



**CITY OF HUNTINGTON, INDIANA**  
**WATER DEPARTMENT**  
**Brooks Feters, MAYOR**

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PERMIT NO. 225**

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**WATER QUALITY REPORT MAY 2017**  
**RESULTS OF TESTING IN 2016**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE SPANISH-SPEAKING POPULATION** Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad del agua potable que usted consume. Por favor traduzcalo, oable con alguien que lo entienda bien y pueda explicarle.

**IS MY DRINKING WATER SAFE?** This brochure is a quick look at 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 the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Indiana standards. So when you drink Huntington water, rest assured that you are drinking clean, quality water that meets and/or exceeds all federal and state standards for safe drinking water.

**WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF OUR WATER?** The Huntington Water Department (operated by contractor F&V Operations) utilizes groundwater from the Upper Wabash Basin aquifer for its drinking water source. We are working hard to protect our water from contaminants. Our Wellhead Protection Program will continue to aid in protecting the area of our well fields.

**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 transplant, 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 and appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants which are available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

**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 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.

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>.

**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 the result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, and mining or farming operations.

**Pesticides and Herbicides**, which may be from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, storm water 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 storm water 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.

**Water Quality Data:** 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 during the 2016 calendar year. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (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 terms and abbreviations used in this report are:*

- MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level, the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.  
**MCLG:** MCL Goal, the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.  
**ppm:** parts per million  
**ppb:** parts per billion  
**ug/L:** micrograms/liter or ppb

## 2016 Regulated Contaminants

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	07/15/2014	1.3	1.3	0.17	0	ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	07/15/2014	0	15	8.9	2	ppb	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2016	1	1 - 1	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	NO	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	2016	16	3.1 – 21.8	No goal	60	ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2016	34	8 – 55.3	No goal	80	ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2015	0.126	0.126 - 0.126	2	2	ppm	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2015	1.175	1.175 - 1.175	4	4.0	ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.

### Violations

NONE
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**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.

**Water conservation:** The Water Department would like to encourage our customers to conserve water wherever possible. Not only is it beneficial to you by paying less for your water, the utility also pays less thus keeping rates lower. There are many ways to conserve water. Here are just a few examples for you to consider:

- Install low flow toilets, shower heads and aerators on faucets..  
This is a bonus. Not only are you using less water but you're also not heating as much.
- Use native plants in your landscapes.
- Set your mower to the highest cutting level. This helps your lawn maintain moisture for a longer period of time.
- Install a rain barrel system to water lawns and landscape. Rain water is far better for your lawn and plants than treated water.
- Cover your swimming pool when not in use. This helps water to evaporate less.
- Insulate hot water pipes.
- Wash full loads of laundry and dishes.

#### Check for and repair leaks at least twice a year.

- A dripping faucet can waste up to 2700 gallons of water a year.
- Leaks inside of a toilet can waste up to 7300 gallons of water a year.
- Use a broom to clean sidewalks and driveways, not a garden hose.

To see more ways to conserve water and watch your pennies, get on line and read all about it, just type in the words "water conservation". It's amazing how many tips there are on how to save water.

**Public Involvement Opportunities:** If you have any questions about the contents of this report, please contact Mike Plasterer at 260-358-2309. Or you can join us at the Board of Works Meetings, which are regularly held on the first and third Mondays of each month at 3:30 pm. We encourage you to participate and to give us feedback.

**Please Share This Information:** Large water volume customers (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.