

## 2023 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023. This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water

Gibson Water Authority is a not-for-profit water utility serving 1912 customers in rural Gibson and Warrick counties. Our office is located on County Road 1250 South just west of US Hwy 41 in Gibson County. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. Our regularly scheduled board meetings are held at our office on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 5:00 P.M. You may contact our office at (812) 768 - 6899. For any questions concerning information presented in this report, please contact our Utility Manager, Steve Jenkins, at (812) 768 - 6899.

The water provided by Gibson Water Authority is purchased surface water. Gibson Water purchases its water from the City of Evansville, and the source of our water is the Ohio River. More information about our water and the treatment process can be found at [www.evansvillegov.org](http://www.evansvillegov.org) under City Departments - Water & Sewer Utility.

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 land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. Contaminants that may be present in source water 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 result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

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

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

**Radioactive Contaminants** - which can be naturally-occurring or be 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 which 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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

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. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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>.

In the tables below, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:

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

**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.

**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.

**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 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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG**: 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.

**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.

**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.

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

**Variations and Exemptions**: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**Avg**: Average - Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples

**LRAA**: Locational Running Annual Average

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

**NA**: not applicable

**ppb**: micrograms per liter (ug/L) or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

**ppm**: milligrams per liter (mg/L) or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

**picocuries per liter (pCi/L)**: picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water



As a purchasing water system, Gibson Water is required to monitor the presence or levels of certain substances including bacteria, chlorine, copper, lead, haloacetic acids, and trihalomethanes. The results are listed in the table below. For the year 2023, there were no violations.

Contaminants (Units)	Year	MCL/MRDL	MCLG	Result	Range	Violation	Likely Source
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>							
<b>Total Coliform Bacteria</b> (Presence/Absence)	2023	Presence of Coliform in 1 monthly sample <sup>1</sup>	0	0	0	No	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Fecal Coliform or E. Coli</b> (Presence/Absence)	2023	Presence in Coliform-positive samples	0	0	0	No	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Regulated Contaminants</b>							
<b>Copper</b> (mg/L or parts per million)	2022	1.3 mg/L (AL)	1.3 mg/L	0.027 (highest)	<0.011 - 0.027 <sup>2</sup>	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
<b>Lead</b> (mcg/L or parts per billion)	2022	15 mcg/L (AL)	0	<10 (highest)	<10 <sup>3</sup>	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
<b>Disinfectant</b>							
<b>Total Chlorine</b> (mg/L or parts per million)	2023	4.0 mg/L	4	2 (average)	0.5 - 3.5	No	Water additive (disinfectant)

Contaminants (Units)	Year	MCL	MCLG	Highest LRA	Range	Violation	Likely Source
<b>Disinfection By-products</b>							
<b>Haloacetic Acids (HAA5s)</b> (mcg/L or parts per billion)	2023	60 mcg/L	0	45	15.3 - 74.6	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)</b> (mcg/L or parts per billion)	2023	80 mcg/L	0	63.1	21.8 - 84.7	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

<sup>1</sup>Five samples were collected throughout the system each month in 2023 and tested for the presence or absence of coliform bacteria.

<sup>2</sup>Twenty samples were collected throughout the system in 2022. No sample was over the action limit for copper.

<sup>3</sup>Twenty samples were collected throughout the system in 2022. No sample was over the action limit for lead.

<sup>4</sup>Eight samples were collected in 2023. The running annual average was not over the maximum contaminant level for haloacetic acids.

<sup>5</sup>Eight samples were collected in 2023. The running annual average was not over the maximum contaminant level for total trihalomethanes.

The following provides information regarding additional substances monitored by The Evansville Water and Sewer Utility.

For more information, questions, or comments, you may contact the Drinking Water Quality Manager, Ethan Elleser, by phone at (812) 428-0568 or by email at [eelleser@ewsu.com](mailto:eelleser@ewsu.com).

Regulated Contaminants (Units)	Year	MCL/MRDL	MCLG	Result	Range	Violation	Likely Source
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
<b>Fluoride</b> (parts per million)	2023	4.0	4	0.66 (highest)	0.66	N	Additive to promote dental health
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
<b>Gross Alpha</b> (excluding radon and uranium) (pCi/L - picocuries per liter)	2019	15	0	0.82 (highest)	0.82 - 0.82	N	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides</b>							
<b>Atrazine</b> (parts per billion)	2023	3	3	0.2 (highest)	0 - 0.2	N	Runoff from herbicide use
<b>Turbidity</b>							
<b>Turbidity</b> (NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit)	2023	Limit (TT) 1 NTU	NA	0.07 NTU (average)	0.02 - 0.16	N	Soil runoff