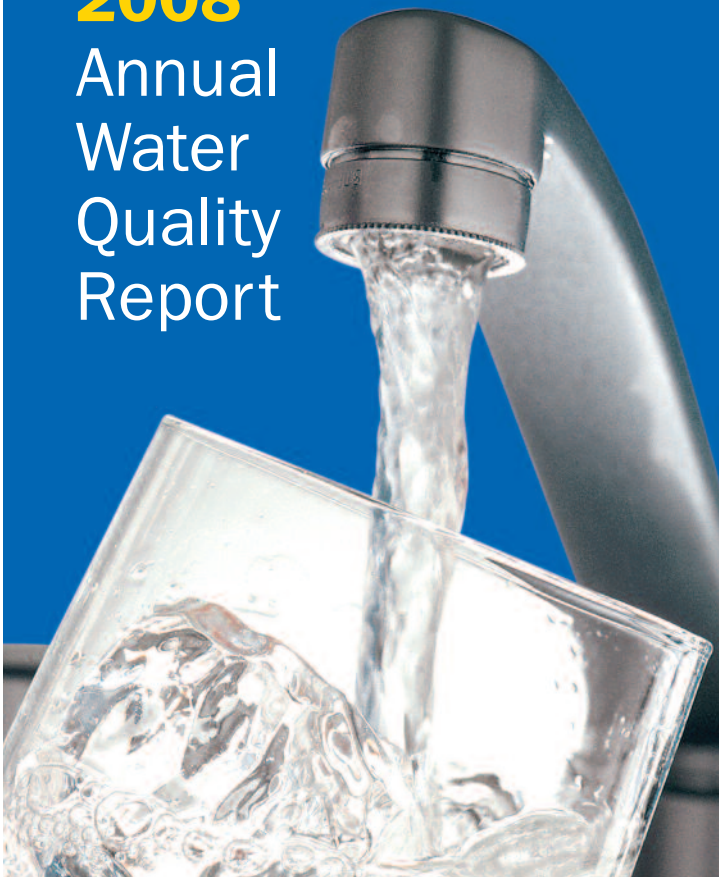


Village of Gilberts

PWS ID: IL0890400

2008 Annual Water Quality Report



Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

A Tradition of Personal Service & Quality Water

Dear Customers:

The Village of Gilberts places a strong emphasis on educating our customers on the quality of our drinking water.

Please review this annual water quality report, which outlines information applicable to your local water system. You'll find that we provide water that meets or surpasses all federal and state water quality regulations.

Just as important, the Village of Gilberts makes the necessary investments to maintain and upgrade its facilities so that we can deliver quality water directly to your tap 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

As regulations and drinking water standards change, it is our ongoing commitment to you to incorporate these changes in our water systems in a prompt and cost-effective manner.

Our customers are our top priority, and we are committed to providing them with the highest quality drinking water and service possible now and in the years to come.

Quality Control Every Day, By Water Experts

We have a responsibility to help protect the health of our customers, and it's a responsibility we take very seriously.

At the Village of Gilberts treatment facility, water quality is sampled and tested daily with comprehensive, state-of-the-art laboratory testing equipment.

Water is monitored at every stage, from the raw water supply, through the treatment process and finally through the many miles of pipeline which bring water to your homes and businesses.

What is a Water Quality Report?

To comply with state and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations, the Village of Gilberts issues a report annually describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect your drinking water sources.

This report provides an overview of last year's (2008) water quality. It includes details about where your water comes from and what it contains.

If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please call Thomas W. Chinske, Water Quality Supervisor at: 630-739-8849.

Source Water Information

The source of water for Gilberts is groundwater. Two wells, #3 and #4, each over 1,000 feet deep, draw from a deep bedrock aquifer. An aquifer is a porous underground formation (such as sand, gravel, or fractured bedrock) that is saturated with water. Two new wells and an ion exchange treatment system were placed in service in January of 2002. The Illinois EPA has completed a source water assessment for the Gilberts system. The Gilberts wells are not considered geologically sensitive by Illinois EPA, and no potential sources of contamination were identified in the source water assessment. If you would like a summary of the information contained in this report, contact Thomas W. Chinske at 630-739-8849 or email at thomas.chinske@amwater.com.

Questions?

To learn more about water quality, please contact:

Thomas W. Chinske,
Water Quality Supervisor
Illinois American Water
1000 International Parkway
Woodridge, Illinois 60517
630-739-8849 or email:
thomas.chinske@amwater.com

Water Information Sources

Illinois American Water
www.illinoisamwater.com

United States Environmental Protection Agency
www.epa.gov/safewater

Safe Drinking Water Hotline:
800-426-4791

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
www.epa.state.il.us

Surf Your Watershed
Locate your watershed and a host of information.
<http://cfpub.epa.gov/surf/locate/index.cfm>

Envirofacts
Access to U.S. environmental data.
www.epa.gov/enviro

Be Water Smart

Wise water use is an important first step in protecting our water supply. Such measures not only save the supply of our source water, but can also save you money by reducing your water bill. Here are a few suggestions:

Wise water tips you can use inside your home include:

- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
- Replace old fixtures; install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Do not use the toilet for trash disposal.
- Take shorter showers.
- Do not let the water run while shaving or brushing teeth.
- Soak dishes before washing.
- Run the dishwasher only when full.

You can be water smart outdoors as well:

- Use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.
- Use water-saving nozzles.

To protect its water supply, the Village of Gilberts has enacted a water conservation program effective June 1st through October 30th.

There are three levels of water use conservation and restriction for the Village's potable water supply:

1. **Condition Green:** Unrestricted outside use.
2. **Condition Yellow:** No outside use between 9:00 a.m. and 6 p.m. the same day. From 6:00 p.m. until 9:00 a.m. the following day, use is restricted to odd numbered addresses on odd number days of month or even numbered addresses on even days of month.
3. **Condition Red:** All outside usage of Village water is prohibited.

By following the above recommendations and using water wisely, there should be plenty of supply for everyone.

Substances Expected to be in 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 acquire naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material; and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

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 may 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 may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is of high quality, USEPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain substances in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. The Village of Gilberts' advanced water treatment processes are designed to reduce any such substances to levels well below any health concern.

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. Illinois American Water and the Village of Gilberts are 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>.

Important Health Information

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 that the 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 (800) 426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

USEPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) 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.

How to Read The Data Tables

The Village of Gilberts conducts extensive sampling and testing to ensure that your water meets all water quality standards. The test results are reported in the data tables. While most sampling was conducted in 2008, certain substances are monitored less than once per year because the levels do not change frequently. For help with interpreting these tables, see the "Table Definitions" section and footnotes.

Table Definitions and Abbreviations

- **Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **Amount Detected:** Unless otherwise noted in the footnotes, an average of all sample results for the year, or results from a single sample if only one was collected. If multiple entry points exist, the data from the entry point with the highest value is reported.
- **Compliance Achieved:** Indicates that the levels found were all within the allowable levels as determined by the EPA.
- **MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** 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.
- **MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** The highest level of disinfectant routinely allowed in drinking water. Addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** The level of 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 contamination.
- **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.
- **NA:** Not applicable
- **ND:** Not detected
- **pCi/L - Picocuries per liter:** Unit for measuring radioactivity.
- **ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water, or milligrams per liter.
- **ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water, or micrograms per liter.
- **Range of Detections:** The range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest.
- **S:** Single Source

2008 Water Quality Information

We are pleased to report that during the past year, the water delivered to your home or business complied with, or was better than, all state and federal drinking water requirements. For your information, we have compiled a table showing what substances were detected in your drinking water during 2008. Although all of the substances listed are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water. If you have questions about the data please contact us.

Regulated Substances (Measured in the water leaving the treatment facility)								
Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCLG	MCL	Amount Detected	Range of Detections	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source	
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	2008	3	15	0.45	S	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits	
Barium (ppm)	2008	2	2	0.608	S	Yes	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits	
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L) ¹	2004	0	50	1.6	S	Yes	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	
Fluoride (ppm) ²	2008	4	4	1.04	0.92 - 1.24	Yes	Water additive that promotes strong teeth	
Radium Combined (pCi/L)	2008	0	5	1.42	S	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits	
Xylenes (ppb)	2006	10	10	1.21	0 - 1.21	Yes	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories	
Other Compounds (Measured in the distribution system)								
Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCLG/MRDLG	MCL/MRDL	Amount Detected	Range of Detections	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source	
TTHMs [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2006	NA	80	30.3	S	Yes	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
HAA5 [Haloacetic acids] (ppb)	2006	NA	60	9.1	S	Yes	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
Chlorine	2008	4	4	0.5	0.28 - 0.76	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes	
Lead and Copper ³ (Collected at customers' taps)								
Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCLG	Action Level	Amount Detected	Number of Samples Collected	Number of Samples Above Action Level	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	2007	1.3	1.3	1.1	20	0	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
State Regulated Substances								
Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCLG	MCL	Amount Detected	Range of Detections	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source	
Sodium (ppm) ⁴	2008	NA	NA	149	S	Yes	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; By-product of home water softening (Your water is softened at the plant so a water softener is not necessary)	

NOTE: Not all testing is required on an annual frequency, the results above reflect the most recent required analyses by the EPA. Gilberts public water supply was tested for unregulated contaminant monitoring (UCMR2) as part of a small systems screening survey in January of 2008. All results were less than the Minimum Reporting Level (MRL).

¹ The MCL for Beta/photon emitters is often written as 4 millirem/year (measure of rate of radiation absorbed by the body). Laboratory results are reported in pCi/L as we have on the table above. EPA considers 50 pCi/L as the level of concern for beta emitters.

² Fluoride is added to the water supply to help promote strong teeth. The Illinois Department of Public Health recommends an optimal fluoride level of 0.9 mg/L to 1.2 mg/L. Gilberts achieved perfect compliance in 2008 for maintaining the fluoride concentration within this required concentration range.

³ Compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) is determined by the levels of lead and copper found in samples taken from customers' taps. LCR requirements are met if the 90th percentile of all samples taken does not exceed the action level of 15 ppb for lead or 1.300 ppm for copper. The "amount detected" reported in the data table refers to the level at the 90th percentile sample. If lead does not appear in the table, then none was detected in the 90th percentile tap water sample.

⁴ There is no state or federal MCL for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials that are concerned about sodium intake due to dietary precautions. If you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician about this level of sodium in the water.