

# TOWN OF EDGEWOOD WATER DEPARTMENT

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IN5248006

## *WATER QUALITY REPORT 2015*

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE SPANISH-SPEAKING POPULATION

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad del agua potable que usted consume. Por favor traduzcalo, o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien y pueda explicarle.

### IS OUR WATER SAFE?

This brochure is a quick look of the quality of the drinking water that we provided last year. Included as part of this report are details about where the water that you drink comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Indiana standards. So when you drink Edgewood water, rest assured that you are drinking clean, quality water that meets and exceeds all federal and state standards for safe drinking water.

### WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF OUR WATER?

The Edgewood Water Department is mandated by the E.P.A. to make a yearly report to its customers on Water Quality. The Water Plant is located at 526 Winding Way. The water is obtained from an aquifer about 300 feet deep. The water from the wells is pumped under pressure through filters containing anthracite and green sand to remove iron and manganese. The water is treated with chlorine to protect from coliform bacteria. Sodium Fluoride is added to promote strong teeth. The water is tested three times per month for coliform bacteria. An independent lab tests for contaminants. The Edgewood Water Department pumps approximately 160,000 gallons per day through about 16 miles of pipe.

### DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people, such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplant, people with HIV/AIDS or other kind of 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 has set guidelines and appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants which are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

### WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY DRINKING WATER?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk or that it is not suitable for drinking. More information about contaminants and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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, or can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in the raw, untreated water may 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 the result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, and mining or farming operations.
- **Pesticides and Herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- **Organic Chemical Contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production operations, and can also result from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

- **Radioactive Contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or 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 that may be present in the water provided by public drinking water systems. We are required to treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Moreover, FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants that may be present in bottled water, which must provide the same level of health protection for public health.

## **Water Quality Data**

The table below lists all the contaminants that we detected during the 2015 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise indicated, the data presented in this table is from testing done during the 2015 calendar year. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) requires us to monitor for certain contaminants at a frequency less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from one year to another. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, may however be more than one year old.

Some of the terms and abbreviations used in this report are:

- MCL:** Maximum Contaminant Level, the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.  
**MCLG:** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.  
**MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level, the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water.  
**MRDLG:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal, the level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.  
**AL:** Action Level, the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements or action which a system must follow.  
**TT:** Treatment Technique, a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.  
**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, a measure of the clarity (or cloudiness) of water.  
**Ppm:** parts per million, a measure for concentration equivalent to milligrams per liter.  
**Ppb:** parts per billion, a measure for concentration equivalent to micrograms per liter.  
**PCi/L:** picocuries per liter, a measure for radiation.  
**P\*:** Potential violation, one that is likely to occur in the near future once the system has sampled for four quarters.  
**N/a:** either not available or not applicable.  
**ND:** Not Detected, the result was not detected at or above the analytical method detection level.

## **Contaminants Detected 2015 Inorganic Contaminants**

Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Result	Min	Max	AboveAL # Repeats	Violates	Likely Sources
2015	Barium	2	2	mg/l	0.21	.21	.21		No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
2015	Arsenic	10		ppb	.0049	.0049	.0049		No	Erosion of natural deposits
2015	Fluoride	4	4	mg/l	0.85	.85	.85		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

## Disinfection Byproducts & Precursors

Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Result	Min	Max	AboveAL # Repeats	Violates	Likely Sources
2014	Chlorine	4	4	ppm	.52	.19	.96		No	Water additive to control microbes
2014	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	60		ug/l	2 – 2.3		2		No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

## Radioactive Contaminants

Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Result	Min	Max	AboveAL # Repeats	Violates	Likely Sources
7/21/2009	Beta/photon emitters	4	0	mrem/yr	2.6	2.6	2.6		No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
7/21/2009	Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	15	0	pci/l	0.2	0.2	0.2		No	Erosion of natural deposits
7/21/2009	Uranium	30	0	ug/l	1.2	1.2	1.2		No	Erosion of natural deposits

## Lead & Copper

Date	Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Units	Result	Min	Max	AboveAL # Repeats	Violates	Likely Sources
10/15/2015	Copper (90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile)	1.3 (AL)	1.3	mg/l	0.14	.01	.23		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
10/15/2015	Lead (90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile)	15 (AL)	0	mg/l	.0014	0	.0033		No	Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of household plumbing systems

### Our Watershed Protection Efforts

Our water system is working with the community to increase awareness of better waste disposal practices to further protect the sources of our drinking water. We are also working with other agencies and with local watershed groups to educate the community on ways to keep our water safe.

### Public Involvement Opportunities

Please call our office if you have questions. If you wish to participate in decisions that may affect water quality, the regularly scheduled board meetings are held every third Monday of each month at 5:00 p.m. at the Edgewood Town Hall, 3405 Nichol Avenue, Anderson, IN 46011. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which is the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.

### Lead in 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. The Edgewood Water Department 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

## MONITORING REQUIREMENTS NOT MET FOR EDGEWOOD WATER DEPARTMENT

Our water system violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we are doing to correct this situation.

*We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. The result of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets EPA's health standards. The last monitoring period testing for DBP's was either not performed or failed to comply with all requirements of the Stage 1 Disinfection Byproducts Rule (St1 DBPR); therefore, we cannot be sure of the quality of the water at that time.*

### **What should I do?**

You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

### **What does this mean?**

*This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Some people who drink trihalomethanes in excess of the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.*

### **What Happened? What is being done?**

While sampling during 2015, the sampling for trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids were overlooked. Sampling for these contaminants will be completed during the next sampling cycle.

For more information, please contact Owen Kirby at 298-6074 or write to 3405 Nichol Avenue, Anderson, IN 46011.

*Please share this information with all 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 notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This notice is being sent to you by the Edgewood Water Department PWSID# IN5248006