

CITY OF ST. IGNACE

2023 WATER QUALITY REPORT

IS MY WATER SAFE?

Last year, as in years past, your tap water meets all United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. The City of St. Ignace vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and we are proud to report that our system has never violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

The City of St. Ignace sources our drinking water from Lake Huron. The water is pumped from Lake Huron to the water plant where Chlorine and Alum are added to the water. Chlorine is added to the treatment process to kill harmful bacteria. Alum causes small dirt particles to clump together creating larger clumps of dirt called Floccs that are more easily filtered out of the water. After the water has passed through our filter system, Soda Ash is added to the water for corrosion control. Corrosive water can cause lead and copper to leach out of pipes. Fluoride, a water additive which promotes strong teeth, is also added after the filtration process.

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. The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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 materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

1. Microbial Contaminants such as viruses and bacteria may come from sewer treatment plants, septic systems, farming operations, swimmers, and wildlife.
2. Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharge, oil and gas products, or farming.
3. Pesticides and Herbicides may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential users.
4. Organic Chemical Contaminants including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals are by-products of industrial processes, storm water runoff, and septic systems.
5. Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring, the result of oil and gas production, or mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.
6. 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 St. Ignace Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for one half to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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 and Health effects are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

2023 WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

The tables below list all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, may be more than one year old. 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 change frequently. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk unless otherwise noted.

TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

- 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.
- Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfection is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- Maximum Residual Disinfection 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.
- Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water
- Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Level 1 Assessment: A study of the water supply to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
- Level 2 Assessment: A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

Parts per million (ppm) Parts per billion (ppb) Not detected (ND)
Not applicable (N/A) Pico curies per liter (pCi/L)

Disinfectants and Disinfectant By-Products								
	MRDL/ MCL	MRDLG/ MCLG	YOUR WATER	RANGE Low/High		SAMPLE DATE	VIOLATIONS	TYPICAL SOURCE
T.Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	N/A	49	-	-	2023	NO	By-Product of chlorination
T.Haloacetic Acid (ppb)	60	N/A	10	-	-	2023	NO	By-Product of chlorination
Chlorine (ppm)	4.0	4.0	0.68	0.13	1.22	2023	NO	Water additive

Radiological								
	MRDL/ MCL	MRDLG/ MCLG	YOUR WATER	RANGE Low/High		SAMPLE DATE	VIOLATIONS	TYPICAL SOURCE
Gross alpha	15	0	0.40	-	-	2016	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	5	0	0.64	-	-	2016	NO	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants (ppm)								
	MRDL/ MCL	MRDLG/ MCLG	YOUR WATER	RANGE Low/High		SAMPLE DATE	VIOLATIONS	TYPICAL SOURCE
Fluoride (ppm)	4.0	4.0	0.69	0.05	0.97	2023	NO	Additive
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	9.7	-	-	2023	NO	Naturally Present
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.27	-	-	2023	NO	Human and animal waste

Microbial Contaminants								
		MRDLG/ MCLG	YOUR WATER	RANGE Low/High		SAMPLE DATE	VIOLATIONS	TYPICAL SOURCE
Total Coliform	TT	N/A	0	0	1	2023	NO	Naturally Present
E-coli	TT	0	0	0	0	2023	NO	Human and animal waste

Inorganic Contaminants								
	AL	MCLG	YOUR WATER 90 th Percentile	RANGE Low/High		# of sites Out of 10 Over AL	SAMPLE DATE	VIOLATIONS
Lead (ppb)	15	0	3	0	9	0	2023	NO
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.1	0	2023	NO

The City of St. Ignace updates this report annually and will keep you informed of any problems throughout the year as they happen. The State performed an assessment of our source water to determine the susceptibility or the relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven-tiered scale from “very-low” to “very-high” based on geological sensitivity, well construction, water chemistry, and contamination sources. The susceptibility of our source is highly susceptible. The “Source Water Assessment Report” for the City of St. Ignace was completed in October of 2003 and is on file at the Water Treatment Plant or City Hall. We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. City of St. Ignace council meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of every month at 7:00 pm if you have input and would like to attend. This report will not be sent to you. Copies of this report are available at the Water Treatment Plant, City Hall, and on the city’s website.

For more information contact Russell Winberg (Operator in Charge) at the:
 ST. IGNACE WATER DEPARTMENT
 999 CHURCH ST.
 PHONE (906) 643-9670

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for the City of St. Ignace

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific analytes on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During July 1 to December 31, 2022 and January 1 to June 30, 2023, we did not monitor for water quality parameters (WQPs), and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time. However, this violation **does not** pose a threat to your supply's water.

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time. This is not an emergency. You do not need to boil water or use an alternative source of water at this time. Even though this is not an emergency, as our customers you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation.

The table below lists the analytes we did not properly test for, how often we are supposed to sample for this analyte, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date we will collect follow-up samples.

Analytes	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken between	Date samples were taken by
WQP ¹ Chloride and sulfate	1 samples/ every two weeks	0	August 21 to September 3, 2022	September 15, 2022
WQP ¹ Chloride and sulfate	1 samples/ every two weeks	0	December 25, 2022 to January 7, 2023	January 8, 2023
WQP ¹ Chloride and sulfate	1 samples/ every two weeks	0	January 22, 2023 to February 4, 2023	February 9, 2023

What happened? What is being done? We failed to take and analyze samples for all of the required parameters within the required sampling periods. Monitoring of Water Quality Parameters (WQPs) is an essential part of a corrosion control treatment program and is used to evaluate the potential aggressiveness of water on plumbing and fixtures. Sampling of WQPs is required to safeguard public health. We will continue to work with the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy to resolve this issue as quickly as possible.

For more information, please contact: Bill Fraser, Manager, 396 N. State Street, St. Ignace, Michigan 49781 email: bfraser@cityofstignace.com Phone: (906) 643-9671

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.

This notice is being sent to you by: the City of St. Ignace