



**CITY OF HUNTINGTON, INDIANA**  
**WATER DEPARTMENT**  
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**PERMIT NO. 225**

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**WATER QUALITY REPORT MAY 2022**  
**RESULTS OF TESTING IN 2021**

**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, o hablé 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 2021 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 2021 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.

## 2021 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
Lead	07/23/2020	0	15	8.18	1	ppb	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	07/23/2020	1.3	1.3	0.151	0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2021	17	4.28 - 48.6	No goal for the total	60	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2021	51	10.5 - 137	No goal for the total	80	ppb	Yes	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	2021	0.105	0.105 - 0.105	2	2	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2021	1.24	1.24 - 1.24	4	4.0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2021	0.305	0 - 0.305	10	10	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Radioactive Contaminants)	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	10/02/2017	3.2	2.6 - 3.2	0	15	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits

### VIOLATIONS

<b>Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)</b> - Some people who drink water containing Trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MCL, LRAA	07/01/2021	09/30/2021	Water samples showed that the amount of this contaminant in our drinking water was above its standard (called a maximum contaminant level and abbreviated MCL) for the period indicated.
MCL, LRAA	10/01/2021	12/31/2021	Water samples showed that the amount of this contaminant in our drinking water was above its standard (called a maximum contaminant level and abbreviated MCL) for the period indicated.

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

**AVG:** Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

**Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Level 1 Assessment:** A Level 1 Assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**MCLG:** MCL Goal, the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Level 2 Assessment:** A Level 2 Assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL:** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or MRDLG:** 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.

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

**ALG:** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or exceeded risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

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

**ppb** micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

**pCi/L** Picocuries per liter is a unit for measuring radioactive concentrations

**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. Not only do you use less water but you're 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.

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#### 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.