

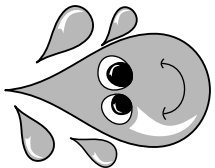
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## 2019 Annual Water Quality Report Town of Munster

### Every Drop Counts

**POSTAL CUSTOMER  
MUNSTER, IN 46321**

**TOWN OF MUNSTER  
1005 RIDGE ROAD  
MUNSTER, IN 46321**



## We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report

This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

In 2019, our water department distributed 1,227,131,000 gallons of water to our customers. Our source water is Lake Michigan, which is surface water, located in Hammond, Indiana. Your water is purchased pretreated from Hammond Water Works.

Hammond treats your water using disinfectant and filtration to remove or reduce harmful contaminants that may come from the source water.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make

improvements in the water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

We at the Town of Munster Water Department work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact our Utility Superintendent by calling 219-836-6971 or by writing to this address: the Town of Munster, 1005 Ridge Road, Munster, IN 46321. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. You can attend Regular Town Council meetings every month at Town Hall on 1005 Ridge Road. Check our website, [www.munster.org](http://www.munster.org), for meeting dates or call 219-836-6900.

### The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wants you to know:

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).

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.

**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.

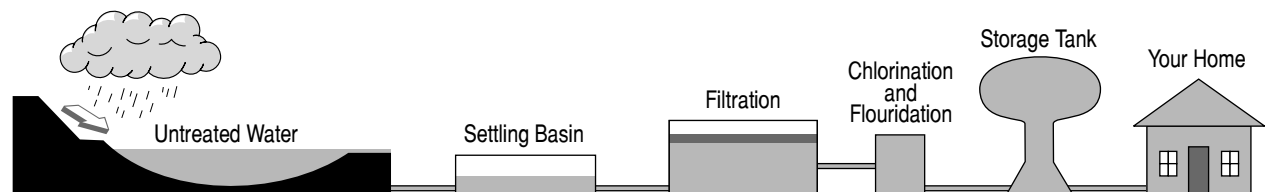
*Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from the urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

*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 byproducts 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.

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. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.



## TOWN OF MUNSTER'S 2019 MONITORING RESULTS FOR CONTAMINANTS IN DRINKING WATER

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).

Contaminant	Date Tested	Unit	MCLG (Goal)	EPA MCL (Limit)	Highest Level Detected	Range Detected	Violation Yes/No	Possible source of contaminants
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>								
Total Coliform	2019	% of samples	0	>5%	0	n/a	No	Naturally present in environment
<sup>2</sup> Turbidity	2019	NTU	n/a	TT	0.13	0.04-0.13	No	Soil runoff
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Flouride	2019	PPM	4	4	1.3	0.03-1.3	No	Dental health additive, natural deposit erosion
Sodium	2019	PPM	n/a	n/a	0.11	n/a	No	Naturally occurring
Barium	2019	PPM	2.0	2.0	0.020	n/a	No	Drilling wastes, metal refineries, natural deposits
Nitrates (Nitrogen)	2019	PPM	10.0	10.0	0.42	n/a	No	Fertilizer runoff, septic tanks, sewage
<b>Lead and Copper</b>								
<sup>3</sup> Copper	2017	PPM	1.3	AL=1.3	0.19 (90th percentile)	ND	No	Corrosion of plumbing, natural deposit erosion
<sup>3</sup> Lead	2017	PPB	0	AL=15	4.9 (90th percentile)	ND	No	Corrosion of plumbing, natural deposit erosion
<b>Disinfection By-Products</b>								
Chlorine	2019	PPM	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4	1.0	0-1.0	No	Drinking water disinfectant
Atrazine	2019	PPB	3.0	3.0	0.5	0-0.5	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Trihalomethane (TTHM)	2019	PPB	n/a	80	19.5	12-26	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acid (HAA5)	2019	PPB	n/a	60	6	4.36-6.8	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
Gross Alpha	2019	pCi/L	0	15	0.54	0.54-0.54	No	Erosion of natural deposits

\* Testing results by Munster Water Department and Hammond Water Works Department

### Notes:

<sup>1</sup>The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

<sup>2</sup>Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

<sup>3</sup>Monitored every three years, due to the low concentration of Lead and Copper.

Backflow Prevention is now active. All sprinkling systems should comply with Ordinance 1357 (Annual Backflow Prevention). Any sprinkler system found not complying with Ordinance 1357 (Annual Backflow Prevention) will be subject to fines and disconnection of water service. The Munster Water Department will furnish details to affected users.

## Definitions:

**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 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.

**90th Percentile:** 90% of samples are equal to or less than the number in the chart.

**NTU or Nephelometric Turbidity Units:** A measure of clarity.

**NA:** Not applicable

**ND:** Not detectable at testing limits.

**ppb or parts per billion:** micrograms per liter (ug/l).

**ppm or parts per million:** milligrams per liter (mg/l).

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

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

**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 a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**pCi/L:** Picocuries per liter

## Water Conservation Tips

Water conservation measures not only save the supply of our water source, but can also cut the cost of water treatment by saving energy. Here are some conservation measures you can take:

### At Home:

- 💧 Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
- 💧 Install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets, and appliances.
- 💧 Wash only full loads of laundry.
- 💧 Don't use the toilet for trash disposal.
- 💧 Don't let the water run while shaving, washing, or brushing teeth.
- 💧 Run the dishwasher only when full.

### Outdoors:

- 💧 Water the lawn and garden as little as possible.
- 💧 Choose plants that don't need much water.
- 💧 Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.
- 💧 Use water from a bucket to wash your car and save the hose for rinsing.
- 💧 Obey any and all water bans or regulations.



1. a slow steady drip (100 drops a minute)    2. a fast drip    3. a small stream    4. a large stream

GALLONS WASTED PER MONTH			
350	600	2,000-2,700	4,600

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

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. We 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 Water Drinking Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.