Village of Downers Grove
Public Works Department

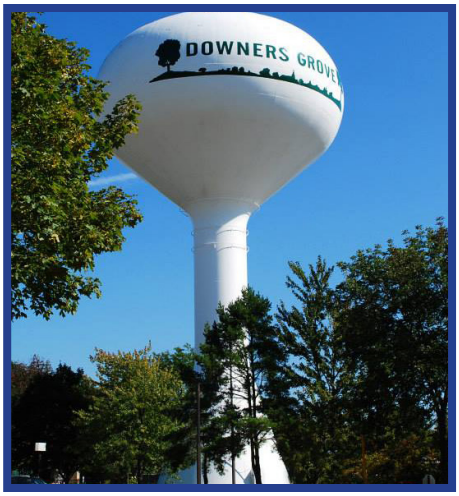
*June 2021*

# 23rd Annual
# Water Quality Report

This Water Quality Report (WQR) was prepared to inform Downers Grove Water System customers about the quality of the water that is provided on a daily basis. The WQR is required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), in accordance with the 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act.

High quality, safe drinking water is an essential resource and, as indicated in this WQR, the quality of the water provided by the Village meets or exceeds all state and federal standards.

The WQR summarizes the quality of the water provided last year and includes information about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to U.S. EPA standards. If you have any questions about this report, or concerns about the Downers Grove Water system, please contact Francisco Orrantia, Water Manager, at 630-434-5462.




## Where Does Your Drinking Water Come From?

The Village of Downers Grove, along with 28 other municipalities, purchases water from the DuPage Water Commission. This water is treated surface water from Lake Michigan. All 63 miles of Lake Michigan shoreline within Illinois are considered by the EPA to be in good condition. Because of concern that sources of drinking water can pick up contaminants as water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, the Illinois EPA has completed the Source Water Assessment for our supply. More on this assessment can be found on page 5 with other information from the City of Chicago.

The Village's water system consists of 7 water towers with a storage capacity of 8 million gallons. The Village also has three stand-by wells that are tested and maintained regularly in case of an emergency. In addition to the water towers, the Village also maintains 233 miles of water mains, 2,851 fire hydrants, 2,830 valves, and nearly 17,000 water meters.

Last year the Village pumped an average of 4.597 million gallons of water per day.

***No drinking water quality violations were recorded during 2020 for the Village of Downers Grove.***
***All Illinois EPA monitoring and reporting requirements were met.***

# Water Restrictions

Water restrictions are in effect in the Village from May 15 to September 15. Outdoor water use is based on an odd/even system according to address. If you have an odd numbered address, you may water on odd numbered days. Even numbered addresses may water on even numbered days. On those days, you may water between the hours of **4 a.m. and 10 a.m., and 4 p.m. and 10 p.m.**

# Important Information About Your Drinking Water

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 materials, and pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. Possible contaminants consist of: Microbial contaminants, Inorganic contaminants, Pesticides and herbicides, Organic chemical contaminants, and Radioactive contaminants.

## 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. Our utility is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but 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.**

## Information from the EPA

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include the following:

i) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;
ii) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic waste water discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;
iii) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses;
iv) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and
v) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activites.

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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791.

Some people 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, people 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. USEPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Environmental Protection Agency Website: www.epa.gov/safewater Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 1-800/426-4791

# Automatic Meter Reading (AMR)

Water consumption in your home and business is measured through a water meter. Water meter readings are automatically transmitted directly to the Village and are used to calculate and produce your water bill. This automatic meter reading system allows for the tracking of daily water consumption and improves system reporting. If you have questions regarding your water meter, meter reading, an estimated bill, or a high bill due to excessive consumption, please call Public Works at 630-434-5460.

# 2020 Water Quality Monitoring Results

Our 2020 water quality monitoring results are listed in the following tables. The tables list the few compounds that were found, along with their measured levels and possible sources. If you would like a list of the compounds that were monitored but not found, please call 630-434-5462.

**Tips for reading these tables:** The following tables list the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's allowable limits. (Please refer to the definition of MCLG and MCL on page 7.) Also represented are the levels found in the Lake Michigan supply, including the highest and a range. The range of detections represents a range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest, that were collected during the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) calendar year.

## Water Quality Table for Monitoring by the Village of Downers Grove

### 2020 Regulated Contaminants Detected

| Contaminant (unit of measurement) | *Date of Sample | Highest Level Detected | Range of Detections | MCLG | MCL | Violation | Typical Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products** | | | | | | | |
| Chlorine (ppm) | 12/31/2020 | 1 | 1 - 1 | MRDLG = 4 | MRDL = 4 | N | Water additive used to control microbes |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) | 2020 | 21 | 9.7 - 29.2 | No goal for the total | 60 | N | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb) | 2020 | 34 | 16.28 - 50.1 | No goal for the total | 80 | N | By-product of drinking water disinfection |

| Contaminant (unit of measurement) | Date of Sample | Maximum Contaminant Level Goal | Action Level (AL) | 90th Percentile | Number of Sites Over AL | Violation | Typical Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Lead and Copper** | | | | | | | |
| Lead (ppb) | 2020 | 0 | 15 | 3.44 | 1 | N | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |

| Contaminant (unit of measurement) | Date Sampled | Maximum Contaminant Level Goal | Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level | Highest Number of Positive | Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level | Total Number of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Microbial Contaminants** | | | | | | | | |
| Total Coiliform Bacteria | Throughout year | 0% | 5% of monthly samples are positive | 1.6 | 0% | 0 | N | Natuarally Present in the Environment |

### Unit of Measurement

**ppm** - Parts per million, or milligrams per liter
**ppb** - Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter

**NTU** - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in drinking water

**% ≤ 0.3 NTU** - Percent of samples less than or equal to 0.3 NTU

**pCi/L** - Picocuries per liter, used to measure radioactivity

# Water Quality Table for Monitoring by the Village of Downers Grove

## 2020 Regulated Contaminants Detected

**The following tables are the water quality results for the Village of Downers Grove's stand-by wells.
The Village does not blend well water with Lake Michigan water received from the DuPage Water Commission into the water distribution system.
These wells are maintained and tested regularly for use in the event of an emergency only.**

| Contaminant (unit of measurement) | *Date of Sample | Highest Level Detected | Range of Detections | MCLG | MCL | Violation | Typical Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Inorganic Contaminants** | | | | | | | |
| Arsenic (ppb) | 2020 | 0.927 | 0.518 - 0.927 | 0 | 10 | N | Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes. |
| Barium (ppm) | 2020 | 0.156 | 0.0653 - 0.156 | 2 | 2 | N | Discharge of Drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Flouride (ppm) | 2020 | 0.15 | 0.13- 0.15 | 4 | 4.0 | N | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. |
| Iron (ppm) | 2020 | 1.94 | 0.308 - 1.94 | | 1.0 | N | This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates. Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Manganese (ppb) | 2020 | 39.3 | 16.5 - 39.3 | 150 | 150 | N | This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates. Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Sodium (ppm) | 2020 | 154 | 65.6 - 154 | | | N | Erosion from naturally occuring deposits. Used in water softener regeneration. |
| **Radioactive Contaminants** | | | | | | | |
| Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L) | 2020 | 1.7 | 1.494 - 1.7 | 0 | 5 | N | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium (pCi/L) | 2020 | 5.6 | 3.93 - 5.6 | 0 | 15 | N | Erosion of natural deposits. |

# City of Chicago, Department of Water Management
# Source Water Assessment Summary for the 2020 Consumer Confidence Report

## Source Water Location

The City of Chicago utilizes Lake Michigan as its source water via two water treatment plants. The Jardine Water Purification Plant serves the northern areas of the City and suburbs, while the Sawyer (formerly South) Water Purification Plant serves the southern areas of the City and suburbs. Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake that is entirely contained within the United States. It borders Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin, and is the second largest Great Lake by volume with 1,180 cubic miles of water and third largest by area.

## Source Water Assessment Summary

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

## Susceptibility to Contamination

The Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of community water supply to be susceptible to potential pollution problems. The very nature of surface water allows contaminants to migrate into the intake with no protection, only dilution. This is the reason for mandatory treatment for all surface water supplies in Illinois. Chicago's offshore intakes are located at a distance that shoreline impacts are not usually considered a factor on water quality. At certain times of the year, however, the potential for contamination exists due to wet-weather flows and river reversals. In addition, the placement of the crib structures may serve to 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 storm water runoff, marinas and shoreline point sources due to the influx of groundwater to the lake.

Further information on our community water supply's Source Water Assessment Program is available by calling the City of Chicago, Department of Water Management at 312-742-2406 or online at **http://dataservices.epa.illinois.gov/swap/factsheet.aspx**

## The Fourth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4)

In compliance with UCMR 4, samples were collected at Chicago Water System's entry points to the distribution system (EPTDS), also known as finished water, and analyzed for all contaminant groups except for Haloacetic Acids (HAAs), which were sampled from the distribution system. All the contaminant groups tested in finished water were below the minimum reporting levels specified in the test method under UCMR 4. Samples for HAA indicators (Total Organic Carbon and Bromide) were collected at two source water influent points for the system. For Bromide, test results ranged from 28.2 to 35.3 ppb, and for TOC, test results ranged from 1.79 to 1.80 ppm.

## Illinois EPA's Sampling of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

The Illinois EPA collected finished water samples from Chicago's Water System on 10/29/2020 and analyzed the samples for a total of 18 PFAS contaminants. In its notification to Chicago, the Illinois EPA stated that these contaminants were not present in Chicago's drinking water at concentrations greater than or equal to the minimum reporting levels.

## 2020 Voluntary Monitoring

The City of Chicago monitors for Cryptosporidium, Giardia and E. coli in its source water as part of its water quality program. Cryptosporidium has not been detected in these samples, but Giardia was detected in September 2010 in one raw lake water sample collected. Treatment processes have been optimized to provide effective removal of Cryptosporidium and Giardia from the source water. By maintaining low turbidity through the removal of particles from the water, the possibility of such organisms getting into the drinking water system is greatly reduced. In 2020, the City of Chicago has also continued monitoring for hexavalent chromium, also known as chromium-6. USEPA has not yet established a standard for chromium-6, a contaminant of concern which has both natural and industrial sources. Chromium-6 sampling data are posted at:

**https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/depts/water/supp_info/water_quality_resultsandreports.html**

For more information, please contact Andrea Cheng, Acting Commissioner, at 312-744-8190.

Chicago Department of Water Management
1000 East Ohio Street
Chicago, IL 60611
Attn: Andrea Cheng

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by:
The City of Chicago
Department of Water Management
Water System ID# IL0316000

# Water Quality Table for Monitoring by the City of Chicago

| Contaminant (unit of measurement) | Date of Sample* | Highest Level Detected | Range of Detections | MCLG | MCL | Violation | Typical Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Turbidity Data** Lowest Monthly %: 100% | | | | | | | |
| Turbidity (NTU/Lowest Monthly % ≤ 0.3 NTU) | | Lowest Monthly % 100% | 100% - 100.0% | N/A | TT (Limit 95% ≤ 0.3 NTU) | N | Soil Runoff |
| Turbidity (NTU/Highest Single Measurement) | | 0.16 | N/A | N/A | TT (Limit 1 NTU) | N | Soil Runoff |
| **Inorganic Contaminants** | | | | | | | |
| Barium (ppm) | 2020 | 0.0201 | 0.0198 - 0.0201 | 2 | 2 | N | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate (As Nitrogen) (ppm) | | 0.42 | 0.35 - 0.42 | 10 | 10 | N | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Total Nitrate & Nitrite (As Nitrogen) (ppm) | | 0.42 | 0.35 - 0.42 | 10 | 10 | N | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| **Total Organic Carbon (TOC)** | | | | | | | |
| The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by the IEPA | | | | | | | |
| **Unregulated Contaminants** | | | | | | | |
| Sulfate (ppm) | | 27.8 | 27.5 - 27.8 | N/A | N/A | N | Erosion of naturally occurring deposits |
| Sodium (ppm) | 2020 | 9.55 | 8.73 - 9.55 | N/A | N/A | N | Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used as water softener |
| **State Regulated Contaminants** | | | | | | | |
| Flouride (ppm) | 2020 | 0.75 | 0.65 - 0.75 | 4 | 4 | N | Water additive which promotes strong teeth |
| **Radioactive Contaminants** | | | | | | | |
| Combined Radium (226/228) (pCi/L) | 2/04/2020 | 0.95 | 0.83 - 0.95 | 0 | 5 | N | Decay of natural and man-made deposits. |
| Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium) (pCi/L) | 2/04/2020 | 3.1 | 2.8 - 3.1 | 0 | 15 | N | Decay of natural and man-made deposits |

### Unit of Measurement

**ppm** - Parts per million, or milligrams per liter
**ppb** - Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter

**% ≤ 0.3 NTU** - Percent of samples less than or equal to 0.3 NTU

**NTU** - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in drinking water

**pCi/L** - Picocuries per liter, used to measure radioactivity

*** Date of Sample:** If a date appears in this column, the Illinois EPA requires monitoring for this contaminant less than once per year because the concentrations do not frequently change. If no date appears in the column, monitoring for this contaminant was conducted during the Consumer Confidence Report calendar year.

Village of Downers Grove
**Public Works Department**
5101 Walnut Avenue
Downers Grove, Illinois 60515-4074
Monday through Friday
7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
**www.downers.us**

**Public Works**
**Customer Service/Water Quality**
630-434-5460
(for leaks, dirty water, etc.)

**Water Manager**
Contact: Francisco Orrantia
Phone: 630-434-5462
E-Mail: forrantia@downers.us

## How Can I Get More Involved in Decisions Affecting My Drinking Water?

Inquiries regarding your drinking water can be made at the contacts listed above.

Residents are welcome to attend Village Council meetings held the first, second, and third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Village Hall Council Chambers at 801 Burlington Avenue.

***If you don't have a computer to access the websites listed in this report, public computers are available at the Downers Grove Public Library, 1050 Curtiss Street.***

***Paper copies of this report are available upon request at:***

***Public Works Department*** ***5101 Walnut Avenue*** **OR** ***Village Hall*** ***801 Burlington Avenue***

**Definitions**

**(1) 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 allows for a margin of safety.
**(2) MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL is set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
**(3) AL = Action Level** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
**(4) Unregulated Contaminant** A maximum contaminant level (MCL) for this has not been established by either state or federal regulations, nor has mandatory health effects language. The purpose of monitoring this contaminant is to assist US EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water, and whether future regulation is warranted.
**(5) TT = Treatment Technique** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
**(6) NTU = Nephelometric turbidity unit** Used to measure cloudiness in drinking water.
**(7) Fluoride** is added to the water supply to help promote strong teeth. The Illinois Department of Public Health recommends an optimal fluoride level of 0.7 mg/l, with a range of 0.6 mg/l to 0.8 mg/l.
**(8) Sodium** - There is no state or federal MCL for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials who have concerns about sodium intake due to dietary precautions. If you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician about the level of sodium in the water.
**(9) Turbidity** is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of the filtration system and disinfectants.
**(10) MRDL= Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level** The highest level of a drinking water disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
**(11) 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.

**ND**= Not detected at the method detection limit.
***For water samples: 1 part per million (ppm) = 1 mg/L***
**% pos/mo** = percent positive samples per month.
**NA** = Not Applicable
***1 part per billion (ppb) = 1 ug/L 1 ppm = 1000 ppb***
**# pos/mo** = number of positive samples per month.