



INTRODUCTION:

Patoka Lake Regional Water & Sewer District is proud to provide high quality drinking water to our customers. This annual water quality report shows the source of our water, lists the results of our tests, and contains important information about water and health issues. You will be notified if there is any reason for concern about our water. We are proud to show you that the water that we provide has surpassed EPA water quality standards. The water in our lines undergoes testing for over 80 contaminants according to governmental requirements. As you will see in the following table, we detected only nine (9) items in the water, and all of those items were at safe levels below the MCL.

Patoka Lake Regional Water & Sewer District conducts monthly board meetings on the second and last Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. est. in the board room at 2647 North State Road 545 near Dubois, Indiana. Please feel free to attend and participate in these meetings. For public involvement opportunities and District information please visit our web site at www.plrws.net.

YOU CAN TAKE YOUR DRINKING WATER FOR GRANTED, BECAUSE WE DO NOT!

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

OVERVIEW:

Patoka Lake Regional Water & Sewer District provides water to 26 water utilities and over 5,649 customers. In all, water treated by the District is distributed into parts of eleven (11) southern Indiana counties. The District meets or exceeds the testing and reporting requirements of the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR), Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM).

2021 testing included weekly microbiological tests with zero positive results for total coliform. A special testing for the gasoline additive MTBE was reported to be below the detection level. The District participates in the state dental fluoridation program and adds fluoride to the treated water. Lead and copper tests were conducted in 2020 at 30 sites in the District with results below maximum contamination level.

WATER SOURCE:

In 2021, the sole source of the water treated and distributed by Patoka Lake Regional Water & Sewer District was surface water from the Patoka Reservoir. For more information about your drinking water, please call us at (812) 678-8300. As an end user and consumer of water, you can help to protect the sources of drinking water by increasing and promoting efforts to recycle materials and properly dispose of chemicals, used oils and petroleum products, batteries, and other household refuse. Source water assessment is available for review at the District office.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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 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 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 radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or 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, and residential uses.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential use.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water run off, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

2021 Monitoring Results for Patoka Lake Regional Water & Sewer District

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than 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, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risks of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

CONSTITUENTS	Date Tested	Unit	MCL	MCLG	MRAA	Range	Violation	Major Sources
DISINFECTION PROCESS BYPRODUCTS								
HAA5's (Total Haloacetic Acids)	2021	Ppb	60	NA	34.9	25 TO 45	No	Disinfection process byproduct
TTHM'S (Total Trihalomethanes)	2021	Ppb	80	NA	41.7	20.4 TO 60.9	No	Disinfection process byproduct
INORGANIC CONSTITUENTS								
Fluoride	2021	Ppm	4	4	.6		No	Water additive to promote strong teeth & erosion of natural deposits
Copper	2020	µg/L	1300 AL		170	90 th percentile value	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead	2020	µg/L	15 AL		3.7	90 th percentile value	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
(For Lead & Copper the number of samples above AL is 0.)								
Sodium	2021	PPM	None	None	2.9	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Atrazine	2021	Ppb	3.0	BDL	BDL	N/A		
Barium	2021	PPM	2	BDL	0.025	N/A	No	Erosion of natural deposits
EPA is preparing a regulation, which will specify a Maximum Contaminant level for radon. Radon is a radioactive gas that occurs naturally in ground water and is released from water into the air during household use. At high exposure levels it can cause lung cancer. Radon was not detected in the treated finished water distributed by Patoka Lake Regional Water & Sewer District.								
Gross Alpha	2020	pCi/L	15	0	1.7	N/A	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Radium 226	2016	pCi/L		0	0.14	N/A	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	2020	pCi/L		0	0.17	N/A	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	2016	pCi/L	5	0	.97	N/A	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity	Daily	NTU	TT=0.3	NA	.25	Highest reading	No	
Turbidity does not present any risk to your health. Turbidity is a measure of suspended matter in water, and is a good indicator that the filtration system is functioning.								
TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON								
Average percent of removal	%		25%	100	34 %	27.9% TO 40.5%	No	Erosion of natural deposits
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS								
CONSTITUENTS	Date Tested	Unit	MRDL	MRDLG	MRAA	Range	Violation	Major Sources
Chloramine	Daily	Ppm	4.0	4.0	3.63	3.91 to 2.9	No	Added for disinfectant

EXPLANATION OF THE WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

This report is based upon tests performed by Patoka Lake Regional Water & Sewer District personnel and contracted labs. Terms used in the Water Quality Table and in other parts of this report are defined here.

Definitions:

IDEM – Indiana Department of Environmental Management

EPA – Environmental Protection Agency

MCL – Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water as established by EPA. The MCL's are set as low to the MCLG's 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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

AL – Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, trigger treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

TT – Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

MRDL – Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

MRDLG - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal

Key to Table

NTU = nephelometric turbidity units

VOC = volatile organic contaminants

pCi/L = picocurie per liter

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

MRAA = maximum running annual average

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

CHLORAMINES:

Note: Since 1983, the District has used chloramines to disinfect your drinking water. For all normal users, chloraminated water is the same as water disinfected with chlorine. However, kidney dialysis patients and aquarium or fish pond owners need to take special precautions when using chloraminated water. Kidney dialysis patients should consult your doctors and fish owners should call your pet store for more information.

Statement Addressing 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. Patoka Lake Regional Water & Sewer District 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>.