Galesburg 2024 Water Quality Data

WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE FOOTNOTES

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.

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) are contaminants you may see reported in your Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for the first time.

In 2023, our PWS was sampled quarterly as part of the State of Illinois PFAS Statewide Investigation. Results from this sampling indicated six PFAS contaminants were detected in our drinking water with the wells and tap water being both above and below the health advisory levels established by the Illinois EPA. Follow up monitoring is being conducted. For more information about PFAS health advisories visit
https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/pfas/Pages/pfas-healthadvisory.aspx

PFAS Analyte	Draft Guidance Level (ppt)	Range of Levels Detected WL50333	Range of Levels Detected WL50334	Range of Levels Detected WL50335	Range of Levels Detected WL01584	Range of Levels Detected WL02130	Range of Levels Detected WL02176	Range of Levels Detected TP02
(ppt) PFOA	4	10 - 13	39 - 53	41 - 59	6.2 - 9.7	11 - 16	<1.8 - 2.0	4.8 - 7.1
(ppt) PFOS	4	3.8 - 5.3	14 - 18	10 - 16	2.1 - 3.8	3.3 - 4.8	<1.8 - <2.0	<1.7 - 2.9
(ppt) PFBS	N/A	5.6 - 7.5	23 - 28	25 - 31	3.6 - 5.3	5.9 - 7.5	<1.8 - <2.0	2.3 - 3.9
(ppt) HFPO-DA	10	<1.7 - <1.9	<1.8 - <2.0	<1.8 - <2.0	<1.8 - <1.9	<1.8 - <1.9	<1.8 - <2.0	<1.7 - <2.0
(ppt) PFHxS	10	2.2 - 2.7	4.5 - 5.2	3.9 - 5.3	<1.8 - <1.9	<1.8 - <1.9	<1.8 - <2.0	<1.7 - <2.0
(ppt) PFNA	10	<1.7 - <1.9	<1.8 - <2.0	<1.8 - <2.0	<1.8 - <1.9	<1.8 - <1.9	<1.8 - <2.0	<1.7 - <2.0

ppt = Part per Trillion
ND = Not Detected

*A maximum contaminant level (MCL) for these contaminants have not been established by either state or federal regulations, nor has mandatory health effects language been set. In the interim, Illinois EPA has developed health-based Draft Guidance Levels which are not regulatory limits for drinking water, but are intended to be protective of those consuming water over a lifetime of exposure.

What are PFAS?

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals that includes PFOA, PFOS, GenX, and many other chemicals. PFAS have been manufactured and used in a variety of industries around the globe, including in the United States since the 1940s. PFOA and PFOS have been the most extensively produced and studied of these chemicals. Both chemicals are very persistent in the environment and in the human body – meaning they do not break down and they can accumulate over time. There is evidence that exposure to PFAS can lead to adverse human health effects.

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Where can PFAS be found?

PFAS can be found in:

- **Food** packaged in PFAS-containing materials, processed with equipment that used PFAS, or grown in PFAS-contaminated soil or water.
- **Commercial household products**, including stain- and water-repellent fabrics, nonstick products (e.g., Teflon), polishes, waxes, paints, cleaning products, and fire-fighting foams (a major source of groundwater contamination at airports and military bases where firefighting training occurs).
- **Workplace**, including production facilities or industries (e.g., chrome plating, electronics manufacturing, or oil recovery) that use PFAS.
- **Drinking water**, typically localized, and associated with a specific facility (e.g., manufacturer, landfill, wastewater treatment plant, firefighter training facility).
- **Living organisms**, including fish, animals, and humans, where PFAS have the ability to build up and persist over time.

Certain PFAS chemicals are no longer manufactured in the United States as a result of phase outs including the PFOA Stewardship Program in which eight major chemical manufacturers agreed to eliminate the use of PFOA and PFOA-related chemicals in their products and as emissions from their facilities. Although PFOA and PFOS are no longer manufactured in the United States, they are still produced internationally and can be imported into the United States in consumer goods such as carpet, leather and apparel, textiles, paper and packaging, coatings, rubber and plastics.

Why are PFAS important?

PFAS are found in a wide range of consumer products that people use daily such as cookware, pizza boxes and stain repellents. Most people have been exposed to PFAS. Certain PFAS can accumulate and stay in the human body for long periods of time. There is evidence that exposure to PFAS can lead to adverse health outcomes in humans. The most-studied PFAS chemicals are PFOA and PFOS. Studies indicate that PFOA and PFOS can cause reproductive and developmental, liver and kidney, and immunological effects in laboratory animals. Both chemicals have caused tumors in animals. The most consistent findings are increased cholesterol levels among exposed populations, with more limited findings related to:

- low infant birth weights
- effects on the immune system
- cancer (for PFOA)
- thyroid hormone disruption (for PFOS)

What is the City of Galesburg doing about PFAS?

The City of Galesburg has taken measures to respond to the results of this testing. As proactive measure(s) to protect our drinking water supply, the City of Galesburg is working to:

- continue to monitor PFAS values through quarterly sampling
- test and identify which water source intake/well is affected
- isolate the affected water source intake/well to reduce levels; WL50334 has the highest PFAS levels and has been isolated from the system
- begin evaluating treatment options and developing a plan to reduce PFAS in potable water

The City of Galesburg is currently working with an engineering firm to evaluate various water treatment options to reduce/potentially eliminate PFAS concentrations.