



ED KRZEMINSKI
MAYOR

**CONSUMER CONFIDENCE
REPORT**

Public Water Supply

Facility ID: IL0310570

For The Monitoring

MIKE HARTIGAN
Water Plant Lead Operator

5550 East Avenue
Countryside, Illinois 60525

April, 2014

Dear Countryside Water Customer;

The City of Countryside, in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), is issuing the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for the monitoring period of January 1 through December 31, 2013. The City of Countryside, in conjunction with the Village of McCook, City of Chicago and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) are providing this report to you with important information concerning the quality and source of your drinking water. During 2013, the City of Countryside has provided water that meets all the requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) drinking water standards and we are proud to announce that the City had no violations for during this reporting period.

The City of Countryside continues to maintain and improve their water system. Through our yearly infrastructure improvements to the diligent monitoring of the water distribution system we are committed to providing you with the safest and most reliable water source. Consumers with medical conditions may use the water quality analysis provided, or request a City of Chicago complete water analysis, to consult with their family doctors. Others may learn ways to better protect their children from the effects of lead in our environment, or how to conserve water in our daily lives. We strongly encourage our customers to become a partner with the City of Countryside in providing the very best in clean and safe water.

If you would like to learn more please contact or stop by City Hall or visit our web site at <http://www.countryside-il.org/>. There you will find the completed IPEA Source Water Assessments; including current City water infrastructure projects and see our regularly scheduled meetings dates and times. To access other information regarding Source Water; Susceptibility of Contamination Determination, and documentation / recommendations of Source Water Protection Efforts, you may also want to visit the Illinois EPA at:

<http://www.pa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl>.

If there are any questions, or if additional information is needed, please contact Mike Hartigan, Water Plant Lead Operator, at (708) 354-8827.

Sincerely,

CITY OF COUNTRYSIDE

John Von Drasek

John Von Drasek, Alderman,
Chairman Water Committee

SECTION I. ABOUT YOUR WATER SUPPLY

Water Source:

In 2013 all of the approximately 610 million gallons of water the City of Countryside distributed came from Lake Michigan. Lake Michigan water is drawn from far offshore structures (known as Cribs) along the bottom of the Lake and treated at the City of Chicago Jardine Water Purification Plant (north of Navy Pier). This water is pumped through large transmission lines to the near Chicago suburbs where it is collected and redistributed. Countryside purchases this water from the Village of McCook. From there Countryside received this water into our reservoir and pumping station complex, which is then distributed through the city's water main grid system of over 30 miles of pipe to the local and retail customer base.

Water Quality:

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. Throughout history, there have been extraordinary steps taken to assure a safe source of drinking water in the Chicagoland area, from the building of the offshore cribs and the introduction of interceptor sewers to the lock-and-dam system of Chicago's waterways and the City's Lakefront Zoning Ordinance. The City now looks to the recently created Department of the Water Management, Department of Environment and the MWRDGC to assure the safety of the city's water supply. Also, water supply officials from Chicago are active members of the West Shore Water Producers Association. Coordination of water quality situations (i.e., spills, tanker leaks, exotic species, etc.) and general lake conditions are frequently discussed during the association's quarterly meetings. Also, Lake Michigan has a variety of organizations and associations that are currently working to either maintain or improve water quality.

Finally, one of the best ways to ensure a safe source of drinking water is to develop a program designed to protect the source water against potential contamination on the local level. Since the predominant land use within Illinois' boundary of Lake Michigan watershed is urban, a majority of the watershed protection activities in this document are aimed at this purpose. Citizens should be aware that everyday activities in an urban setting might have a negative impact on their source water. Efforts should be made to improve awareness of storm water drains and their direct link to the lake within the identified local source water area. A proven best management practice (BMP) for this purpose has been the identification and stenciling of storm water drains within a watershed. Stenciling along with an educational component is necessary to keep the lake a safe and reliable source of drinking water.

SECTION II. CONSUMER EDUCATION

The City of Countryside tests the water supply for chlorine content on a daily basis to maintain the optimum levels for the consumers' needs. On a bi-monthly basis, bacteriological samples are taken. On a yearly basis, samples are submitted for Total Trihalomethane (TTHM) Analysis. Samples are also provided for lead and copper monitoring on a schedule established by the IEPA. All testing and reports are performed according to the requirements of IEPA. A copy of the IEPA Water Quality Report for the City of Countryside, Village of McCook and City of Chicago are included later in this report.

Source of Drinking Water Contamination

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottles 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, and can pickup 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 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 users.

ORGANIC CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial process 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 (1-800-426-4791)

SECTION II. CONSUMER EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

- **In order** to ensure 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. 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 (1-800-426-4791).
- **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. The City of Countryside 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.
- **The City of Countryside** follows the water conservation recommendations of the IEPA on sprinkling restrictions. The City restricts sprinkling during the hours between noon to 6:00 p.m. during the period of May 15 to September 15.

Lawn Care Recommendations

The City of Countryside recommends to water deeply and infrequently. One inch of water per week is ideal and over-watering wastes your money. Over-watering removes plant nutrients from the soil and can cause disease problems in your lawn.

Additional Information:

For more information, contact the Lead Water Plant Operator of the City of Countryside at (708) 354-8827. The City Council also meets on the second and fourth Wednesday of every month at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Room at the City Hall – 5550 East Avenue, Countryside, Illinois.. These meetings are open to the public. Also, you can contact USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

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

SECTION III. Regulated Contaminants Detected in 2013 (Collected in 2013 unless noted)

<u>Microbial Contaminants</u>	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Municipality	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminants
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	5% of Monthly Samples are positive.	0.6		0	Chicago	N	Number of positive samples per month. Naturally present in the environment.

<u>Lead and Copper</u>	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Municipality	Violation	Collection Date	Likely Source of Contaminants
Lead	0	15	6.6	1	ppb	Chicago	N	08/23/2012	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
	0	15	12.2	2	ppb	McCook	N	07/01/2008	
	0	15	1.4	0	ppb	Countryside	N	2010	
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.046	0	ppm	Chicago	N	08/23/2012	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Leaching from wood preservatives; Erosion of natural deposits.
	1.3	1.3	0.1295	0	ppm	McCook	N	09/26/2012	
	1.3	1.3	0.059	0	ppm	Countryside	N	08/09/2011	

<u>Regulated Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products</u>	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Units	Municipality	Violation	Collection Date	Likely Source of Contaminants
Chlorine	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1	1 — 1	ppm	Chicago	N	12/31/2013	Water additive used to control microbes.
	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1	0.9 — 1.0633	ppm	McCook	N	12/31/2013	
	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1	1 — 1.0375	ppm	Countryside	N	12/31/2013	
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	No Goal	60	11	0 — 17.6	ppb	Chicago	N		By-Product of drinking water disinfection
	No Goal	60	17	16.7 — 16.7	ppb	McCook	N		
	No Goal	60	14	5.7 — 22.4	ppb	Countryside	N		
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	No Goal	80	22	9.7 — 34.8	ppb	Chicago	N		By-Product of drinking water disinfection
	No Goal	80	31	30.8 — 30.8	ppb	McCook	N		
	No Goal	80	34	12 — 31.06	ppb	Countryside	N		

<u>Inorganic Contaminants</u>	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Units	Municipality	Violation	Collection Date	Likely Source of Contaminants
Arsenic	0	10	1	0.519 — 0.767	ppb	Chicago	N		Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics
Barium	2	2	0.0205	0.0204 — 0.0205	ppm	Chicago	N		Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	4	4.0	0.9	0.856 — 0.922	ppm	Chicago	N		Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer
Nitrate (As N)	10	10	0.362	0.351 — 0.362	ppm	Chicago	N		Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer
Selenium	50	50	2	0 — 2.48	ppb	Chicago	N		Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	N/A	N/A	8	7.42 — 7.84	ppm	Chicago	N		Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
Sulfate	N/A	N/A	11.9	ND — 11.9	ppm	Chicago	N		Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.

<u>Radio Active & Synthetic Organic</u>	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Units	Municipality	Violation	Collection Date	Likely Source of Contaminants
Combined Radium	0	5	1.38	1.3 — 1.38	pCi/L	Chicago	N	03/17/2008	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross alpha excluding	0	15	0.88	0.09 — 0.88	pCi/L	Chicago	N	03/17/2008	Erosion of natural deposits.

<u>Turbidity</u>	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Municipality	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminants
Highest Single Measurement %	1 NTU	0.18 NTU	Chicago	N	Soil Runoff.
Lowest Monthly % meeting Limit	0.3 NTU	100%	Chicago	N	Soil Runoff.

NO DRINKING WATER QUALITY VIOLATIONS WERE RECORDED DURING 2013

SECTION IV. DEFINITION OF TERMS

Action Level (AL)

The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

AVG

Regulatory compliance with some MCL's are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Collection Date

If a date appears in this column, the Illinois EPA requires monitoring for this contaminant less than once per year because the concentrations do not frequently change. If no date appears in the column, monitoring for this contaminant was conducted during the CCR calendar year.

Level Found

This column represents an average of sample result data collected during the CCR calendar year. In some cases, it may represent a single sample if only one sample was collected.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)

The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (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 Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)

The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)

The level of disinfectant in drinking water below, which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Micrograms Per Liter or Parts Per Billion (ug/l or ppb)

Unit of measurement of concentration in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

Milligrams Per Liter or Parts Per Million (mg/l or ppm)

Unit of measurement of concentration in 7,350 gallons of water.

Range of Detection

This column represents a range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest that were collected during the CCR calendar year.

Treatment Technique (TT)

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Turbidity

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of the filtration system and disinfectants.

SECTION V. 2013 Violation Table

2013 Violation Summary Table

Contaminant: None

Duration: N/A

Violation: No Violations for the Monitoring Year of 2013

Health Effects: N/A

2013 Violation Summary Table

Contaminant: None

Duration: N/A

Violation: No Violations for the Monitoring Year of 2013

Health Effects: N/A

2013 Violation Summary Table

Contaminant: None

Duration: N/A

Violation: No Violations for the Monitoring Year of 2013

Health Effects: N/A