



CITY OF BERWYN, ILLINOIS

2024 Consumer Confidence Report
Public Water Supply Facility ID: IL0310210
Robert J Lovero, Mayor

June 2025

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

Dear Berwyn Water Customer,

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is being issued by the City of Berwyn, in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), and in conjunction with The City of Chicago. The report covers the monitoring period from January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024, and provides critical information about the quality and source of your drinking water. Throughout 2024, the City of Berwyn ensured that the water provided to consumers complied with the monitoring and testing requirements of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Illinois EPA (IEPA) drinking water standards and we are proud to announce that the City had no violations during the 2024 reporting period.

How do I get involved?

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more, you are welcome to attend to our regularly scheduled City Council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 8:00 PM (unless otherwise posted) in the Council Room at the City Hall, located at 6700 26th Street, Berwyn, Illinois 60402. These meetings are open to the public.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this Consumer Confidence Report, please contact **Robert Schiller, Director of Public Works, at (708) 749-4700**. Additional information pertaining to our community water system, such as City Water Infrastructure projects can be found at <https://www.berwyn-il.gov/>.

I would like to share this information with my neighbors or loved ones:

Please share this information with all other individuals who drink this water, particularly those who may not have received this notice directly, such as residents of apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses. You can accomplish this by posting the notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. Copies of this report are also available at the **City Hall located at 6700 26th Street, Berwyn, Illinois 60402**

Lawn Care Recommendations and City Sprinkling Code:

The City of Berwyn encourages smart watering practices by recommending deep and infrequent watering to conserve water and save money. Over-watering can have negative consequences, including removing vital plant nutrients from the soil and promoting disease in your lawn. The ideal amount of water for your lawn is one inch per week.

To comply with the water conservation guidelines set forth by the IEPA, the City of Berwyn enforces sprinkling restrictions between May 15 and September 15. Sprinkling is only allowed during the hours of 5:00 am to 9:00 am and 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, helping to conserve water during peak usage times.

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day, or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference. If you would like to learn more, please visit www.epa.gov/watersense.

- Consider replacing faucets and toilets with ones that have a WaterSense label. WaterSense-labeled products are designed to use less water without sacrificing performance.
- Check for toilet leaks by adding food coloring to the tank. If the toilet is leaking, color will appear in the bowl within 15 minutes. (Make sure to flush as soon as the test is done, since food coloring can stain the tank.)
- Repair dripping faucets and showerheads. A drip rate of one drip per second can waste more than 3,000 gallons per year..
- A full bathtub can require up to 70 gallons of water, while a 5-minute shower uses only 10 to 25 gallons. Turning off the tap while brushing your teeth can save up to 8 gallons per day.
- Wash only full loads of dishes and clothes, or lower the water settings for smaller loads.
- Water your lawn or garden during the cool morning hours instead of midday to reduce evaporation. Look for sprinklers that produce droplets, not mist, or use soaker hoses or trickle irrigation for trees and shrubs.
- Set sprinklers to water lawns and gardens only. Make sure you're not watering the street or sidewalk. Try not to overwater your landscaping—learn your plants' water needs and water different types appropriately.

About my community's Water Supply?

In 2024, the City of Berwyn purchased approximately 545 million gallons of treated water. The water is sourced from Chicago's Jardine Water Purification Plant, which draws from Lake Michigan. Water is delivered through a regional infrastructure network and then distributed to local and retail customers via Berwyn's 30-mile water main system.

The City of Chicago, which supplies water to Berwyn, draws its drinking water from Lake Michigan—the only Great Lake located entirely within the United States, bordered by Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin. Water is treated at two major facilities: the Jardine Water Purification Plant, serving northern areas, and the Sawyer Water Purification Plant, serving southern areas. Lake Michigan, the second-largest Great Lake by volume, holds about 1,180 cubic miles of water. Because Chicago relies on this surface water source, water quality is closely monitored through regular assessments conducted by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (Illinois EPA).

Source Water Assessment Summary

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.

The Illinois EPA implemented a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) to assist with watershed protection of public drinking water supplies. The SWAP inventories potential sources of contamination and determined the susceptibility of the source water to contamination. The Illinois EPA has completed the Source Water Assessment Program for our supply.

Further information on our community water supply's Source Water Assessment Program is available by calling DWM at (312)742-2406 or by going online at <https://dataservices.epa.illinois.gov/swap/factsheet.aspx>.

Mandatory Water Testing

The City of Berwyn and the City of Chicago conduct water sampling as mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Chicago, as the source water provider, tests for a broader range of contaminants in accordance with EPA specifications.

The City of Berwyn tests the water supply for chlorine content daily to maintain the optimum levels for consumers' needs. On a 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 Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). All testing and reports are performed according to the requirements of the IEPA.

Susceptibility to Contamination

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 **USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)**.

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, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations that 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.

Common contaminants that might be present in the 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.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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)**.

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.

Date of Sample: 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.

Fluoride is added to the water supply to help promote strong teeth. The Illinois Department of Public Health recommends an optimal fluoride level of 0.7 mg/L with a range of 0.6 mg/L to 0.8 mg/L.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (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 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 Goal (MRDLG): 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 contaminants.

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

Range of Detections: 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.

ND: Not detectable at testing limits. **N/A:** Not applicable

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

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

Unregulated Contaminants: A maximum contaminant level (MCL) for this contaminant has not been established by either state or federal regulations, nor has mandatory health effects language. The purpose for monitoring this contaminant is to assist USEPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water, and whether future regulation is warranted.

Copper Testing

Copper Range: 0.842 µg/L to 8.10 µg/L

The City of Berwyn tests its water supply for copper contamination. The 2024 test results, shown in the table, indicate that the City is in compliance with IEPA copper regulations.

Copper Educational Statement

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

To obtain a copy of the system's lead and copper tap sampling data: <https://www.berwyn-il.gov/priorities/health-and-wellness/lead-prevention-information> or call Robert Schiller, Director of Public Works, at (708) 749-4700

Lead Testing & Lead Testing Sites

Lead Range: Not Detected to 7.35 µg/L

The City of Berwyn tests its water supply for lead contamination through designated lead testing site locations. The 2024 test results, shown in the link below indicate that the Water Commission is in compliance with IEPA Lead regulations.

To obtain a copy of the system's lead and copper tap sampling data: <https://www.berwyn-il.gov/priorities/health-and-wellness/lead-prevention-information> or call Robert Schiller, Director of Public Works, at (708) 749-4700

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Lead Service Line Inventory

Our Community Water Supply has developed a service line material inventory. Our system inventory contains lead service lines.

The City of Berwyn, in coordination with the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), has completed a thorough review of its water service infrastructure to identify any potential lead service lines. Following detailed inspections and an evaluation of historical construction records, the City has determined that there are lead service lines in its system. This effort underscores the City's dedication to protecting public health, maintaining safe drinking water, and ensuring transparent communication with its residents.

View the interactive Lead Service Line Inventory map: <https://cityofberwyn.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=5a62fe28ff314144982f2d01a29d5f67>

Lead Educational Statement

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 Berwyn is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standard Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested, contact **Robert Schiller, Director of Public Works, at (708) 749-4700**. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

What are the risks if exposed to lead above the action level?

Infants and Children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

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UCMR5 Information

The Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) program, administered by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), is crucial for assessing and addressing emerging threats to water quality across the nation. By monitoring contaminants not yet regulated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the EPA gains valuable insights into potential health risks and informs future regulatory decisions. The EPA uses the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring (UCM) program to collect data for contaminants suspected to be present in drinking water, but that do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Every five years the EPA reviews the list of contaminants, largely based on the Contaminant Candidate List. **The City of Berwyn was not selected** to participate in the 2024 UCMR5 program by the EPA. For more information about the UCMR program, please visit: <https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr>.

2024 City of Chicago Voluntary Monitoring

The City of Chicago has continued monitoring for Cryptosporidium, Giardia and E. coli in its source water as part of its water quality program. No Cryptosporidium or Giardia was detected in source water samples collected in 2024. Treatment processes have been optimized to provide effective barriers for removal of Cryptosporidium oocysts and Giardia cysts in the source water, effectively removing these organisms in the treatment process. By maintaining low turbidity through the removal of particles from the water, the possibility of Cryptosporidium and Giardia organisms getting into the drinking water system is greatly reduced.

In 2024, CDWM has also continued monitoring for hexavalent chromium, also known as chromium-6. USEPA has not yet established a standard for chromium-6, a contaminant of concern which has both natural and industrial sources. Please address any questions or concerns to DWM's Water Quality Division at 312-744-8190. Data reports on the monitoring program for chromium-6 are posted on the City's website which can be accessed at the following address: http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/water/supp_info/water_quality_resultsandreports/city_of_chicago_emerigincontaminantstudy.html

For more information, please contact:
Patrick Schwer at 312-744-8190
Chicago Department of Water Management
1000 East Ohio Street, Chicago, IL 60611

This notice is being sent to you by:
The City of Chicago, Department of
Water Management, Water System
ID# IL0316000

Water Testing Results

Contaminant / Additives	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Units	Municipality	Violation	Collection Date	Likely Source of Contaminants	
Regulated Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products										
Chlorine	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1	1 - 1	ppm	Berwyn	N	2024	Water additive used to control microbes.	
	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1	1 - 1	ppm	Chicago	N	2024		
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	No Goal	60	19	14.02 - 22.5	ppb	Berwyn	N	2024	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
	No Goal	60	17	5 - 20.4	ppb	Chicago	N	2024		
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	No Goal	80	34	20.6 - 41.9	ppb	Berwyn	N	2024		
	No Goal	80	32	13.1 - 44	ppb	Chicago	N	2024		
State Regulated Contaminants										
Fluoride	4	4	0.76	0.67 - 0.76	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	Water additive which promotes strong teeth.	
Inorganic Contaminants										
Barium	2	2	0.0203	0.0198 - 0.0203	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits	
Nitrate (Measured as Nitrogen)	10	10	0.39	0.36 - 0.39	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	
Total Nitrate & Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	10	10	0.39	0.36 - 0.39	ppm	Chicago	N	2024		
Unregulated Contaminants										
Sulfate	N/A	N/A	28.2	25.3 - 28.2	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used as water softener	
Sodium	N/A	N/A	9.18	8.87 - 9.18	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits	
Radioactive & Synthetic Organic Contaminants										
Combined Radium 226/228	0	5	0.95	0.83 - 0.95	pCi/L	Chicago	N	2/4/2020	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.	
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	0	15	3.1	2.8 - 3.1	pCi/L	Chicago	N	2/4/2020		
Lead and Copper										
	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Range	Units	Municipality	Violation	Date	Likely Source of Contaminants
Lead	0	15	3.98	0	ND - 7.35	ppb	Berwyn	N	2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
	0	15	7.1	0	-	ppb	Chicago	N	2024	
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.00447	0	0.00084 - 0.0081	ppm	Berwyn	N	2024	
	1.3	1.3	0.049	0	-	ppm	Chicago	N	2024	
Coliform Bacteria										
	Total Coliform (MCLG)	Total Coliform (MCL)	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli (MCL)	Municipality	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminants			
Coliform Bacteria	0	5% of Monthly Samples are Positive	1.6	N/A	Berwyn	N	Naturally present in the environment.			
	0		0.2	N/A	Chicago	N				
Water Clarity										
	Turbidity	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Municipality	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminants			
NTU/Lowest Monthly % ≤0.3 NTU		95% ≤ 0.3 NTU	Lowest Monthly Percentage: 99.7%	99.7% - 100%	Chicago	N	Soil runoff.			
	NTU/Highest Single Measurement	TT (Limit 1 NTU)	39%	N/A	Chicago	N				
2024 City of Berwyn Violations: NONE										

Units of Measurement

ppm: Parts per million, or milligrams per liter

ppb: Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in drinking water

%≤0.3 NTU: Percent of samples less than or equal to 0.3 NTU

pCi/L: Picocuries per liter, used to measure radioactivity