

Grosse Pointe Woods

2009 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

This report covers the drinking water quality for Grosse Pointe Woods for the calendar year 2008. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that was provided to you in 2008. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

About our system

Grosse Pointe Woods receives its water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department which takes its water from the Detroit River, situated within the Lake St. Clair, Clinton River, Detroit River, Rouge River, Ecorse River, in the U.S. and parts of the Thames River, Little River, Turkey Creek and Sydenham watersheds in Canada. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, and the Michigan Public Health Institute performed a source water assessment to determine the susceptibility of potential contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven-tiered scale from moderately low to very high based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry, and contaminant sources. The susceptibility of our Detroit River source water intakes were determined to be highly susceptible to potential contamination. However, all four Detroit water treatment plants that use source water from the Detroit River have historically provided satisfactory treatment of this source water to meet drinking water standards.

Cryptosporidium

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water. Cryptosporidium was detected once, during a twelve-month period at our Detroit River intake plants. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

Important health information about lead

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 City of Grosse Pointe Woods 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>.

Unregulated contaminants

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

Beginning in July of 2008, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) began monitoring quarterly for unregulated contaminants under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 2 (UCMR2). All the UCMR2 contaminants monitored on List 1 and List 2 in 2008 were undetected.

Special information available

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is 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 persons and infants – can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Health and safety information

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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 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 organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can 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, the Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. If you have any questions, please call the Department of Public Works at 343-2460.

Monitoring and Reporting Requirements: The State and EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We met all the monitoring and reporting requirements for 2008. We will update this report annually and will keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year, as they happen. Copies are available at City Hall, 20025 Mack Plaza. We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, contact Public Works at 343-2460. For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at www.epa.gov/safewater/.

Northeast Water Treatment Plant 2008 Regulated Detected Contaminants Tables

Contaminant	Test Date	Units	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation Yes/No	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Inorganic Chemicals – Annual Monitoring at Plant Finished Water Tap								
Fluoride	09/09/2008	ppm	4	4	0.90	N/A	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	09/09/2008	ppm	10	10	0.28	N/A	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	06/09/2008	ppm	2	2	0.01	N/A	No	Discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	06/09/2008	ppb	50	50	1	N/A	No	Discharge from petroleum, metal refineries and mines; erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfectant Residuals and Disinfection By-products – Monitoring in Distribution System								
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	Feb-Nov 2008	ppb	N/A	80	17.9	8.2-28.5	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	Feb-Nov 2008	ppb	N/A	60	10.2	5.2-16.5	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Disinfectant (Total chlorine residual)	Jan-Dec 2008	ppm	MRDGL 4	MRDL 4	0.67	0.56-0.77	No	Water additive used to control microbes.

2008 Turbidity – Monitored every 4 hours at Plant Finished Water Tap				
Highest Single Measurement Cannot exceed 1 NTU	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Turbidity Limit of 0.3 NTU (minimum 95%)		Violation Yes/No	Major Sources in Drinking Water
0.24 NTU	100%		No	Soil Runoff
Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.				

2008 Microbiological Contaminants – Monthly Monitoring in Distribution System					
Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Highest Number Detected	Violation Yes/No	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	Presence of Coliform bacteria >5% of monthly samples.	In one month 0	No	Naturally present in the environment.
E.coli or fecal coliform bacteria	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal or E.coli positive.	Entire year 0	No	Human waste and animal fecal waste.

2008 Lead and Copper Monitoring at Customers' Tap								
Contaminant	Test Date	Units	Health Goal MCLG	Action Level AL	90 th Percentile Value *	Number of Samples Over AL	Violation Yes/No	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Lead	2008	ppb	0	15	2.2	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	2008	ppm	1.3	1.3	.024	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.

*The 90th percentile value means 90 percent of the homes tested have lead and copper levels below the given 90th percentile value. If the 90th percentile value is above the AL additional requirements must be met.

Regulated Contaminant	Treatment Technique	Running Annual Average	Monthly Ratio Range	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	The Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal ratio is calculated as the ratio between the actual TOC removal and the TOC removal requirements. The TOC was measured each month and because the level was low, there is no requirement for TOC removal.				Erosion of natural deposits.

2008 Special Monitoring				
Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Source of Contamination
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	4.84	Erosion of natural deposits

Key to Detected Contaminants Tables		
Symbol	Abbreviation for	Definition/Explanation
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
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.
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.
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.
ppb	Parts Per Billion	The ppb is equivalent to micrograms per liter. A microgram=1/1000 milligram.
ppm	Parts Per Million	The ppm is equivalent to milligrams per liter. A milligram=1/1000 gram.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units	Measures the cloudiness of water.
TT	Treatment Technique	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
HAA5	Haloacetic acids	HAA5 is the total of bromoacetic, chloroacetic, dibromoacetic, dichloroacetic, and trichloroacetic acids. Compliance is based on the total.
TTHM	Total Trihalomethanes	Total Trihalomethanes is the sum of chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane, and bromoform. Compliance is based on the total.
N/A	Not Applicable	
>	Greater than	

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Information and table provided by Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD), M.L. Semegen.