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# CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

## 2023 GOSHEN WATER UTILITY

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## DELIVERING EXCELLENCE

Clean and safe drinking water is a top priority for the City of Goshen. To make sure you are well-informed about your water, the Goshen Water Utility provides this annual report, which outlines the quality of our drinking water, what it contains, and how its quality compares to Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and State of Indiana standards.

### About Our Water

Goshen is committed to provide you with all the information you may want to know about the quality of the water you drink. You can ask questions about water quality at the Goshen Board of Public Works and Safety meeting every Monday at 2 p.m. Meetings are conducted in the Police and Courts building, 111 E. Jefferson St.

All information contained in this report has been collected on a prescribed sampling schedule in accordance with rules and regulations of the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) and the USEPA.

### Our Water Origins

The Goshen Water Department has two groundwater treatment plants. The North Plant has six wells and four high-pressure pumps that can produce 5.9 million gallons of water per day. The Kercher Plant has three wells and three high-pressure pumps that can produce 5.1 million gallons per day. Goshen is located on the Kankakee Outwash and

Lacustrine Plain, which is in the Northern Moraine and Lake Region.

### Goshen's Water is Safe

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least trace amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not indicate that the water poses a health risk or that it is not suitable for drinking. More information about drinking water contaminants and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426.4791.

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and groundwater. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material, and it can pick up waste substances from animal and human activity.

## Safety Guidelines

In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, the EPA has spelled out regulations to limit the amount of certain contaminants that can be present in the water provided by the public drinking-water system. The City of Goshen is required to treat our water according to EPA regulations in order to ensure the protection of public health. Moreover, U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants that may be present in bottled water. Indeed, the City's water-quality requirements are every bit as stringent for safety as the requirements for bottled water.

## Keeping Contaminants out

The best way to maintain high-quality drinking water is to prevent contaminants from reaching drinking-water sources. In order to optimize the safety

of our water, the City of Goshen completed its Wellhead Protection Plan update in 2022, meeting the requirements from the Indiana Department of Environmental Management. You can learn more about Goshen's efforts to secure your groundwater's sources by reading the current planning document on the City's website, [goshenindiana.org](http://goshenindiana.org); at the Goshen Public Library, 601 S. Fifth St.; and also at the Goshen Water Department, 308 N. Fifth St.

## Common Contaminants in Most Water Systems

It is very common for community water systems to have trace amounts of contaminants in their drinking water, and they are required to inform the public that these exist. The following list outlines common contaminants in most community water systems and explains their origins.

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

**Inorganic Contaminants**, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, and mining or farming operations.

**Pesticides and Herbicides** may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, stormwater runoff and residential uses.

**Organic Chemical Contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production operations, and can also result from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.

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

## Possible Precautions

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised individuals, including people with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone an organ transplant, people with HIV/AIDS or other kinds of immune system disorders, some elderly individuals, and infants all may be at risk of infection. These individuals and/or their caregivers are encouraged to seek advice from their healthcare providers about drinking water. The EPA has set guidelines designed to lessen the risk

of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants. These guidelines are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline by calling (800) 426.4791.

## Our Watershed Protection Efforts

Our Goshen Water Utility is working with the community to increase awareness of better waste-disposal practices to even further protect the sources of our drinking water. We also are working with other agencies and with local watershed groups to educate the community on ways to keep our water safe. Household hazardous waste collections are held at

the Elkhart County Correctional Facility near the intersection of CR 7 and CR 26 (enter off CR 7). Hours of collections are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. the first Saturday of every month.

## Help Keep Pharmaceuticals out of the Water

You can help keep our water free of certain contaminants by properly disposing of your pharmaceuticals. The Goshen Police Department at 111 E. Jefferson St. has a green pharmaceutical dropbox available. Drop-off hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

# WATER-QUALITY DATA

These tables list all the contaminants we detected in City water during the 2022 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not indicate the water posed a health risk. In fact, none of the test results indicated a violation of federal, state or City standards for water quality and public health. All the information contained in this report has been collected in accordance with rules and regulations of IDEM and USEPA. IDEM requires us to monitor for certain contaminants at a frequency less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from one year to another. Some of the data, although representative of the water quality, may be more than one year old.

## Inorganic Contaminants

Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Results	Min	Max	Violates	Likely sources
2021	Barium	2.0	2.0	ppm	0.17	0.12	0.17	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
2021	Fluoride	4.0	4.0	ppm	0.6	0.1	0.6	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
7/24/20	Copper (90th percentile)	1.3 (AL)	1.3	ppm	0.12	0.025	0.45	No	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems
7/24/20	Lead (90th percentile)	15.0 (AL)	0.0	ppb	2.1	1.0	4.2	No	Corrosion of household plumbing

## Organic Contaminants

Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Results	Min	Max	Violates	Likely sources
2021	Cis-1,2-dichloroethylene	70.0	70.0	ppb	3.2	0	3.2	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
2021	Chromium	100	100	ppb	1.2	0.9	1.2	No	Naturally occurring element in rocks, animals and soils

## Unregulated Contaminants

Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Results	Min	Max	Violates	Likely sources
2/12/18	Sodium	n/a	0	ppm	17.7	14.0	22.0	No	Erosion of natural deposits

## Disinfection By-products, Precursors and Chlorine

Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Results	Min	Max	Violates	Likely sources
2022	Total haloacetic acids (HAA5)	60.0	0	ppb	3	0	10.6	No	By-product of drinking-water chlorination
2022	Total trihalomethanes (TTHM)	80.0	0	ppb	13	5.4	24.6	No	By-product of drinking-water chlorination
2022	Chlorine	4.0	>4.0	ppm	1.41	0.41	1.41	No	Water additive used to control microbes

## Radiological Contaminants

Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Results	Min	Max	Violates	Likely sources
7/22/20	Gross alpha	15.0	0	pCi/l	1.8	0.10	1.83	No	Erosion of natural deposits
2020	Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	15	0	pCi/l	1.7	0.1	1.7	No	Erosion of natural deposits
7/14/17	Beta Photon emitters	50.0	0	pCi/l	1.4	1.4	1.4	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
7/14/17	Combined Radium (228)	5.0	0	pCi/l	1.1	0.93	1.3	No	Erosion of natural deposits
7/14/17	Radium-226	5.0	0	pCi/l	0.53	0.28	0.55	No	Erosion of natural deposits
8/28/20	Radium-228	5.0	0	pCi/l	1.3	0.70	1.3	No	Erosion of natural deposits

**Definitions:** The tables above contain scientific terms and measures, some of which require explanation.

**MRDL:** Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of 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.

**mrem:** Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).

**ppb:** Micrograms per liter or parts per billion—or one ounce in 7.35 million gallons of water.

**ppm:** milligrams per liter or parts per million—or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

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

**MCL:** Maximum contaminant level, the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.

**MCLG:** Maximum contaminant level goal, the level of a contaminant in

drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

**AL:** Action level, the concentration of a contaminant that, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements or action that a system must follow.

**pCi/l:** Picouries per liter, a measure for radiation.

**ND:** Not detected; the result was not detected at or above the analytical-method detection level.

**Lead:** 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.