

# Alexandria Drinking Water Quality Report 2022

The City is pleased to present your drinking water quality report for 2022 required by IDEM and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. This report explains where Alexandria's drinking water comes from, the quality of the drinking water and where residents can obtain other government information on drinking water.

Alexandria's Water Works routinely monitors your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2022.

Alexandria's drinking water comes from ground water wells, approximately 120 feet deep located East of SR 9 and South of Old Mill Creek Road at the water works facility. The Common name of the Aquifer from which the city draws its drinking water is the Wisconsin Till and Silurian Devonian Aquifer System.

To ensure the tap water is safe, EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Drinking water may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. In this report you might find many terms and abbreviations you are not familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions:

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L)** one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/L)** one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water

**Millirems per year (mrem/yr)** measure of radiation absorbed by the body

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

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** 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)** 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

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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. All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or manmade. **LEAD LINE UPDATE: Alexandria has tested for lead and copper the last 28 years. No violations have occurred and all test results have been within the limits allowed. The Alexandria Water Department will test twenty (20) sites between June 1 and September 30, 2023.**

**TABLE NOTES: There were NO positive Bac-T results for the calendar year of 2022.** *Copper:* Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short period of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could experience liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor. *Lead:* Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than other homes in your community as a result of material used in your home plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for thirty (30) seconds to two (2) minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. *Nitrate:* Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

Other sources of drinking water, including bottled water are rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs and springs. 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 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 storm water runoff and residential uses.

**Organic chemicals**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

**Radioactive material** which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Substance	Year	MCL	MCLG	Amount Detected	Violation	Typical Sources
Arsenic	2021	10	0	1.4 ppb	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards, glass and electronic production wastes
Barium	2021	2	2	0.18 ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	2022	4 ppm	4 ppm	0.90-1.21 ppm	No	Disinfection process
Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2022	n/a	n/a	47 ppb	No	Disinfection process
Halo Acetic Acids (HA5)	2022	n/a	n/a	1.0 mg/L	No	Disinfection process
Glyphosate	2021	700ppb	0	30.0 ppb	No	Natural deposits
Fluoride	2021	4 ppm	4 ppm	0.37 ppm	No	Natural deposits
Combined Radium 226/228	2018	5 pCi/L	0	0.62 pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	2018	15 pCi/L	0	6.2 pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	2020	15	2.3 ppb 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems : Erosion of natural deposits

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 are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but 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 Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

### ADDITIONAL DRINKING WATER INFORMATION

United States Environmental Protection Agency  
 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline  
 (800) 426-4791

Indiana Department of Environmental Management  
<http://www.ai.org/idem>

City of Alexandria Water Department 402 W Washington Street, Alexandria IN 46001 (765) 724-4720  
 Operator Mark Caldwell PWSID #5248001

Board of Public Works Meetings held the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month at 5:30pm in Council Chambers at City Hall  
 125 N Wayne Street, Alexandria IN 46001