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# AURORA UTILITIES

110 MAIN STREET • P.O. BOX 120 • AURORA, INDIANA 47001

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IN 5215001

## 2017 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

### **Important information for the Spanish speaking population**

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad del agua potable que usted consume. Por favor tradúzcalo, o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien y pueda explicarle.

### **Is our water safe?**

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the drinking water that we provided last year. Included as part of this report are details about where the water that you drink comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Indiana standards. We are committed to provide you with all the information that you need to know about the quality of the water that you drink.

### **Do I need to take special precautions?**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people, such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other kind of 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 has set guidelines with appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants which are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800)426-4791.

### **Where does our water come from?**

Using three drilled wells, Aurora's water source is taken from the glacial deposits of sand and gravel in the Ohio Valley Aquifer. This water is of excellent quality and receive only chlorine disinfection and fluoride for dental health. As is typical of well water, it is considered hard water and the choice of water softening is left to the users.

### **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 these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk or that it is not suitable for drinking. More information about contaminants and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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 dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, or can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in the raw, untreated water may include:

- **Microbial Contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- **Inorganic Contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring, or that result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, and mining or farming operations.
- **Pesticides and Herbicides**, which 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**, which can be naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants that may be present in the water provided by public drinking water systems. We are required to treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Moreover, FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants that may be present in bottled water, which must provide the same level of health protection for public health.

### **Availability of a Source Water Assessment (SWA)**

A Source Water Assessment (SWA) has been prepared for our system. According to this assessment, our system has been categorized with a moderate susceptibility risk. More information of this assessment can be obtained by contacting Mr. Randy Turner at 812-926-2745 at your earliest convenience. You can also obtain additional information by contacting Ms. Rebecca Travis of IDEM's Drinking Water Branch at (317) 308-3329.

### **Our Watershed Protection Efforts**

Our water system is working with the community to increase awareness of better waste disposal practices to further protect the sources of our drinking water. We are also working with other agencies and with local watershed groups to educate the community on ways to keep our water safe.

### **Public Involvement**

For more information about Aurora's drinking water, please call Randy Turner at (812) 926-2745 or, if you wish to become involved with water decision-making, attend Utility Board meetings on the third Monday of every month at 5:00 P.M. in the Aurora City Hall, 235 Main Street, Aurora, Indiana.

### **Please Share This Information**

Large water volume customers (like apartment complexes, hospitals, schools, and/or industries) are encouraged to post extra copies of this report in conspicuous locations or to distribute them to your tenants, residents, patients, students, and/or employees. This "good faith" effort will allow non-billed customers to learn more about the quality of the water that they consume.

**WATER QUALITY DATA REPORT  
FOR THE PERIOD OF JAN. 1 TO DEC. 31, 2016**

The table below lists all the contaminants that we detected during the 2016 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise indicated, the data presented in this table is from testing done between January 1 and December 31, 2016. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) requires us to monitor for certain contaminants at a frequency of 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, though representative of the water quality, may however be more than one year old. The source of drinking water used by Aurora Utilities is ground water.

**Some of the terms and abbreviations used in this report are:**

- 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's 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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
- MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level - the highest level of 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 drinking water disinfectant 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.
- AL:** Action level - the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment of other requirements or action which a system must follow.
- TT:** Treatment Technique - a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- ppm:** parts per million - a measure for concentration equivalent to milligrams per liter, or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
- ppb:** parts per billion - a measure for concentration equivalent to micrograms per liter, or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
- pCi/L:** picocuries per liter - a measure for radiation.
- P\*:** Potential violation - one that is likely to occur in the near future once the system have sampled for four quarters.
- n/a:** either not available or not applicable.
- ND:** Not detected - the result was not detected at or above the analytical method detection level.
- BDL:** Below Detectable Limit

Regulated Contaminants								
Disinfectants and Disinfection By - Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine Residual	2016	1.0	.4-1.0	4	4	ppm	No	Water additive (disinfectant) used to control microbiological organisms
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	8-16	2	1.7-1.9	No goal for the total	60	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHm)*	8-16	7	6.2-6.9	No goal for the total	80	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chromium	8-14	BDL	BDL	.1	.1	ppm	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	8-14	.614	.614	2.0	2.0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water Additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	6-16	.5	.5	10	10	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Mercury	8-14	BDL	BDL	.2	.2	ppb	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries/factories. Runoff from landfills/cropland
Nickel	8-14	.002	.001	0	0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits. Leaching

Synthetic Organic Compounds	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
27	8-28-12	BDL				ppm	No	Runoff from herbicides

Radioactive	Collection	Highest Level	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/alpha emitters	8-25-11	1.4	1.4 - 1.4	0	4	mrem/yr	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon & uranium	8-11-11	1.2	1.2 - 1.2	0	15	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	6-8-08	0.5	0.5 - 0.5	0	30	ug/1	No	Erosion of natural deposits

COLIFORM BACTERIA						
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	0	0		0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

**Definitions:**

**Lead & Copper**

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

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>.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level	90th	# Sites Over	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	08-14	1.3	1.3	.3		ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	08-14	0	15	1.5		ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.