Village of La Grange

May 20, 2013

Dear Water Customer:

The Village of La Grange is proud to provide you with the attached 2012 Annual Water Quality Report. This report covers all water testing activities completed from January 1 through December 31, 2012.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency requires that the Village provide you with this yearly report that includes detailed information about your drinking water. Specifically this report identifies the source of water, what it contains, and describes the overall water treatment process. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to supplying drinking water that exceeds all state and federal drinking water standards.

The source of the Village's drinking water supply is Lake Michigan. With the exception of chlorine, which the Village adds to the water at the East Avenue Pumping Station, all water treatment takes place at the City of Chicago's water treatment plants. Therefore, we have provided you with water quality data for both the Village of La Grange and the City of Chicago. In summary, La Grange's water quality again meets the guidelines for municipal water quality established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The Village of La Grange is committed to providing you with safe, reliable drinking water. Should you have any questions regarding the information in this report, please do not hesitate to call Mike Bojovic, Assistant Director of Public Works, at (708) 579-2328.

Sincerely,
VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE

Ryan Gillingham, P.E.
Director of Public Works

Department of Public Works 320 East Avenue La Grange, Illinois 60525 (708) 579-2328 Fax (708) 579-2330

Village of La Grange
Department of Public Works
WATER QUALITY REPORT 2012

This year, as in years past, your tap water met all USEPA and state drinking water health standards. We vigilantly safeguard the water supply, and are able to report that the Village had no violation of a contaminant level standard or of any other water quality standard in the previous year. This report summarizes the quality of water that we provided last year, including details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

Our Village receives surface water from Lake Michigan purchased from the Village of McCook, who in turn purchase the water from the City of Chicago. Lake Michigan is the surface water supply, used to provide drinking water for Chicago and 118 suburban communities. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has found that the quality of Lake Michigan water has improved dramatically over the past 20 years. Lake Michigan, by volume, is the second largest Great Lake and the only one located totally within the United States.

Water is delivered to you from our pump station located on East Avenue in McCook. Three high level pumps distribute water into the distribution system. We also have an emergency backup system with 2 additional pumps and an emergency generator. Additionally, there is a 2.0 million gallon standpipe with an emergency pump located on Birks Court. Also, a 1.5 million gallon storage tank is located on Tilden Avenue next to Gordon Park. Water is distributed to your home through 59 miles of various sized water main.

In addition to the informational section of the Water Quality Report, we have included for your review several tables that provide information about both the Village of La Grange and the City of Chicago water quality and monitoring. The tables will give you a better picture of the contaminants that were detected in your water and the contaminants that were tested for but not detected.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water system, please contact Mike Bojovic, Assistant Director of Public Works, 320 East Avenue at (708) 579-2328.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for Calendar Year 2012

Village of LaGrange (IL0311530)

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. This report includes drinking water facts, information on violations (if applicable), and contaminants detected in your drinking water supply during calendar year 2012. Each year, we will provide you a new report. If you need help understanding this report or have general questions, please contact the person listed below.

Contact Name: Mike Bojovic
Telephone Number: 708-579-2328
E-mail (if available) mbojovic@villageoflagrange.com

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Before we begin listing our unique water quality characteristics, here are some important facts you should know to help have a basic understanding of drinking water in general.

Sources of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater 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, and can pickup substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Our source of water comes from Purchased Surface Water.

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 storm water 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 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, and can also, come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Other Facts about Drinking Water

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, 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. 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).

Source Water Assessments

Source water protection (SWP) is a proactive approach to protecting our critical sources of public water supply and assuring that the best source of water is being utilized to serve the public. It involves implementation of pollution prevention practices to protect the water quality in a watershed or wellhead protection area serving a public water supply. Along with treatment, it establishes a multi-barrier approach to assuring clean and safe drinking water to the citizens of Illinois. The Illinois EPA has implemented a source water assessment program (SWAP) to assist with wellhead and watershed protection of public drinking water supplies. Along with treatment, it establishes a multi-barrier approach to assuring clean and safe drinking water to the citizens of Illinois. The Illinois EPA has implemented a source water assessment program (SWAP) to assist with wellhead and watershed protection of public drinking water supplies. 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.

2012 Regulated Contaminants Detected

The next several tables summarize contaminants detected in your drinking water supply. Since water is purchased from City of Chicago, results indicated with an asterisk (*) were provided to us by them.

Here are a few definitions and scientific terms which will help you understand the information in the contaminant detection tables.

AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Avg	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly samples.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal 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. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level: The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal: The level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs allow for a margin of safety.
N/A	Not Applicable
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppb	parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L) - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppm	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L) - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Lead and Copper

	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	06/21-07/01-2011	1.3	1.3	.142	0	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	06/21-07/01-2011	0	15		0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

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. Village of LaGrange 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*.

Not all samples 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.

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants & Disinfection Byproducts	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2012	0.9	0.74-0.9467	mrdlg = 4	mrdl = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetie Acid (HAA5)*	2012	18	10.08-32.3	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TThm)*	2012	46	24.3- 65.1	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By- product of drinking water chlorination

Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium	2012	0.0204*	0.0194-0.0204	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes Discharge from metal refineries, Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate(As Nitrogen)	2012	0.34*	0.34-0.34	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Total Nitrate & Nitrite	2012	0.34*	0.34-0.34	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage, Erosion of natural deposits.
Synthetic Organic Contaminants (pesticides and herbicides)	2010	0.76*	0.00-0.76	0	6	ppb	N	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories.
Boron	01/01/2007	28.0*	28.0-28.0			ppb		Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used in detergents and as a water softener, Used in production of glass, cosmetics, pesticides, fire retardants, and for leather tanning.
Arsenic	2012	0.67*	0.52-0.67	0	10	ppb		Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Molybdenum	01/01/2007	31.0*	0-31.0			ppb		Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used in manufacture of special steels.
Radiological Contaminants								
Combined Radium(226/228)	03/17/2008	1.38*	1.300-1.380	0	5	pCi/I	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Gross Alpha (excluding radon and uranium)	03/17/2008	0.88*	0.090-0.880	0	15	pCi/I	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
State Regulated Contaminants								
Fluoride	2012	0.85*	0.84-0.85	4	4	ppm	N	Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
Unregulated Contaminants								
Sulfate	2012	17.6*	13.4-17.6	n/a	n/a	ppm	N	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.
Sodium	2012	7.07*	6.88-7.07	n/a	n/a	ppm	N	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits, Used as water softener

Note: The state requires monitoring of certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of this data may be more than one year old.

Turbidity

Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.

	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Lowest Monthly % Meeting Limit	0.3 NTU	99.7%*	N	Soil Runoff
Highest Single Measurement	1 NTU	**.69***	**N**	Soil Runoff

Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by IEPA, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violation section.

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS

General Tips

Fix those leaks! Leaks allow water and your money to go down the drain.

To help detect hidden leaks turn off anything that uses water and see if your meter is still moving.

A dripping faucet can waste 3 gallons a day or **1,095** gallons a year.

A running toilet will lead to even higher water bills. The flapper, within the tank that does not seal properly, can go undetected for months.

Over a **1 month period**, a 1/16" hole will waste **25,000** gallons of water.

Indoor Tips

Install water-efficient devices such as high efficiency toilets, high efficiency clothes washing machines, low flow showerheads and aerators.

Only run your washing machine or dishwasher with full loads.

Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth and shaving.

Outdoor Tips

Water your lawn only when needed, generally once every three days during the summer. Check sprinkler timers and reduce watering when necessary.

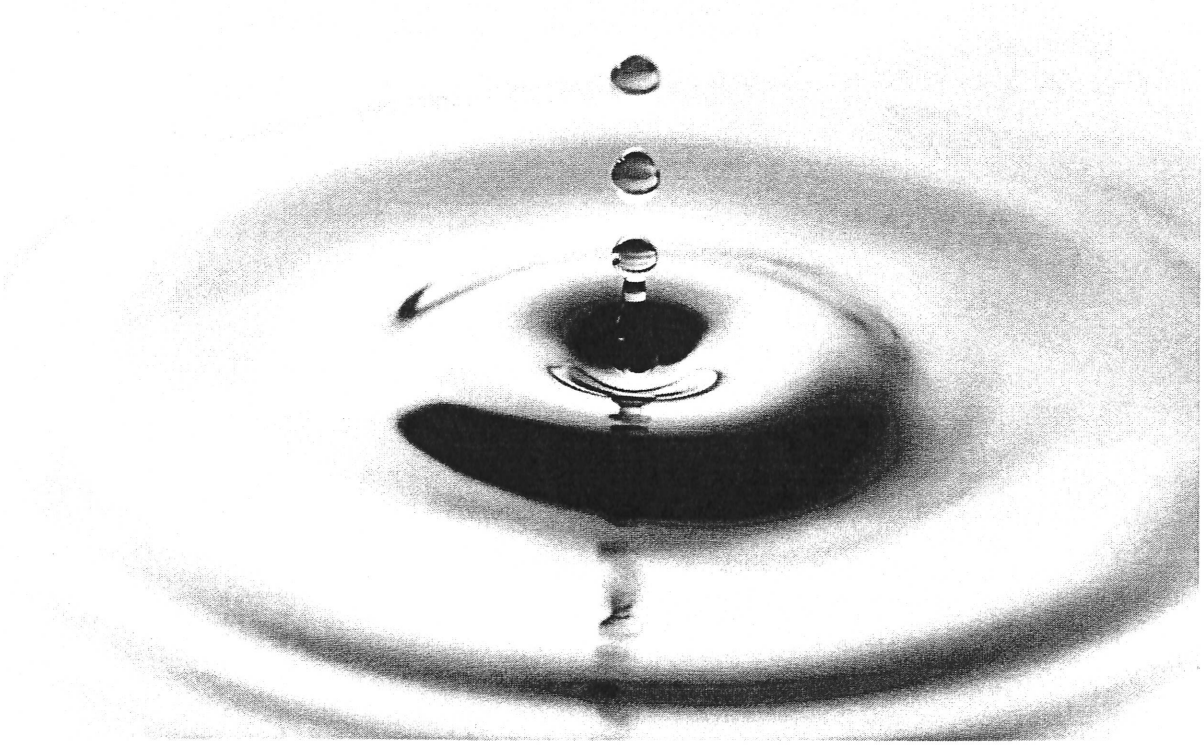
Check sprinkler heads, valves and drip emitters once a month, make sure heads are aimed correctly.

Water in the early morning. Many irrigation experts feel the best time to water is between midnight and 6:00 a.m. because evaporation is at a minimum

The Village's sprinkling ordinance requires even-numbered addresses water their lawns on Wednesday, Friday and/or Sunday, and odd numbered addresses water their lawns on Tuesday, Thursday, and/or Saturday.

No watering on Mondays is allowed.

Notes



VILLAGE OF LA GRANGE
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