Water Quality Report

2025

Is My Water Safe?

CLCJAWA and the Village of Gurnee maintained compliance with all State and Federal Drinking Water Regulations in 2025.

CLCJAWA is required under state and federal law to monitor water quality. While we carefully do so, we go above and beyond by voluntarily monitoring for hundreds more compounds. Basic water chemistry is continuously monitored with automatic instrumentation or manually tested at our laboratory by our certified lab analysts. Emerging contaminants such as PFAs, pharmaceuticals and hormones have been monitored since 2008 and are tested independently by certified testing laboratories. We test both the raw water entering our system from Lake Michigan, as well as the finished water leaving our system.

To ensure tap water safety, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) prescribes limits on the level of certain contaminants in our drinking water. Water quality may be judged by comparing our water to USEPA benchmarks for water quality. One such benchmark is the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG). The MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. This goal allows for a margin of safety. Another benchmark is the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL). An MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. An MCL is set as close to an MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

This is your annual water quality report for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2025. Each year the Village issues this report to provide you information about the quality of our drinking water, the source of our water, how it is treated, and the regulated compounds it contains. These reports are issued in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. For more detailed information about our water's quality, including test results for unregulated compounds, contact Melissa Olenick at 847-295-7788 (molenick@clcjawa.com), Brett Fritzler at 847-599-6800 (brettf@village.gurnee.il.us) , or visit www.gurnee.il.us or www.clcjawa.com. *Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

Water Quality Summary

Your drinking water from CLCJAWA is safe and meets all state and federal standards. In 2025, no violations occurred and all regulated contaminants were within allowable limits. Water from Lake Michigan is treated using advanced processes and extensively tested for over 200 contaminants. Some substances, including disinfection by-products and PFAs, were detected at low levels below EPA limits and are not a health risk. While water leaving the plant is high quality, lead can enter from home plumbing, so residents should follow recommended precautions if concerned. For more information, please review the full report or contact CLCJAWA.

Your Water Source: Lake Michigan

Assessing our Source

The Illinois EPA, using the Great Lakes Protocol, completed a source water assessment in April 2003. Lake Michigan is a surface water source and like all surface waters, is susceptible to potential contaminants. The very nature of surface water allows contaminants to migrate to the intake with no protection, only dilution. CLCJAWA's intake is ranked as moderately sensitive to potential contaminants. There are no potential contamination sources within the intake's critical assessment zone. However, the combination of land use, storm sewer outfalls, and the proximity of North Shore Water Reclamation District (NSWRD) pumping stations in the immediate area add to the susceptibility of CLCJAWA's intake. NSWRD discharges their treated waste water to the Des Plaines River and not into Lake Michigan. Access the following website at http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl to view a summary of the source water assessment. We are all participants in the water cycle. Our individual activities impact the rivers and lakes in our watershed and those into which our waste water plants discharge. Please properly use, store, and dispose of all medications and household chemicals. Visit the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County website for disposal options and information at www.swalco.org.

Lake Michigan Fun Facts

Lake Michigan is the sole water source for CLCJAWA. More than 20% of the world's fresh water is contained in the Great Lake and Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake that is entirely contained within the United States. It borders Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin, and is the second largest Great Lake by volume with 1.3 quadrillion gallons. It is approximately 118 miles wide and 307 miles long. To lower the lake level by just one inch, you would need to drain 400 billion gallons.

2025 REGULATED WATER CONTAMINANTS DETECTED

Contaminant (unit of measure) Typical Source of Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	MCLG	MCL	Range of Detection	Status	Date of Sample
MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS						
Total Coliform Bacteria (% Pos/Month) Naturally present; human and animal fecal waste	**0**	**0**	**1 per month**	**None Detected**	**In Compliance**	**Monthly**
E. Coli (% Pos/Month) Naturally present; human and animal fecal waste	**0**	**0**	**0 per month**	**None Detected**	**In Compliance**	**Monthly**
Turbidity (NTU/Lowest Monthly % < 0.3 NTU) Lake Sediment; soil runoff	100% below 0.3 NTU	none	0.3 NTU	100%	In Compliance	Monthly
Turbidity (NTU/Highest Single Measurement) Lake Sediment; soil runoff	0.054	none	1 NTU	0.01 – 0.054	In Compliance	Monthly
INORGANIC/ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
Nitrate as nitrogen (ppm) Runoff from fertilizer; leaching from septic; natural erosion	0.4	10	10	Single Sample	In Compliance	4/10/25
Barium (ppm) Discharge of drilling wastes, metal refineries; natural erosion	0.022	2	2	Single Sample	In Compliance	7/21/25
Chromium (ppb) Discharge from steel and pulp mills; natural erosion	1	100	100	Single Sample	In Compliance	7/21/25
Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L) Decay of natural and man-made deposits	0.94	0	5	Single Sample	In Compliance	5/5/21
DISINFECTANT/DISINFECTION BY–PRODUCTS						
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids (ppb) By-product of drinking water disinfection	**7.08**	**None**	**60**	**4.57 - 10.2**	**In Compliance**	**Quarterly**
TTHMs Total Trihalomethanes (ppb) By-product of drinking water disinfection	**28.05**	**None**	**80**	**13.0 - 43.7**	**In Compliance**	**Quarterly**
Bromate (ppb) By-product of drinking water disinfection	5	0	10	0 – 6.4	In Compliance	4/3/25 Quarterly
Chlorine (ppm) Drinking water disinfectant	**0.9**	**4 (MRDLG**	**4 (MRDL)**	**0.8 - 1**	**In Compliance**	**Monthly**
TOC (Total Organic Carbon)	The % of TOC removal was measured each month & the system met all removal requirements set by IEPA					
STATE REGULATED CONTAMINANTS						
Fluoride (ppm) Water additive that promotes strong teeth; natural erosion	0.6	4	4	0.48 – 0.7	In Compliance	Monthly
Sodium (ppm) Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; water softener	10	none	none	Single Sample	In Compliance	7/30/25

LEAD AND COPPER CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant (unit of measure) Typical Source of Contaminant	90th Percentile	MCLG	AL	# of Sites Over AL	Range of Sample Results	Status	Sample Date
Copper (ppm) Corrosion of household plumbing systems; natural erosion	**0.13**	**1.3**	**1.3**	**0**	**0.0036-0.25**	**In Compliance**	**2024**
Lead (ppb) Corrosion of household plumbing systems; natural erosion	**2.3**	**0**	**15**	**0**	**<1.0 – 3.4**	**In Compliance**	**2024**

To obtain a copy of our lead tap sampling data, please contact Brett Fritzler at (847) 599-6800. The Village of Gurnee water supply has developed a service line material inventory. To obtain a copy of our service line inventory, please go to our website at **www.gurnee.il.us/waterservice** or contact Brett Fritzler at (847) 599-6800.

How We Test and Regulate Your Water

Aggressive Testing Program

Our tap water quality is consistently monitored by the Village, by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA), in the CLCJAWA Water Quality Lab, and by other independent labs. This aggressive water quality assurance program is thorough: bacteriological tests are conducted six times more often than required, water clarity is monitored continuously, and our water is checked for over two hundred contaminants annually.

The table on the previous page lists all of the regulated compounds detected in our water in 2025. Bolded compounds were sampled by the Village; all other compounds were sampled by CLCJAWA. The values shown in the level detected column are those used by the EPA to determine compliance with drinking water standards. Because each compound is regulated differently, this value may be a running average, a 90th percentile or a maximum single value. The sample data column indicates the date when the sample was collected. When more than one sample is collected, this column shows the date of the maximum value. Below are definitions and units of measure used in the table.

Definition of Terms	
Action Level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant above which a supplier must follow treatment or other requirements.
Action Level Goal (ALG)	Level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of contaminant that USEPA allows in drinking water. USEPA sets MCLs as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which USEPA determines no known or expected risk to health exists. MCLGs allow for margin of safety.
Contaminant	Any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter in the water.
Treatment Technique (TT)	A required process for reducing the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water.

Units of Measure	
ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter	pCi/L: picocuries per liter to measure radioactivity
ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter	NTU: nephelometric turbidity unit measures water clarity
ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter	na: not applicable

Award Winning Facility

CLCJAWA has earned the Excellence in Water Treatment Award for 20 consecutive years and was the third facility in the nation to receive this distinction from the Partnership for Safe Water. This voluntary program, supported in part by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, holds participants to standards that exceed federal and state drinking water regulations.

CLCJAWA was also the fifth utility in the nation to receive the Partnership for Safe Water's Distribution System President's Award, recognizing its commitment to delivering safe, high-quality water to the community.

Health Information You Should Know

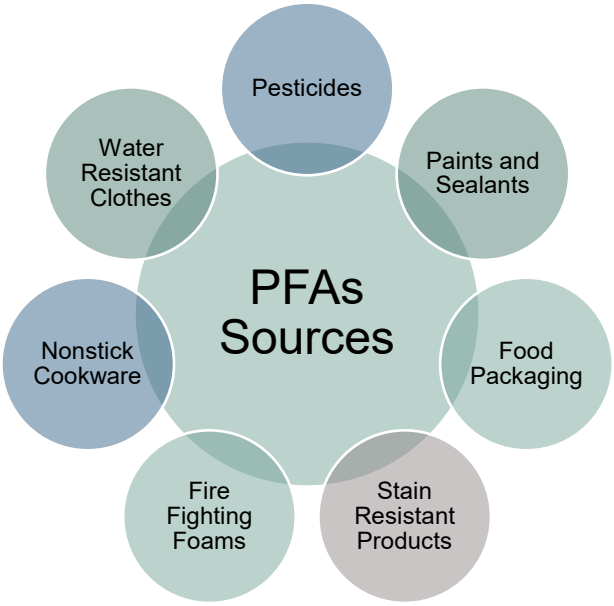
Lead In Drinking Water

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially for pregnant people, infants(both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The Village of Gurnee is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes.

If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the Village of Gurnee at 847-599-6800. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at: https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

The Village of Gurnee water supply has developed a service line material inventory. There are no known lead or galvanized service lines in the Village of Gurnee. To obtain a copy of our service line inventory, please go to our website at www.gurnee.il.us/waterservice or contact Brett Fritzler at (847) 599-6800.

PFAs In Drinking Water



PFAs are a large group of manmade chemicals used in industry and consumer products due to their water/stain/heat resistant properties. CLCJAWA has been proactively testing for PFAs since 2008 and we test on a quarterly basis. In 2024, both PFOA and PFOS were present just above the detection limit of 2 parts per trillion. See the table below for our latest test results. The US EPA has established legally enforceable, maximum contaminant levels for PFOA and PFOS.

CLCJAWA currently meets all US EPA regulations for PFAS and will continue to comply with all EPA drinking water standards in order to provide the highest quality of water to our customers.

For more information, please visit the links:
https://www.epa.gov/pfas/pfas-explained
https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/pfas.html
https://www.clcjawa.com/water-quality/in-the-news

Contaminant (unit of measure) Typical Source of Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detection	MCLG	MCL	Status	Sampling Frequency
PFOA Perfluorooctanoic acid (ppt) Produced during production of chemicals that are heat and chemical resistant.	2.5	1.9 – 2.5	0	4	In Compliance	Quarterly
PFOS Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (ppt) Ingredient in firefighting foam and was an ingredient in Scotch Guard fabric protector.	2.4	<1.9 – 2.4	0	4	In Compliance	Quarterly
PFBA Perfluorobutanoic acid,(ppt) Breakdown product of other PFAS used in stain-resistant fabrics, paper food packaging, carpets, and consumer products	2.1	<1.9 – 2.1	NA	NA	Not Regulated	Quarterly

Potential Contaminants in Lake Michigan

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 may be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). Both tap and bottled water come from rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring materials and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in untreated water include:

- Microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria can be naturally occurring or may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, and livestock operations.
- Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides come from sources such as agricultural, urban and residential storm water runoff.
- Organic chemical contaminants including synthetic and volatile organic compounds are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production but can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic system.
- Radioactive contaminants can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil, gas and mining activities.

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. USEPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring

The Safe Drinking Water Act requires that the EPA establish requirements for public water systems (PWSs) to monitor for priority unregulated contaminants every five years and requires utilities to make the results publicly available. A maximum contaminant level (MCL) for the contaminants have not been established by either state or federal regulations, nor has mandatory health effects language been set. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist USEPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Our system collected samples under the U.S. EPA Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR) for 29 PFAS compounds and Lithium. None of the compounds were detected at or above the minimum reporting level in all of our samples. To obtain a copy of the sample results, please contact Brett Fritzler at (847) 599-6800.

How Water Gets To Your Home

The Treatment Process

Our water is pumped from Lake Michigan and treated at CLCJAWA's Paul M. Neal Water Treatment Facility in the Village of Lake Bluff. The enhanced water purification process used by CLCJAWA is unique. First, ozone is added to the water to kill organisms and break down contaminants. The ozone is made on-site from air, bubbled into the water, and then turns back into oxygen. Next, a coagulant is mixed in to help remove sediment and other particles.

The water is then filtered through activated carbon and fine sand to remove any remaining turbidity. We measure how clear the water is to check quality and to assure the treatment is working optimally. After that, ultraviolet (UV) light is used to kill any leftover organisms. Finally, the water is treated with:

- Chlorine to keep it safe as it travels through pipes
- Fluoride to help protect teeth
- Phosphate to prevent metals like lead and copper from getting into the water from home plumbing

The Delivery Process

CLCJAWA utilizes over 50 miles of pre-stressed concrete, ductile iron and PVC water main to deliver water to your community. Your public works department, in turn, maintains its own water distribution system that delivers the water to homes, schools and businesses in the community.

Villages purchase water from the Central Lake County Joint Action Water Agency. CLCJAWA is an inter-governmental cooperative, directed by the communities it serves: Grayslake, Gurnee, Lake Bluff, Lake Villa, Libertyville, Lindenhurst, Mundelein, Round Lake, Round Lake Beach, Round Lake Heights, Round Lake Park, Volo, Wauconda and Lake County representing the unincorporated areas of Knollwood and Rondout, Vernon Hills, Wildwood, Grandwood Park, Fox Lake Hills. In December of 2028, Lake Zurich will begin receiving CLCJAWA water.

The Village of Gurnee services over 9,800 water accounts and is responsible for maintaining over 188 miles of water main. Water is stored in four elevated tanks and one ground storage tank for a total storage capacity of 8 million gallons.

Emergency Back Up Water Supply

All members of CLCJAWA are required to have an emergency backup plan. In addition to CLCJAWA, the Village also maintains two emergency backup wells. These two wells are tested monthly in accordance with IEPA regulations. The Village also maintains a connection with the City of Waukegan as an additional backup source. The source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA. If you would like a copy of this information, or information regarding the backup wells, please contact Public Works at 847-599-6800. Information provided by this assessment did not indicate any potential sources of contamination.

How To Get More Involved

The Village Board has a monthly meeting schedule and the public is always welcome to attend any of these meetings. Your Mayor is also a member of the Board of Directors of CLCJAWA, which meets regularly. Please visit the website at www.clcjawa.com for the current schedule.

CLCJAWA provides tours of the water treatment facility, and staff members are also available for public speaking or for school visits. Please contact the Village or CLCJAWA for more information.

JAWA
CENTRAL LAKE COUNTY
LAKE MICHIGAN DRINKING WATER

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GURNEE
COMMUNITY OF OPPORTUNITY

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