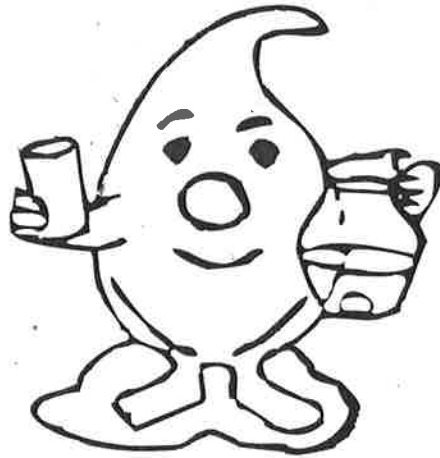


2015 Water Quality Report



BELVIDERE CITY WATER DEPARTMENT

INTRODUCTION

The City of Belvidere Water Department is providing this informational report, which will be provided to you on an annual basis, as required by the ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (E.P.A.). This is to assist you in becoming more knowledgeable about the drinking water that we provide to you. The source of drinking water, used by BELVIDERE is Ground Water.

This report is for the year 2015. NOTE! According to the E.P.A. regulations some tests are not taken annually, some are taken every 2 or 3 years. Therefore, all test results are the latest results available.

U.S.E.P.A. has established limits which have been determined to be safe and acceptable. Any Contaminant at or above the established limit or MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level) WILL BE NOTED IN THIS REPORT.

Drinking water, including bottled water may contain at least small amounts of some contaminants.

The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Should you need additional information about contaminants and potential health effects, you may call the TOLL FREE SAFE DRINKING WATER HOTLINE at 800-426-4791.

2015 Water Quality Data

Definition of Terms

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.

mg/l: milligrams per litre or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

ug/l: micrograms per litre or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

na: not applicable.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDLG): The level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's allow for margin of safety.

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.

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

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 this column, monitoring for this contaminant was conducted during the Consumer Confidence Report calendar year.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

The following information is about frequently asked questions.

IRON 0.1 - 0.25 AVG PPM

HARDNESS - 19 to 28 grains (avg.)

WATER TEMPERATURE - 56 degrees (avg.) PH - 7.5 (avg.)

1 cubic foot = 62 1/2 pounds 1 cubic foot = 7 1/2 gallons

100 cubic feet = 750 gallons

Note: Water costs \$1.57 per 100 cubic feet or 750 gallons. Or 0.0020933 cents per gallon. Compare that to a gallon of bottled water.

Water Quality Data Table Footnotes

*BETA/PHOTON EMITTERS

The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/l to be a level of concern for beta particles.

LEAD, Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

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 the USEPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water, and whether future regulation is warranted.

FLUORIDE, Fluoride is added to the water supply to help promote strong teeth. The Illinois Department of Public Health recommends an optimal fluoride range of 0.9 mg/l to 1/2 mg/l.

IRON, This contaminant is not currently regulated by USEPA. However, the state has set an MCL for this contaminant for supplies serving a population of 1000 or more.

MANGANESE, This contaminant is not currently regulated by USEPA. However, the state has set an MCL for this contaminant for supplies serving a population of 1000 or more.

SODIUM, There is not a 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.

NITRATE in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six 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 run off. Use for an infant, you should ask for advice from you health care provider.

Our water system was required to monitor for the contaminants required under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR). Results may be obtained by calling the contact listed on the first page of this report.

***MCL Statement:** The maximum contaminant level (MCL) for TTHM and HAA5 is 80 pm respectively and is currently only applicable to surface water supplies that serve 10,000 or more people. These MCLs will become effective 01/01/2004 for supplies and surface supplies serving less than 10,000 people. Until 01/01/2004, surface water supplies serving less than 10,000 people, any size water supply that purchase from a surface water source, and groundwater supplies serving more than 10,000 a state imposed TTHM MCL of 100 ppm. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years experience problems with their livers, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have increased risk of getting cancer.

Contaminant (unit of measurement) Typical Source of Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels	Date of Sample
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Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants/Disinfection By-Product

CHLORINE (ppm) Water additive used to control microbes.	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	0.6	0.4 - 0.7	12/31/15
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb) By-product of drinking water chlorination.		80	11	10.61-10.8	2015
HALOACETIC ACIDS HAA5 (ppb) By-product of drinking water chlorination.		60	3.0	0 - 4.9	2014

Inorganic Contaminants

BARIUM (ppm) Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.	2	2	0.19	.051-.192	2015
FLUORIDE (ppm) Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	4	4	1.14	0.659-1.14	2015
IRON (ppm) This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates erosion for natural deposits.		1	0.67	.026-.67	2015
MANGANESE This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates erosion for natural deposits.	150	150	74	0.74	2015
NITRATE (As N) Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	10	10	3	0 - 3.32	2015
SODIUM (ppm) Erosion from naturally occurring deposits; Used in water softener regeneration.			160	6.5-160	2015
ZINC (ppm) This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates. Naturally occurring; discharge from metal	5	5	0.095	0 - 0.095	2015

Radioactive Contaminants

Combined Radium 226/228 Erosion of natural deposits	0	5	2.54	0-2.54	2015
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium Erosion of natural deposits.	0	15	1.0	0-5.62	2015

Lead and Copper

Contaminant (unit of measurement) Typical Source of Contaminant	Action Level		90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Violation	Date of Sample
	MCLG	AL				

COPPER Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.	1.3	1.3	0.656	1	N	2015
LEAD Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	0	15	3.3	0	N	2015

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

Action Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow a margin of safety

Source Water Assessment Summary

The City of Belvidere (Facility Number 0070050) obtains its water from seven active community water supply wells. Wells #3, #4, #5, #7, #8, #9 and #10, (Illinois EPA11301, 11302, 11303, 11305, 11306, 11307, and 02010 respectively) supply an average of 3,820,000 gallons per day (gpd) to 7412 direct services and 3 satellite service or a population of 25,585. In addition, Belvidere provides source water to Four Seasons 2000 Addition.

To determine Belvidere's susceptibility to groundwater contamination, the following document was reviewed: a well Site Survey, published in 1989 by the Illinois EPA. Based on the information obtained in this document, there are 77 potential sources of groundwater contamination that could pose a hazard to groundwater utilized by Belvidere's community water supply. These include multiple vehicle and engine repair and sales facilities, dry cleaners and hazardous waste storage facilities, electrical and municipal buildings, salvage/construction and demolition company's, above and below ground fuel storage tanks, along with other various potential sources of contamination. In addition, information provided by the Leaking Underground Storage Tank and Remedial Project Management Sections of the Illinois EPA indicated sites with on-going remediation that might be of concern. Based upon this information, the Illinois EPA has determined that the Belvidere Community Water Supply's source water is susceptible to contamination. This determination was based on a number of criteria including: monitoring conducted at the wells; monitoring conducted at the entry point to the distribution system; and the available hydrogeologic data on the wells. As such, the United States Geological Survey (USGS), Illinois District, in co-operation with the Illinois EPA has provided 5-year recharge area delineations for wells #3, #4, #5, #7, #9 and #10. Due to lack of sufficient data, the recharge area for well #8 has not been calculated at this time. The land use within the recharge areas of the wells was analyzed as part of this susceptibility determination. This land use includes residential, commercial and agricultural properties.

Further detailed information regarding the susceptibility of Belvidere wells to contamination may be obtained from the following sources: Mills P.C., Halford K.J., and Cobbs R.P. (2002). Delineation of the Troy Bedrock Valley and Particle-Tracking Analysis of Ground-Water Flow Underlying Belvidere, Illinois. Water-Resources Investigations Report 02-4062. Denver, Co: U.S. Geological Survey. Mills P.C., Naximek J.E., Halford K.J., and Yeskis D.J. (2002). Hydrogeology and Simulation of Ground-Water Flow in the Aquifers Underlying Belvidere, Illinois. Water-Resources Investigations Report 01-4100. Denver, CO: U.S. Geological Survey. Mills P.C., Yeskis D.J. and Straub T.D. (1998). Geologic, Hydrologic, and Water-Quality Data from Selected Boreholes and Wells In and Near Belvidere, Illinois, 1989-96. Open-File Report 97-242. Denver, CO: U.S. Geological Survey. Brown T.A., and Mills P.C. (1995). Well-Construction, Hydrogeologic, and Ground-Water Quality data in the Vicinity of Belvidere, Boone County, Illinois. Open-File report 94-515. Denver, CO: U.S. Geological Survey.

The Illinois Environmental Protection Act provides minimum protection zones of 400 feet for Belvidere's wells. These minimum protection zones are regulated by the Illinois EPA. To further reduce the risk to the source water, a maximum protection zone may be established, which is authorized by the Illinois Environmental Protection Act and allows county and municipal officials the opportunity to provide additional potential source prohibitions up to 1,000 feet from their wells.

To further minimize the risk to the city's groundwater supply, the Illinois EPA recommends the following additional activities be considered. First, the water supply staff may wish to revisit their contingency planning. Contingency planning documents are a primary means to ensure that, through emergency preparedness, a community will minimize their risk of being without safe or adequate water. Second, the water supply staff is encouraged to review their cross connection control ordinance to ensure that it remains current and viable. The city's requirement for the user of backflow preventors on new construction and use of reduced pressure zone protection at the city's bulk loading station are good examples of protecting the distribution system from cross connections. Finally, the Illinois EPA recommends that the city investigate additional source water protection management options to address the land use activities within the wells' recharge area. Specifically, these management options should address potential impacts from potential point sources and non-point sources related to agricultural land uses.

To further reduce the risk to source water, Belvidere may wish to implement a wellhead protection program, which includes the proper abandonment of potential routes of ground water contamination within the recharge areas, of the community's wells. Development of appropriate management programs for identified potential sources of contamination and correction of any sanitary defects that might be present at the water treatment facility. This effort may result in the community water supply receiving a special exception permit from the Illinois EPA, which allows a reduction in monitoring and laboratory analysis costs.

SOME OVERVIEW OF THE BELVIDERE WATER DEPARTMENT

The Water Department is owned and operated by the City of Belvidere and was established in 1891. The water supply comes from 7 wells, wells 3 thru 10. There is 6 deep sandstone aquifers, wells 3 thru 10 and 1 shallow sand and gravel aquifer well #9. Wells 3 and 8 all pump water directly into ground-level reservoirs. The water is then pumped from the reservoirs into the distribution system with booster pumping equipment. The remaining wells 4, 5, 7, 9 and 10 are pumped directly into the distribution system, with two 300,000 gallon elevated towers, and one 500,000 gallon water tower for fire protection and to maintain a constant pressure in the system, with 90 pounds of pressure at the main plant. All of the wells are monitored and controlled by a computer monitoring system at the plant for maintaining steady water pressure and any emergencies at the well. Four of the main wells are equipped for emergency pumping, with portable generator hook-up. The system is capable of producing approximately 13,750,000 gallons in 24 hours. Chlorine is added for purity and to prevent bacteria. Fluoride is added for strong bones and to prevent tooth decay. Orth-phosphate is added to control rust and iron. The Department strides in High Professional Standard in maintaining quality water and service to its customers. The Department has received certificates from Illinois Environmental Protection Agency and the Illinois Department of Public Health. The water department employs 13 people, 5 people on the digging crew, for maintaining the water and sewer system, 5 people on the distribution system for water sampling, customer assistance, well maintenance, and 3 secretary/clerical clerks. Additional information or concerns pertaining to the water quality or service may be obtained by calling the water superintendent at the Belvidere Water Department at 544-6622

Here is a list of contaminants that have the potential of being present in the water source.

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agriculture live stock 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.

"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 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)**. "Cryptosporidium is not currently know to be found in ground water supplies.

MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

These samples are taken to determine the presence of Total Coliform Bacteria, Fecal Coliform, and E. Coli.

There are 84 raw water samples taken (sample taken at well before chemicals added). 36 finished water samples taken (samples taken after chemicals are added, but before entering the distribution system). 360 Distribution samples taken (samples taken evenly throughout the system). This totals 480 samples per year, or 40 per month. The amount of samples are determined by the population and are required by the E.P.A. The Water Department also takes one sample at the well and one near the well to help maintain an even amount of chlorine and fluoride throughout the system. 365 days a year.

No drinking water quality violations were recorded during 2015.

Unit of Measurement - Definition

ppt - Parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
ppm - Parts per million, or milligrams per liter
ppb - Parts per billion or micrograms per liter
pos/mo - Number of positive samples per month
pCi/l: picoCuries per liter (measurement of radioactivity)

