

Consumer Confidence Report

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

ATHENS

IL1290050

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2025

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.

The source of drinking water used by ATHENS is Ground Water

For more information regarding this report contact:

Name Derrick Fritz

Phone 217-636-8429

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

Source of Drinking Water
<p>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.</p> <p>Contaminants that may be present in source water include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 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.

<p>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 EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.</p>
<p>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. EPA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.</p>
<p>Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.</p>
<p>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).</p>
<p>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 drinking water supplier 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</p>

to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested, 217-636-8429
Derrick Fitz at
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>.

Source Water Information

Source Water Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
WELL 4 (52049)	GW	A	1.2MI WSW WTP 280' E SANG RVR
WELL 5 (01527)	GW	A	1400 FT SSW OF WELL 3
WELL 6 (01816)	GW	A	750 ft E of Well 6
WELL 8 (02188)	GW	A	600 ft E of Well 5

Source Water Assessment

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more, please feel welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. The source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA. If you would like a copy of this information, please stop by City Hall or call our water operator at **217-636-8429**. To view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessments, including: Importance of Source Water; Susceptibility to Contamination Determination; and documentation/recommendation of Source Water Protection Efforts, you may access the Illinois EPA website at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl>.

Source of Water: ATHENS To determine Athens' susceptibility to groundwater contamination, the following documents were reviewed: a Well Site Survey published in 1989 by the Illinois EPA and a Source Water Protection Plan prepared for the City of Athens by Greene & Bradford, Inc. Consulting Engineers and published in December of 1997. Based on this information, Athens Community Water Supply's source water is susceptible to SOC contamination from non-point sources related to agricultural land use although no pesticides/herbicides were detected. The community's source water has low susceptibility to VOC contamination. The basis for this determination included no detection of any quantifiable levels of VOCs in the finished water as well as no potential sources of VOC within the recharge area. Also, as a result of monitoring conducted at the wells and entry point to the distribution system, the land use activities, and source water protection initiatives by the city (refer to the following section), the Athens Community Water Supply's source water has a low susceptibility to IOC contamination.

Coliform Bacteria

Maximum Contaminant Goal 0	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level 1 positive monthly sample.	Highest No. of Positive 1	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples 0	Violation N	Likely Source of Contamination Naturally present in the environment.
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Lead and Copper

Definitions:

Action Level: 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.

Copper Range: 0ppm to 0.0913ppm
 Lead Range: 0ppm to 0ppm

To obtain a copy of the system's lead tap sampling data: Available at City Hall 217-636-8429

CIRCLE ONE: Our Community Water Supply has/has not developed a service line material inventory.
 To obtain a copy of the system's service line inventory: Available at City Hall 217-636-8429

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	09/15/2023	1.3	1.3	0.0538	0	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions:

The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

Avg:

Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

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.

Water Quality Test Results

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 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.

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.

na: not applicable.

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

ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

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

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2025	1.3	1 - 1.63	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2025	11	5 - 14	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2025	51	27 - 69.1	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	10/08/2024	0.00788	0.00788 - 0.00788	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	10/08/2024	0.64	0.64 - 0.64	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2025	11	2.53 - 11.3	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	10/08/2024	15000	15000 - 15000			ppb	N	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits. Used in water softener regeneration.
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	01/26/2021	0.7	0.7 - 0.7	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	01/26/2021	0.03	0.03 - 0.03	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

Nitrates in drinking water at levels above 10ppm is a health risk for infants less than 6 months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause Blue Baby Syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should contact your health care provider.

Violations Table

PCBs [Polychlorinated biphenyls]

Some people who drink water containing PCBs in excess of the MCL over many years could experience changes in their skin, problems with their thymus gland, immune deficiencies, or reproductive or nervous system difficulties, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, ROUTINE MINOR	01/01/2023	12/31/2025	We failed to complete all the required tests of our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Samples were not completely analyzed by the IEPA Lab. All samples were collected and submitted on time.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not drinking water meets health standards. During 01/01/2023-12/31/2025 we did not complete all monitoring or testing for Total Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCB) and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

This was a result of the IEPA not informing us that their lab did not test PCB's until after the compliance period ended. We sent the samples when required and paid the IEPA to analyze the samples for PCB's. We will sample for PCB's during the current monitoring period. No action is required at this time. I have contacted the IEPA lab to make sure all required testing was done on the first set of samples for this monitoring period. For more information please contact Athens City Hall at 217-636-8429.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for the City of Athens

Our water system violated several drinking water standards over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 01/01/2023 – 12/31/2025 we did not monitor Total Polychlorinated Biphenyls and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for these contaminants, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were or will be taken
Total Polychlorinated Biphenyls	Every 3 years	2	February and May 2023	February and May 2023 February and May 2026

What happened? What is being done?

Samples were taken in February and May of 2023. Samples Were submitted to the IEPA lab on time. The IEPA lab failed to analyze the May 2023 sample for Total Polychlorinated Biphenyls. We were not notified until after the sampling period was over. We will make sure that the IEPA analyzes all analytes this sampling period.

For more information, please contact

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by

Water System ID#

IL1290050

Date distributed

Special Notice for Availability of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Data

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Availability of Monitoring Data for Unregulated Contaminants for Athens

Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that these data are available. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact [name of contact] at [phone number] or [mailing address].

This notice is being sent to you by [water system name]. State Water System ID#: _JL1290050_____.

Date distributed: _____.