

# ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2024



***Presented By***  
**City of Batavia**

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

PWS ID#: IL0894130



## Our Commitment

In 2024 your tap water met all drinking water health standards set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the state. Our system vigilantly safeguards its groundwater supply, and we are happy to report that the water department had no violation of a contaminant level or of any other water quality standard in the previous year. This report summarizes the quality of water that we provide, including details about where your water comes from, drinking water facts, contaminants detected in drinking water, and how your tap water compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. The Batavia Water Department is fully committed to providing you with thorough, accurate information because informed customers are our best allies.

## Source Water Assessment

Source water protection is a proactive approach to protecting our critical sources of public water supply and ensuring that the best source of water is being used to serve the public. It involves implementation of pollution prevention practices to protect the water quality in a watershed or wellhead protection area serving a public water supply. Along with treatment, it establishes a multibarrier approach to ensuring clean and safe drinking water for the citizens of Illinois.

The Illinois EPA (IEPA) has implemented a source water assessment program to assist with wellhead and watershed protection of public drinking water supplies. Batavia's source water assessment has been completed by the IEPA. A copy is available at the City of Batavia Public Works Building, 200 North Raddant Road. To view a summary version of the completed source water assessments, including importance of source water, susceptibility to contamination determination, and documentation or recommendation of source water protection efforts, visit the IEPA website at [www.epa.illinois.gov/topics/drinking-water](http://www.epa.illinois.gov/topics/drinking-water).

Based on information obtained in a well site survey published in 1990 by the IEPA, 16 potential sources or possible problem sites were identified within the survey area of Batavia's wells. Furthermore, information provided by the Leaking Underground Storage Tank and Remedial Project Management Sections of the IEPA indicated several additional sites with ongoing remediation which may be of concern.

The IEPA has determined that the Batavia community water supply's source water is not susceptible to contamination. This determination is 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.

Furthermore, in anticipation of the U.S. EPA's proposed Ground Water Rule, the IEPA has determined that the Batavia community water supply is not vulnerable to viral contamination. This determination is based on the completed evaluation of the following criteria during the vulnerability waiver process: the community's wells are properly constructed with sound integrity and proper site conditions, a hydrogeologic barrier exists which prevents pathogen movement, all potential routes and sanitary defects have been mitigated such that the source water is adequately protected, monitoring data did not indicate a history of disease outbreak, and the sanitary survey of the water supply did not indicate a viral contamination threat.

Because the community's wells are constructed in a confined aquifer, which should prevent the movement of pathogens into the wells, well hydraulics were not considered to be a significant factor in the susceptibility determination and were not evaluated for this groundwater supply. If you would like a copy of our assessment, please feel free to contact our office during regular business hours at (630) 454-2450.

## Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. U.S. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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) or [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater).



## PFAS Statewide Investigation

In 2021 we participated in the Illinois PFAS Statewide Investigation. Eighteen per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) were sampled, and none were detected in our finished drinking water. For more information about PFAS health advisories, visit <https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/pfas/pfas-healthadvisory.html>.

## QUESTIONS?

If you need help understanding this report or have questions, please contact Jeremy Barkei at (630) 454-2450 or [jbarkei@bataviail.gov](mailto:jbarkei@bataviail.gov). This report is updated each year.

## Substances That Could Be in Water

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 occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants, which can occur naturally or as the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 mean that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or visiting [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater).

## Community Participation

If you would like to learn more, please feel welcome to attend any of our city council meetings to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the first and third Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall, 100 North Island Avenue.

## What Are PFAS?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of manufactured chemicals used worldwide since the 1950s to make fluoropolymer coatings and products that resist heat, oil, stains, grease, and water. During production and use, PFAS can migrate into the soil, water, and air. Most PFAS do not break down; they remain in the environment, ultimately finding their way into drinking water. Because of their widespread use and their persistence in the environment, PFAS are found all over the world at low levels. Some PFAS can build up in people and animals with repeated exposure over time.

The most commonly studied PFAS are perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS). PFOA and PFOS have been phased out of production and use in the United States, but other countries may still manufacture and use them.

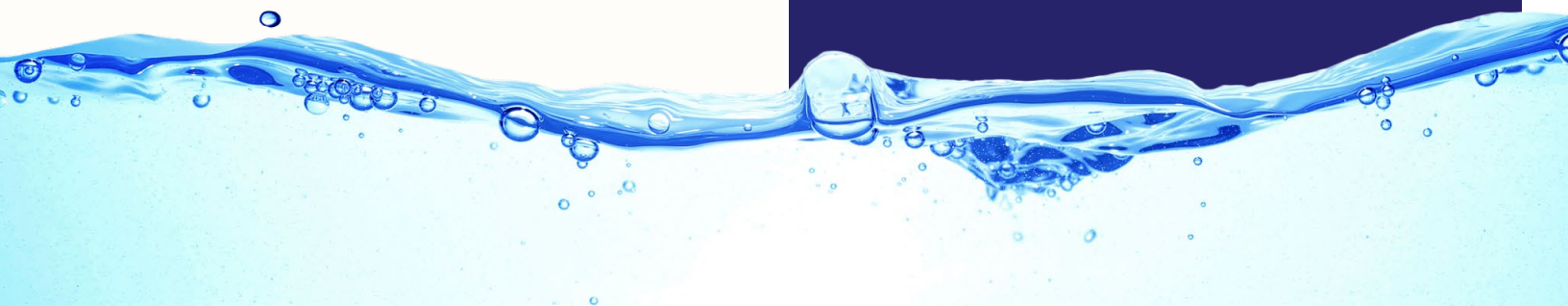
Some products that may contain PFAS include:

- Some grease-resistant paper, fast food containers/wrappers, microwave popcorn bags, pizza boxes
- Nonstick cookware
- Stain-resistant coatings used on carpets, upholstery, and other fabrics
- Water-resistant clothing
- Personal care products (shampoo, dental floss) and cosmetics (nail polish, eye makeup)
- Cleaning products
- Paints, varnishes, and sealants

Even though recent efforts to remove PFAS have reduced the likelihood of exposure, some products may still contain them. If you have questions or concerns about products you use in your home, contact the Consumer Product Safety Commission at (800) 638-2772. For a more detailed discussion on PFAS, please visit [bit.ly/3Z5AMm8](http://bit.ly/3Z5AMm8).

## Water Treatment Process

Batavia's drinking water is a combination of shallow and deep well water. All water is pumped to the city's water treatment plant, where the shallow well water is filtered for the removal of iron, manganese, and hydrogen sulfide and then chlorinated, fluoridated, and treated with a corrosion inhibitor before being blended in the ground storage reservoir. The deep well water is processed at the treatment plant using a hydrogen-manganese-oxide adsorption process for the removal of radium. All water customers receive the same blended water.



## Tap vs. Bottled

Thanks in part to aggressive marketing, the bottled water industry has successfully convinced us all that water purchased in bottles is a healthier alternative to tap water. However, according to a four-year study conducted by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), bottled water is not necessarily cleaner or safer than most tap water. In fact, about 40 percent of bottled water is actually just tap water, according to government estimates.

The FDA is responsible for regulating bottled water, but these rules allow for less rigorous testing and purity standards than those required by the U.S. EPA for community tap water. For instance, the high mineral content of some bottled waters makes them unsuitable for babies and young children. Further, the FDA completely exempts bottled water that's packaged and sold within the same state, which accounts for about 70 percent of all bottled water sold in the United States.

People spend 10,000 times more per gallon for bottled water than they typically do for tap water. If you get your recommended eight glasses a day from bottled water, you could spend up to \$1,400 annually. The same amount of tap water would cost about 49 cents. Even if you installed a filter device on your tap, your annual expenditure would be far less than what you'd pay for bottled water. For a detailed discussion on the NRDC study results, visit [goo.gl/Jxb6xG](http://goo.gl/Jxb6xG).



## FOG (Fats, Oils, and Grease)

You may not be aware of it, but every time you pour fat, oil, or grease (FOG) down your sink (e.g., bacon grease), you are contributing to a costly problem in the sewer collection system. FOG coats the inner walls of the plumbing in your house as well as the walls of underground piping throughout the community. Over time, these greasy materials build up and form blockages in pipes, which can lead to wastewater backing up into parks, yards, streets, and storm drains. These backups allow FOG to contaminate local waters, including drinking water. Exposure to untreated wastewater is a public health hazard. FOG discharged into septic systems and drain fields can also cause malfunctions, resulting in more frequent tank pump-outs and other expenses.

Communities spend billions of dollars every year to unplug or replace grease-blocked pipes, repair pump stations, and clean up costly and illegal wastewater spills. Here are some tips that you and your family can follow to help maintain a well-run system now and in the future:

### NEVER:

- Pour FOG down the house or storm drains.
- Dispose of food scraps by flushing them.
- Use the toilet as a wastebasket.

### ALWAYS:

- Scrape and collect FOG into a waste container such as an empty coffee can, and dispose of it with your garbage.
- Place food scraps in waste containers or garbage bags for disposal with solid wastes.
- Place a wastebasket in each bathroom for solid wastes like disposable diapers, creams and lotions, and personal hygiene products, including nonbiodegradable wipes.

## Water Conservation Tips

You can play a role in conserving water and save yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use three to six gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water-using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.



## Why save water?

Although 80 percent of the Earth's surface is water, only 1 percent is suitable for drinking. The rest is either saltwater or permanently frozen, and we can't drink it, wash with it, or use it to water plants.

## Which household activity wastes the most water?

Most people would say the majority of water use comes from showering or washing dishes; however, toilet flushing is by far the largest single use of water in a home (accounting for 40% of total water use). Toilets use about 4 to 6 gallons per flush, so consider an ultra-low-flow (ULF) toilet, which requires only 1.5 gallons.

## Should I be concerned about what I'm pouring down my drain?

If your home is served by a sewage system, your drain is an entrance to your wastewater disposal system and eventually to a drinking water source. Consider purchasing environmentally friendly home products whenever possible, and never pour hazardous materials (e.g., car engine oil) down the drain. Check with your health department for more information on proper disposal methods.

## How long can I store drinking water?

The disinfectant in drinking water will eventually dissipate, even in a closed container. If that container housed bacteria prior to filling up with the tap water, the bacteria may continue to grow once the disinfectant has dissipated. Some experts believe that water can be stored up to six months before needing to be replaced. Refrigeration will help slow the bacterial growth.

## How long does it take a water supplier to produce one glass of treated drinking water?

It can take up to 45 minutes to produce a single glass of drinking water.

## What Causes the Pink Stain on Bathroom Fixtures?

The reddish-pink color frequently noted in bathrooms on shower stalls, tubs, tile, toilets, sinks, and toothbrush holders and on pets' water bowls is caused by the growth of the bacterium *Serratia marcescens*. *Serratia* is commonly isolated from soil, water, plants, insects, and vertebrates (including humans). The bacteria can be introduced into the house through any of these sources. The bathroom provides a perfect environment (moist and warm) for bacteria to thrive.

The best solution to this problem is to clean and dry these surfaces to keep them free from bacteria. Chlorine-based compounds work best, but keep in mind that abrasive cleaners may scratch fixtures, making them more susceptible to bacterial growth. Chlorine bleach can be used periodically to disinfect the toilet and help eliminate the occurrence of the pink residue. Keeping bathtubs and sinks wiped down using a solution that contains chlorine will also help to minimize its occurrence. *Serratia* will not survive in chlorinated drinking water.



The following tables summarize contaminants detected in your drinking water supply in 2024.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA’s Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if it needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA’s Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

| REGULATED SUBSTANCES                |                 |                    |                 |                    |                   |           |                                                                                                                           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|-----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SUBSTANCE<br>(UNIT OF MEASURE)      | YEAR<br>SAMPLED | MCL<br>[MRDL]      | MCLG<br>[MRDLG] | AMOUNT<br>DETECTED | RANGE<br>LOW-HIGH | VIOLATION | TYPICAL SOURCE                                                                                                            |
| Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)              | 2024            | 15                 | 0               | 2.19               | 2.19–2.19         | No        | Erosion of natural deposits                                                                                               |
| Barium (ppm)                        | 2023            | 2                  | 2               | 0.547              | 0.38–0.547        | No        | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits                                |
| Chlorine (ppm)                      | 2024            | 4                  | 4               | 1                  | 0.8–1             | No        | Water additive used to control microbes                                                                                   |
| Chromium (ppb)                      | 2023            | 100                | 100             | 5.9                | 5.76–5.9          | No        | Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits                                                          |
| Combined Radium (pCi/L)             | 2024            | 5                  | 0               | 2.23               | 2.23–2.23         | No        | Erosion of natural deposits                                                                                               |
| Fluoride (ppm)                      | 2023            | 4                  | 4               | 0.98               | 0.65–0.98         | No        | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)       | 2024            | 60                 | NA              | 11.74              | 4–11.74           | No        | By-product of drinking water disinfection                                                                                 |
| Iron (ppb)                          | 2023            | 1,000 <sup>1</sup> | NA              | 126                | ND–126            | No        | Erosion from naturally occurring deposits                                                                                 |
| Nitrate (ppm)                       | 2024            | 10                 | 10              | 0.3                | 0.3–0.3           | No        | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits                               |
| Selenium (ppb)                      | 2023            | 50                 | 50              | 4.06               | ND–4.06           | No        | Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines                          |
| Sodium (ppm)                        | 2023            | NS <sup>2</sup>    | NA              | 37.6               | 17.5–37.6         | No        | Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Water softener regeneration                                                      |
| TTHMs [total trihalomethanes] (ppb) | 2024            | 80                 | NA              | 51                 | 38.4–51           | No        | By-product of drinking water disinfection                                                                                 |

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community<sup>3</sup>

| SUBSTANCE<br>(UNIT OF MEASURE) | YEAR<br>SAMPLED | AL  | MCLG | AMOUNT<br>DETECTED<br>(90TH %ILE) | RANGE<br>LOW-HIGH | SITES<br>ABOVE AL/<br>TOTAL SITES | VIOLATION | TYPICAL SOURCE                                                       |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|-----|------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Copper (ppm)                   | 2023            | 1.3 | 1.3  | 0.541                             | 0.276–1.07        | 0/30                              | No        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Lead (ppb)                     | 2023            | 15  | 0    | 2.42                              | ND–9.56           | 0/30                              | No        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits |

| UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES <sup>4</sup> |                 |                    |                   |                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| SUBSTANCE<br>(UNIT OF MEASURE)      | YEAR<br>SAMPLED | AMOUNT<br>DETECTED | RANGE<br>LOW-HIGH | TYPICAL SOURCE                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Lithium (ppb)                       | 2024            | 15.6               | 15.6–15.6         | Naturally occurring; Commercial uses including as a pharmaceutical drug, an industrial chemical catalyst, a sanitizing agent for swimming pools and hot tubs, and a component of batteries |

Definitions

**90th %ile:** The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

**AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other required actions by the water supply.

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** 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.

**MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):** 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.

**MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** 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.

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** 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.

**ND (Not detected):** Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**NS:** No standard.

**pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** A measure of radioactivity.

**ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

## About Our Monitoring Violation

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether our drinking water meets health standards. In October 2024, we did not complete all monitoring or testing for chlorine and E. coli 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 following table lists the contaminants we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample this contaminant, 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.

| Chlorine                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |                 |               |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort. |                 |               |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| VIOLATION TYPE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | VIOLATION BEGIN | VIOLATION END | VIOLATION EXPLANATION                                                                                                                                                                       |
| MONITORING, ROUTINE (DBP), MAJOR                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 10/01/2024      | 10/31/2024    | We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated. |

| Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                 |               |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| The Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) seeks to prevent waterborne diseases caused by E. coli. E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, |                 |               |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| VIOLATION TYPE                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | VIOLATION BEGIN | VIOLATION END | VIOLATION EXPLANATION                                                                                                                                                                       |
| MONITORING, ROUTINE, MINOR (RTCR)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | 10/01/2024      | 10/31/2024    | We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated. |

### What Happened? What Is Being Done?

The Batavia Water Utility is required to collect 30 chlorine and E. coli samples each month from 30 IEPA-approved sample sites strategically spread across the entire water distribution system. The system is divided into 15 zones, with two sampling sites per zone. Batavia Water Utility practices a staggered approach: 15 samples (1 per zone) are collected in the first half of the month, and another 15 (from separate sites within each zone) in the second half. This method provides bimonthly analytical data for all 15 zones from 30 separate sites, allowing for much earlier detection and operational response to any emerging contaminants in our system.

A task list was prepared by priority for the week of Monday, September 30, through Friday, October 4, 2024, which included sampling the first 15 zones as described. However, operations staff inadvertently collected the 15 samples on Monday, September 30 (outside of the October 2024 monitoring period) instead of Tuesday, October 1 (within the October 2024 monitoring period). The honest, single-day mistake was not caught until early November 2024. Essentially, 45 samples were collected in September and only 15 in October. All samples collected met minimum chlorine residuals and were analyzed by a state-certified lab and deemed completely free of E. coli, but not all 30 samples were collected within the October 2024 monitoring period, so the Batavia Water Utility was issued an IEPA violation and required to publish this public notice. We have learned from this error and have since added several more layers of redundancy to our internal protocols. For more information, please contact Jeremy Barkei at (630) 454-2450.

<sup>1</sup>Iron is not currently regulated by the U.S. EPA; however, the state has set an MCL for supplies serving a population of 1,000 or more.  
<sup>2</sup>Sodium is not currently regulated by the U.S. EPA or IEPA.  
<sup>3</sup>This table summarizes our most recent lead and copper tap sampling data. If you would like to review the complete lead tap sampling data, please contact Jeremy Barkei at (630) 454-2450.  
<sup>4</sup>No MCL or mandatory health effects language has been established by either state or federal regulations for these contaminants. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the U.S. EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

## Lead in Home Plumbing

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 Batavia 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, or doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead and wish to have your water tested, contact the City of Batavia at (630) 454-2450. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at [epa.gov/safewater/lead](https://epa.gov/safewater/lead).

To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by October 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. The lead service inventory may be viewed at <https://arcg.is/0Pz5Gz1>. Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.



## BY THE NUMBERS

 **3.4** BILLION

The daily volume in gallons of water recycled and reused in the U.S., reducing waste and conserving resources.

 **28%**

The percent reduction in per capita water use in the U.S. since 1980, thanks to efficiency improvements.

 **99.99%**

The percent effectiveness of modern water treatment plants in removing harmful bacteria and viruses from drinking water.

 **1.2** MILLION

The length in miles of drinking water pipes in the U.S. delivering clean water to millions of homes and businesses daily.

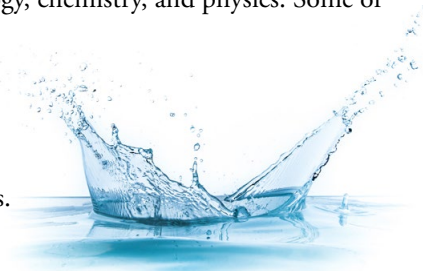
 **1.7** MILLION

The number of jobs supported by the U.S. water sector.

## Count on Us

Delivering high-quality drinking water to our customers involves far more than just pushing water through pipes. Water treatment is a complex, time-consuming process. Because tap water is highly regulated by state and federal laws, water treatment plant and system operators must be licensed and are required to commit to long-term, on-the-job training before becoming fully qualified. Our licensed water professionals have a basic understanding of a wide range of subjects, including mathematics, biology, chemistry, and physics. Some of the tasks they complete on a regular basis include:

- Operating and maintaining equipment to purify and clarify water.
- Monitoring and inspecting machinery, meters, gauges, and operating conditions.
- Conducting tests and inspections on water and evaluating the results.
- Maintaining optimal water chemistry.
- Applying data to formulas that determine treatment requirements, flow levels, and concentration levels.
- Documenting and reporting test results and system operations to regulatory agencies.
- Serving our community through customer support, education, and outreach.



So the next time you turn on your faucet, think of the skilled professionals who stand behind each drop.

## Water Main Flushing

Distribution mains (pipes) convey water to homes, businesses, and hydrants in your neighborhood. The water entering distribution mains is of very high quality; however, water quality can deteriorate in areas of the distribution mains over time. Water main flushing is the process of cleaning the interior of water distribution mains by sending a rapid flow of water through them.

Flushing maintains water quality in several ways. For example, flushing removes sediments like iron and manganese. Although iron and manganese do not pose health concerns, they can affect the taste, clarity, and color of the water. Additionally, sediments can shield microorganisms from the disinfecting power of chlorine, contributing to the growth of microorganisms within distribution mains. Flushing helps remove stale water and ensures the presence of fresh water with sufficient dissolved oxygen and disinfectant levels and an acceptable taste and smell.

During flushing operations in your neighborhood, some short-term deterioration of water quality, though uncommon, is possible. You should avoid tap water for household uses at that time. If you do use the tap, allow your cold water to run for a few minutes at full velocity before use, and avoid using hot water to prevent sediment accumulation in your hot water tank. Please contact us if you have any questions or if you would like more information on our water main flushing schedule.