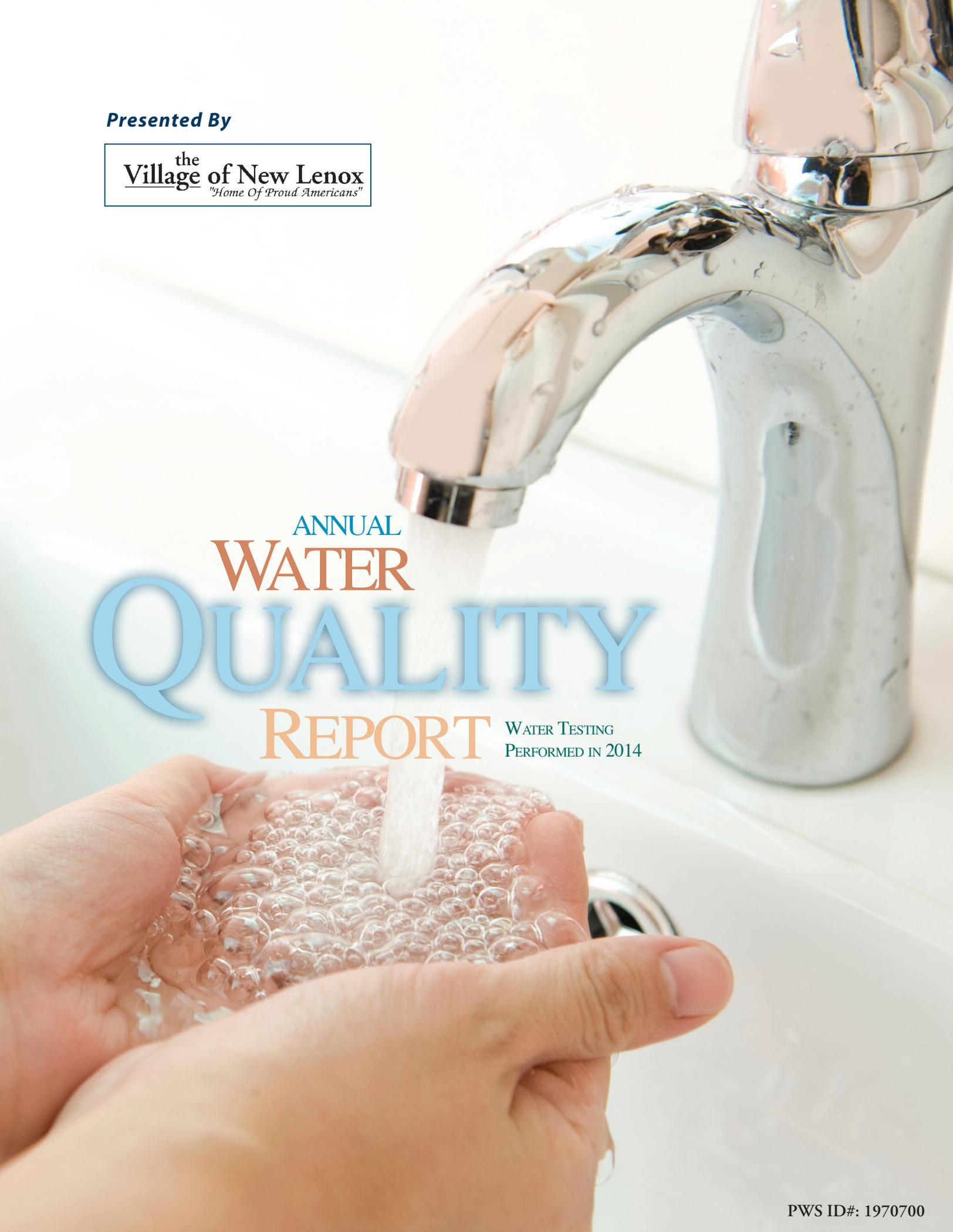


***Presented By***

**the**  
**Village of New Lenox**  
*"Home Of Proud Americans"*



ANNUAL  
**WATER**  
**QUALITY**  
**REPORT** WATER TESTING  
PERFORMED IN 2014

## Our Mission Continues

We are proud to present once again our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2014. Most notably, last year marked the 40th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This rule was created to protect public health by regulating the nation's drinking water supply. We celebrate this milestone as we continue to manage our water system with a mission to deliver the best-quality drinking water. By striving to meet the requirements of SDWA, we are ensuring a future of healthy, clean drinking water for years to come.

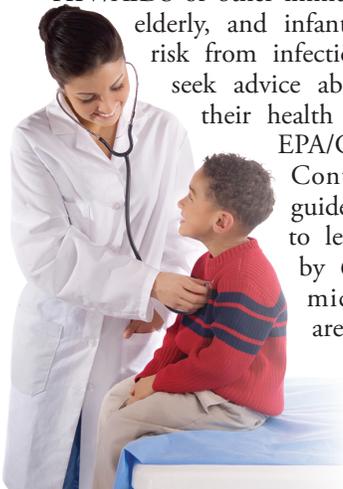
Please let us know if you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

## Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. The Village of New Lenox Board Meetings are held the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. Meetings are held at the Village Hall, located at 1 Veterans Parkway, New Lenox, Illinois 60451.

## Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.



## Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances that may be present in source water include:

**Microbial Contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife;

**Inorganic Contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may 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 may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

**Radioactive Contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## What's a Cross-Connection?

Cross-connections that contaminate drinking water distribution lines are a major concern. A cross-connection is formed at any point where a drinking water line connects to equipment (boilers), systems containing chemicals (air conditioning systems, fire sprinkler systems, irrigation systems), or water sources of questionable quality. Cross-connection contamination can occur when the pressure in the equipment or system is greater than the pressure inside the drinking water line (backpressure). Contamination can also occur when the pressure in the drinking water line drops due to fairly routine occurrences (main breaks, heavy water demand), causing contaminants to be sucked out from the equipment and into the drinking water line (backsiphonage).

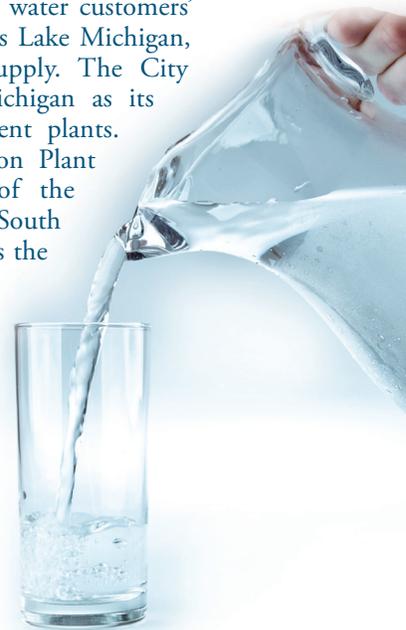
Outside water taps and garden hoses tend to be the most common sources of cross-connection contamination at home. The garden hose creates a hazard when submerged in a swimming pool or when attached to a chemical sprayer for weed killing. Garden hoses that are left lying on the ground may be contaminated by fertilizers, cesspools, or garden chemicals. Improperly installed valves in your toilet could also be a source of cross-connection contamination.

Community water supplies are continuously jeopardized by cross-connections unless appropriate valves, known as backflow prevention devices, are installed and maintained. We have surveyed industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities in the service area to make sure that potential cross-connections are identified and eliminated or protected by a backflow preventer. We also inspect and test backflow preventers to make sure that they provide maximum protection.

For more information, review the Cross-Connection Control Manual from the U.S. EPA's Web site at <http://water.epa.gov/infrastructure/drinkingwater/pws/crossconnectioncontrol/index.cfm>. You can also call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Where Does My Water Come From?

The Village of New Lenox water customers' primary source of water is Lake Michigan, which is a surface water supply. The City of Chicago utilizes Lake Michigan as its source water via two treatment plants. The Jardine Water Purification Plant serves the northern areas of the city and suburbs, while the South Water Purification Plant serves the southern areas of the city and suburbs, including New Lenox. Lake Michigan, by volume, is the second largest Great Lake and the only one located entirely within the United States. It borders Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin.



## QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Mark Brow, Water Department Supervisor, at (815) 215-4800.

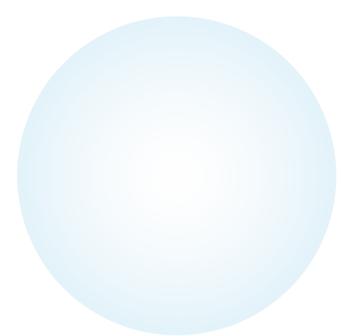
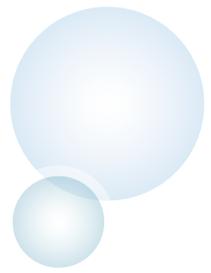


## Source Water Assessment Program

The Illinois EPA completed the Source Water Assessment Program for the City of Chicago. The Illinois EPA implemented the Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) to assist with watershed protection of public drinking water supplies. The SWAP inventoried potential sources of contamination and determined the susceptibility of the source water to contamination.

The Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of community water supplies to be susceptible to pollution problems. The very nature of surface water allows contaminants to migrate unimpeded into the intake. This is the reason for mandatory treatment of all surface water supplies in Illinois. Chicago offshore intakes are located at a distance such that shoreline contaminants are not usually considered factors of water quality. At certain times of the year, however, the potential for contamination exists due to wet weather water flows and river reversals. In addition, the placement of crib structures may 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.

Further information on the City of Chicago Source Water Assessment Program is available by calling the City of Chicago's Department of Water Management at (312) 744-6635.



## Sampling Results

During the past year, we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The tables above show only those contaminants that were detected in the water. The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less often than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the 3rd stage of the EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation (UCMR3) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR3 benefits the environment and public health by providing the EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water, in order to determine if the EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality.

Note: The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month, and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by IEPA.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES											
				Village of New Lenox Lake Water		City of Chicago		New Lenox Groundwater Emergency Back-up			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
<b>Alpha Emitters</b> (pCi/L)	2014	15	0	NA	NA	6.6	6.1–6.6	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Arsenic</b> (ppb)	2012	10	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	10	2.73–10	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
<b>Barium</b> (ppm)	2014	2	2	NA	NA	0.0227	0.0223–0.0227	0.0297 <sup>1</sup>	0.0119–0.0297 <sup>1</sup>	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Chlorine</b> (ppm)	2014	[4]	[4]	0.5	0.3–0.61	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Chromium</b> (ppb)	2014	100	100	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Combined Radium</b> (pCi/L)	2014	5	0	NA	NA	0.84	0.5–0.84	1.81 <sup>1</sup>	1.28–1.81 <sup>1</sup>	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Fluoride</b> (ppm)	2014	4	4	NA	NA	0.98	0.94–0.98	0.337 <sup>1</sup>	0.319–0.337 <sup>1</sup>	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
<b>Haloacetic Acids [HAAs]–Stage 2</b> (ppb)	2014	60	NA	15	9.27–16.27	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]–Stage 2</b> (ppb)	2014	80	NA	47	25.2–53.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Tetrachloroethylene</b> (ppb)	2014	5	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.63	ND–0.63	No	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
<b>Total Nitrate + Nitrite</b> (ppm)	2014	10	10	NA	NA	0.31	0.30–0.31	NA	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Turbidity<sup>3</sup></b> (NTU)	2014	TT	NA	NA	NA	0.11	NA	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff
<b>Turbidity</b> (Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2014	TT=95% of samples <0.3 NTU	NA	NA	NA	100%	NA	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff

**REGULATED SUBSTANCES**

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	UCMR3 Entry		UCMR3 Distribution		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH		
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	2014	15	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	2012	10	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2014	2	2	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2014	[4]	[4]	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chromium (ppb)	2014	100	100	0.3	0.2–0.3	0.325 <sup>2</sup>	0.3–0.4 <sup>2</sup>	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2014	5	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2014	4	4	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs]–Stage 2 (ppb)	2014	60	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]–Stage 2 (ppb)	2014	80	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	2014	5	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
Total Nitrate + Nitrite (ppm)	2014	10	10	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity <sup>3</sup> (NTU)	2014	TT	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2014	TT=95% of samples <0.3 NTU	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community.

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH%TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2013	1.3	1.3	0.288	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

**OTHER SUBSTANCES**

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	City of Chicago		New Lenox Groundwater Emergency Back-up		UCMR3 Entry		UCMR3 Distribution		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH		
4-Androstene-3, 17-Dione (ppb)	2014	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.0008	0.0006–0.0008	NA	NA	No	NA
Chromium-6 (ppb)	2014	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.22	0.18–0.22	0.195 <sup>2</sup>	0.14–0.24 <sup>2</sup>	No	NA
Iron <sup>4</sup> (ppm)	2012	1	NA	NA	NA	7.3	1.34–7.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits
Manganese <sup>4</sup> (ppb)	2012	150	NA	NA	NA	112	18.3–112	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Molybdenum (ppb)	2014	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	1.1	1.0–1.1	1.1 <sup>2</sup>	1.1–1.1 <sup>2</sup>	No	NA
Sodium <sup>4</sup> (ppm)	2014	NA	NA	10	9.5–10	42.3 <sup>1</sup>	25.4–42.3 <sup>1</sup>	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used in water softener regeneration
Strontium (ppb)	2014	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	120	110–120	122 <sup>2</sup>	114.9–128.1 <sup>2</sup>	No	NA
Testosterone (ppb)	2014	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.0001	0.0001–0.0001	NA	NA	No	NA
Vanadium (ppb)	2014	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.3	ND–0.3	0.275 <sup>2</sup>	<0.2–0.3 <sup>2</sup>	No	NA

## UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES (CITY OF CHICAGO)<sup>5</sup>

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Sulfate (ppm)	2014	35.5	20.9–35.5	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits

<sup>1</sup> Sampled in 2012.

<sup>2</sup> Sampled in 2013.

<sup>3</sup> Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

<sup>4</sup> Iron, manganese and sodium are not currently regulated by the U.S. EPA. However, the state has set MCLs for supplies serving a population of 1,000 or more.

<sup>5</sup> A maximum contaminant level (MCL) for these contaminants has not been established by either state or federal regulations, nor has mandatory health effects language. The purpose of monitoring unregulated contaminants is to assist the U.S. EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

## Definitions

**AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other required actions by the water supply.

**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.

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

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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.

**NA:** Not applicable

**ND (Not detected):** Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** A measure of radioactivity.

**ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

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