2014 WATER QUALITY DATA - DETECTED CONTAMINANTS
U of I Samples Collected within the Parent Water Supply by Illinois-American Water Company

INTRODUCTION
This 2014 Water Quality Report from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (U of I) provides information about the source of campus drinking water, contaminant testing, general health precautions, and how calendar year 2014 sample results compare to regulatory requirements. The University is pleased to report that all United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) drinking water quality standards have been met, with no violations of maximum contaminant levels (MCLs).

If you have any questions about this report or U of I drinking water quality, please contact Facilities & Services, Safety and Compliance at (217) 244-7123 or by contacting Safety and Compliance.

In compliance with state and USEPA regulations, the University issues a report annually describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to increase understanding of drinking water standards and raise awareness of the need to protect your drinking water sources.

WATER INFORMATION SOURCES
Illinois American Water
www.IllinoisAmericanWater.com

United States Environmental Protection Agency
www.epa.gov/safewater

Safe Drinking Water Hotline:
(800) 426-4771

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
www.epa.state.il.us

LOCAL GROUPS INVOLVED IN WATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES
Mahomet Aquifer Consortium
mahometaquiferconsortium.org

Prairie Rivers Network
(217) 344-2371
www.prairierivers.org

WATER QUALITY REPORT

2014 WATER QUALITY DATA - DETECTED CONTAMINANTS
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DEFINITIONS
MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as is feasible, considering available science and cost.

MRDL: The level of a drinking water contaminant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLs allow for a margin of safety.

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WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF U OF I DRINKING WATER?

The University of Illinois purchases drink-

ing water from Illinois-American Water Com-

pany (IAWC), Champaign District. IAWC water is delivered through five separate metered feeds into the University water distribution system, which consists of approximately 46 miles of water main. The University distributes this water to the majority of campus buildings. How-

ever some buildings are connected directly to the IAWC water distribution system. As such, the distribution system is consid-

ered a public water system. The following information about IAWC, Champaign District water supply is from their 2014 Annual Water Quality Report, available by calling (800) 538-1125 or visiting their website at http://www.illinoisameri-

can.com.

The source of supply for IAWC, Cham-

paign District is groundwater. Currently 28 wells deliver water for treatment to three lime-softening plants: the Lincoln Avenue Plant, located in Urbana, the Martris Avenue Plant, located in Cham-

paign, and the Bradley Avenue Plant, located west of Champaign. The wells are primarily located in two areas. The north well field taps the Glafosd Aquifer and consists of seven wells that supply the Lincoln Avenue Plant. The west well field consists of 21 wells that draw from the Mahorn Sands Aquifer and supply water to all three plants. The wells range from 150 to 366 feet in depth and are protected from surface contamination by geologic barriers in the aquifers. An aqui-

fer is a porous underground formation (such as sand and gravel) that is saturated with water.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The IEPA has completed a source water assess-

ment for the Champaign County system. In this report, IEPA indicates that the wells supplying Champaign County are not geologically sensitive. The IAWC’s susceptibility to groundwater contamination, a Well Site Survey Report from February 1991 and a source inven-

tory conducted in 1999 by the Illinois Rural Water Association in cooperation with the IAWC, were reviewed. Based on the information contained in these docu-

ments, potential sources of groundwater contamination are present that could pose a hazard to groundwater pumped by the IAWC community water supply wells.

The IAWC has determined that IAWC – Wells #35, #40, #41, #42, #43, #45, #46, and #47 are susceptible to inorganic chemical (IOC), volatile organic chemical (VOC) and synthetic organic chemical (SOC) contamination. This determina-

tion is based on a number of criteria including: monitoring conducted at the wells; monitoring conducted at the entry point to the distribution system; and the available hydrogeologic data for the wells. The IAWC has made recommendations to further minimize the risk to the facil-

ity’s groundwater supply. If you would like additional information on the source water assessment, please contact Safety and Compliance at (217) 265-9828 or the Groundwater Section of the IAWC at (217) 785-4787.

PROTECTING THE WATER YOU DRINK

In order to ensure that tap water is of high quality, USEPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contami-
nants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for con-

taminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health as public water systems. IAWC’s advanced water treatment processes are designed to reduce any such substances to levels well below any health concern.

The University of Illinois at Urbana-

Champaign is required to test water in its distribution system for coliform, lead, copper, trihalomethanes, and haloacetic acids. IEPA requires 15 samples per month to be analyzed for coliform. In 2014, normal operations of the U of I water distribution system resulted in approxi-

mately 26 samples per month. The most recent testing results for coliform, lead, copper, haloacetic acids, and total trihalomethanes (TTHM) are provided in the Data Summary table at the end of this report.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT ALL DRINKING WATER

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater wells. As water travels over the surface of the ground or through the ground, it can dissolve naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or 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 opera-

   tions and wildlife;

- **Inorganic Contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which may be natu-

   rally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or do-

   mestic 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 or-

   ganic chemicals, which are by-prod-

   ucts of industrial processes and petro-

   leum production, and may also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems; and

- **Radioactive Contaminants**, which may occur naturally or result from oil and gas production and mining activi-

   ties.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

IMPORTANT HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

Drinking water, including bottled water, is not necessarily for drinking. It is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can mini-

mize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drink-

ing 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 by calling the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

2014 DATA SUMMARY

The following table lists the contami-

nants that were detected in your water. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The data in this table repre-

sents a combination of the testing results on finished water from the distribution system and its parent supply, IAWC, Champaign District. The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign monitors water daily at five separate metered feeds. Additionally, the University monitors water at eight points within the campus distribution system. IAWC monitors the parent water supply at points prior to en-

tering the campus distribution system.

RADON

The USEPA is proposing limits on ra-

don in drinking water depending on other steps that are used to reduce radon from other indoor sources. Radon is a radioactive gas that comes mainly from the soil; however, some groundwater may also contain radon. Inhalation of radon gas has been linked to lung can-

cer. The contribution from drinking water is usually small compared to nor-

mal indoor levels. If you are concerned about radon in your home and would like information on how to have your home tested, contact the Champaign-Urbana Public Health Department at (217) 352-7961 or the National Radon Hotline at (800) 860-RADON.

LEAD

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, espe-

cally for pregnant woman and young children. Lead in drinking water is pri-

mary occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or do-

mestic 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 or-

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