1.4	1.2 - 1.5	ppm	McCook	N	2024	Water additive used to control microbes.
		MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1	1 - 1	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)		No Goal	60	20	19.5 - 19.5	ppb	McCook	N	2024	By-product of drinking water disinfection
		No Goal	60	17	5 - 20.4	ppb	Chicago	N	2024	
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)		No Goal	80	39	39 - 39	ppb	McCook	N	2024	
		No Goal	80	32	13.1 - 44	ppb	Chicago	N	2024	
State Regulated Contaminants										
Fluoride		4	4	0.76	0.67 - 0.76	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
Inorganic Contaminants										
Barium		2	2	0.0203	0.0198 - 0.0203	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (Measured as Nitrogen)		10	10	0.39	0.36 - 0.39	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Nitrate & Nitrite (as Nitorgen)		10	10	0.39	0.36 - 0.39	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	
Unregulated Contaminants										
Sulfate		N/A	N/A	28.2	25.3 - 28.2	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used as water softener
Sodium		N/A	N/A	9.18	8.87 - 9.18	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Radioactive & Synthetic Organic Contaminants										
Combined Radium 226/228		0	5	0.95	0.83 - 0.95	pCi/L	Chicago	N	2/4/2020	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium		0	15	3.1	2.8 - 3.1	pCi/L	Chicago	N	2/4/2020	
Lead and Copper										
	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	Range	# Sites Over AL	Units	Municipality	Violation	Date	Likely Source of Contaminants
Lead	0	15	0	ND to ND	0	Ppb	McCook	N	9/2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
	0	15	7.1		0	ppb	Chicago	N	2024	
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.143	ND to 0.143	0	ppm	McCook	N	9/2024	
	1.3	1.3	0.049		0	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	
Coliform Bacteria										
		Total Coli-form (MCLG)	Total Coli-form (MCL)	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli (MCL)		Municipality	Violation		Likely Source of Contaminants
Coliform Bacteria		0	5%	0.2	N/A		Chicago	N		Naturally present in the
Water Clarity										
Turbidity			Limit (Treatment Technique)		Highest Level Detected		Range of Detections	Municipality	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminants
NTU/Lowest Monthly % ≤0.3 NTU			95% ≤ 0.3 NTU		Lowest Monthly Percentage: 99.7%		99.7% - 100%	Chicago	N	Soil runoff.
NTU/Highest Single Measurement			TT (Limit 1 NTU)		39%		N/A	Chicago	N	
2024 Village of McCook Violations: NONE										