



Village of South Chicago Heights
Mayor Terry L. Matthews

Annual Consumer Confidence Report

2024



Water Quality Report

Year of 2024

Once again, the South Chicago Heights Water Department is extremely pleased to report to our customers that your drinking water met all United States EPA and State of Illinois drinking water health standards. The South Chicago Heights Water Department vigilantly safeguards your drinking water supply and, again, we are pleased to report to you that we experienced no violations of contaminant levels or any other water quality standards during the year of 2024. This report not only summarizes the quality of water we provided to your home or business during the year 2024, but also includes details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by other regulatory agencies. At the South Chicago Heights Water Department, we are committed to providing you this information because an informed customer is our best customer.

Should you have any questions about this year's report, a previous year's report, would like to see additional information contained in future reports, or have any other questions concerning your drinking water, please contact Mark A. Martin or Bill Joyce by calling the [Village of South Chicago Heights Water Department at \(708\) 755-1880](tel:708-755-1880). It is our goal to keep you, our customer, informed about the quality of the drinking water we provide to you and your family day in and day out. We hope you enjoy reading this year's report.

Although South Chicago Heights purchases its Lake Michigan water from our neighbor to the north, Chicago Heights, the water originates in Hammond, Indiana. At the Hammond Indiana Water Filtration Plant the raw (untreated) surface water is removed from the lake, chemically treated, filtered, tested, and then pumped to the City of Chicago Heights, then to the Village of South Chicago Heights. During the year of 2024, the South Chicago Heights Lake Michigan Water Plant pumped approximately **148.346** million gallons of drinking water to its customers. This amount of drinking water represents an increase of **14.005** million gallons versus the amount of drinking water consumed by our customers during the year of 2023.

Some people who either live or work in South Chicago Heights 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, persons 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. The United States EPA/Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the [United States EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at: 1-800-426-4791](tel:1-800-426-4791).

In addition to the above, 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 the potential health risks can be obtained by again calling the [United States EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at: 1-800-426-4791](tel: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 can dissolve naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

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

Possible Contaminants to Water:

Lead

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. South Chicago Heights 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 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. Contact South Chicago Heights Water Department at 708 755-1880. 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>.

Microbial contaminants,

Microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants,

Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial, or domestic waste water discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming;

Pesticides and herbicides,

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses;

Organic chemical contaminant, Organic chemical contaminants including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants,

Radioactive contaminants which may be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Source Water Assessment

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more, please feel welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. Meeting dates and times can be found on our website: www.southchicagoheights.com. The source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA. If you would like a copy of this information, please call our water operator at 708 755-1880. 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 Illinois EPA website at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl>.

(This language is required by the IEPA. The data for South Chicago Heights on the website above still lists information on the old wells, which are capped and no longer the source water for the Village.)

Source of water: Hammond, Indiana

Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of public water supply susceptible to potential pollution problems. Hence the reason for mandatory treatment of all public water supplies in Illinois. Mandatory treatment includes coagulation, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection. Primary sources of pollution in Illinois lakes can include agricultural runoff, land disposal (septic systems) and shoreline erosion.

Regulated Contaminants

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

In addition to the informational section of this Water Quality Report, we have included a water quality table for your review. The table is designed to give you a better picture of the contaminants and the amounts of the contaminants that were detected in your drinking water for the year of 2024. In 2024, as in years past, your drinking water was tested on a regular basis according to the United States EPA and state drinking water health standards.

2024 Table of Detected Regulated Contaminants

(Collected in 2024 unless otherwise noted)

Definitions of terms that may be used in following tables

Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Level 1 Assessment: A level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A level 2 assessment is 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water, below which there is no known or expected risk to public health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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.

Range of Detection: This column represents a range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest, that were collected during the consumer confidence report year.

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

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.

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

ND: Not detectable at testing levels.

N/A: Not Applicable.

Units of measure used in tables: ppm= parts per million: ppb= parts per billion:: mrem=millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body): mg/l= milligrams per liter, or parts per million, or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water: ug/l= micrograms per liter, or parts per billion, or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

2024 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Lead and Copper: Date Sampled – 09/2022

Lead MCLG	Lead Action Level (AL)	Lead 90 th Percentile	# Sites Over Lead AL	Copper MCLG	Copper Action Level (AL)	Copper 90 th Percentile	# Sites Over Copper AL	Likely Source Of Contaminants
0	15ppb	<5ppb	0	1.3ppm	1.3ppm	0.261ppm	0	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits

Copper Range: 0.069 to 0.321

Lead Range: ND

To obtain a copy of South Chicago Heights' lead tap sampling data please contact Bill Joyce at 708 755-1880 South Chicago Heights has developed a service line material inventory with the help of Robinson Engineering. To obtain a copy of our system's inventory, go to: <https://southchicagoheights.com/438/IEPA-Lead-Service-Line-Inventory>.

Or visit Robinson Engineering's page: <https://www.gettheleadoutil.com> for more information on lead service lines and South Chicago Heights' Lead Service Line Replacement Plan.

Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2024	5	5 – 5.3	N/A	60	ppb	No
Chlorine	2024	0.7	0.25-1.25	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	No
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes)	2024	25	20.1-25.3	N/A	80	ppb	No

Monitoring Data Provided By Hammond, Indiana Water Filtration Plan

During November 2001 the Village of South Chicago Heights began supplying water to its customers from Lake Michigan. Lake Michigan is considered a Surface Water Source. The raw water is removed from the lake in Hammond, Indiana at the water filtration plant. After the raw water is removed from the lake it is chemically treated, filtered, tested for contaminants, and pumped into the distribution system.

1. The following contaminants were **Below Detection Level (BDL)** in the Finished Water at the entry point to our distribution system.
 - a. Synthetic Organic Contaminants (SOC'S)
--Atrazine – BDL = below detection level of 0.1 ppm
 - b. Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC'S)
 - c. Any Unregulated Contaminants
2. Inorganic Compounds (IOC's) were detected as follows:
 - a. Fluoride 0.725 mg/l (MCLG: 4 mg/l)
 - b. Cyanide 6.2 ppb (MCLG: 200 ppb)
 - c. Barium 0.0216 mg/l (MCLG: 2 mg/l)
 - d. Nitrogen, Nitrate-Nitrite as (N) 0.3972 mg/l (MCLG: 10 mg/l)
3. Turbidity Levels at the entry point to the Distribution System were as follows:
 - a. Highest Single Measurement: 0.17 NTU'S-Tap
 - b. 100% of our samples were equal to or less than 0.30 NTU'S
4. Disinfectant and Disinfection By-Products.
 - a. Disinfectant Residual: 0.24 - 1 mg/L
 - b. Total Haloacetic Acids: 2.9 – 6.8 ug/L
 - c. TTHMs: 13.1 – 32.52 ug/L

2023 Violation Summary

No drinking water quality violations for the year 2024, in the Village of South Chicago Heights.