

CITY OF ST.IGNACE

2021 WATER QUALITY REPORT

IS MY WATER SAFE?

Last year, as in years past, your tap water meets all USEPA 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 supplies water from Lake Huron. The water is pumped to the water plant. A chemical called alum is added to the water to help clump together particles that make the supply water cloudy or turbid. The water then passes through filters to remove these clumps. Fluoride is added to the water daily to prevent tooth decay and cavities. Soda Ash is added to control corrosion. Corrosive water can cause lead and copper to leach out of pipes. Chlorine is added to the treatment process to kill harmful bacteria.

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, which may come from sewer treatment plants, septic systems, farming operations, swimmers and wildlife.
2. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which 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, which 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, which are by-products of industrial processes and storm water runoff, and septic systems.
5. 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 which 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 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. St. Ignace Water Department 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 ½ to 2 min. 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 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)

2021 WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

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

TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED.

-MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

-MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.

-MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level. 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.

-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.

-Treatment Technique TT: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

-AL: Action Level: 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

ppm – parts per million

ND – not detected

NTU – Nephelometric turbidity unit

ppb – parts per billion

NA – not applicable

pCi/l – pico curies per/ liter

	MRDL or MCL	MRDLG or MCLG	Your Water	RANGE low high	Sample Date	Violations	Typical Source
• Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products							
Total Trihalomethanes	NA	80	34	34 34	2021	no	By-product of chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acid	NA	60	13	13 13	2021	no	By-product of chlorination
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	0.62	0.05 1.22	2021	no	Water additive
• Radiological (pCi/l)							
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 Contaminates (ppm)							
Fluoride	4	4	0.73	0.71 0.77	2021	no	add to promote strong teeth
Sodium	NA	NA	9.2	9.2 9.2	2021	no	naturally present / erosion
Nitrate	1.0	0.5	0.27	0.27 0.27	2021	no	human and animal waste
• Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Coliform	TT	N/A	0		2021	no	naturally present
E. coli in the distribution system	0	0	0		2021	no	human and animal fecal waste
• Inorganic Contaminants							
			90% Percentile	Range of Results	# of sites, out of 10, over AL	Year sampled	violation
Lead & Copper Monitoring	AL	MCLG					
Lead (ppb)	15	0	1.5	0 - 9.1	0	2020	no
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.1	.017 - .083	0	2020	no

Typical Source of Contamination.

- Lead – Lead service lines. Corrosion of household plumbing including fittings and fixtures. Erosion of natural deposits.
- Copper – Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits.

The City of St. Ignace will update 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 7pm 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 or at City Hall.

The City of St. Ignace has conducted an inventory analysis on all service lines within its distribution system. According distribution records and visual inspections no lead services have been found. There is one service that does contain galvanized pipe but it is unlikely to contain a lead gooseneck as all others on this water main have copper services.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION – CONTACT – Russell Winberg (Operator in Charge)
ST.IGNACE WATER DEPARTMENT
999 CHURCH ST.
PHONE (906) 643-9670**

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

City of St. Ignace Did Not Meet Total Organic Carbon Monitoring Requirements

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor your water for natural organic material, referred to as total organic carbon or TOC. This tells us whether we are effectively removing TOC, which can combine with disinfectants to form disinfection byproducts.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do unless you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, or are elderly. These people may be at increased risk and should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

You do not need to boil your water or take other actions. If a situation arises where the water is no longer safe to drink, you will be notified within 24 hours.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been an emergency, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

TOC has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. These byproducts include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking water containing these byproducts in excess of the maximum contaminant level (MCL) may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increased risk of getting cancer.

What happened? What was done?

We inadvertently collected a TOC sample during the 4th quarter monitoring period from the wrong sampling point. To return to compliance we will collect a sample before March 31, 2022.

For more information, please contact [Russell Winberg 906-643-9670](mailto:Russell.Winberg@stignace.org)

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.