As a resident can I use a Fire Hydrant?

How important are water towers to the Public Utility area?

WHERE DOES MISHAWAKA’S WATER COME FROM?

What are we doing to make things better?

What else should I know?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Winter means colder temperatures and the chance of frozen pipes and water lines. If you see an ice blockage or icing in the ground, the further down the frost line in the ground moves. If the temperatures should reach the low teens and subzero temperatures, it is recommended you run a small stream of water to prevent freeze ups. Letting a faucet drip during extreme cold weather can prevent a pipe from bursting. Opening a faucet will provide relief from the excessive pressure that builds between the faucet and the ice blockage when freezing occurs. If there is no excessive water pressure there will be no burst pipe, even if the water inside the pipe freezes.

About half of the other freeze ups we see are the customer’s responsibility. If the fire hydrant freezes it could cost hundreds of dollars and in some cases thousands to get the water flowing again, and could take days to restore service.

Even as the warm temperatures return, the customer is responsible to protect their water lines. If a pipe does freeze it could cost hundreds of dollars and in some cases thousands to get the water flowing again, and could take days to restore service.

Water Quality

In 2014 our customers consumed an average of 200 gallons per day, per person.

Water Facts

Facts About Our Water

- The cover is a picture of our old Virgil Treatment Plant. It was originally constructed in the 1900’s and the most recent renovation was in 2003.

- Mishawaka Utilities is constantly striving to improve the quality of drinking water delivered to Mishawaka. We make sure to keep a check on water quality, we contract an independent laboratory to test our water. The results of this analytical testing let us know if any problems occur, and how effective our water treatment is.

WHAT ELSE SHOULD I KNOW?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.
The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through underground rock and soil, 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 water include:
(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
(B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, and mining operations.
(C) Organic contaminants, such as synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
(D) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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. 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 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. Contaminants may vary depending on whether contaminant testing is required and on requirements. The strictly required testing date for that contaminant. The testing data presented in this report represents the results from the last required testing date for that contaminant. Testing dates may vary depending on contaminant and requirements. The strictly regulated testing schedule is set and under the guidance of the EPA and IDEM. We test for numerous contaminants and contaminants that are detected are reported.

The table marked GOAL shows the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG. This is the 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.

The column marked MAXIMUM ALLOWED is the Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL. This is 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.

SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS provides an explanation of the typical natural or man-made origins of the contaminant. For some contaminants the chart are provided to explain important details.

ACTION LEVEL is the concentration of a contaminant at which treatment is triggered, treatment occurs or other requirements which water system must follow.

HOW TO READ THIS TABLE
It's easy! Our water is tested to assure that it is safe to drink. The water tests performed in 2014 or the most recent testing available are presented in the table. The testing data presented in this report represents the results from the last required testing date for that contaminant. Testing dates may vary depending on contaminant and requirements. The strictly regulated testing schedule is set and under the guidance of the EPA and IDEM. We test for numerous contaminants and contaminants that are detected are reported.

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Important Information on Lead: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water comes from materials and devices inside homes that may have lead. These include service lines and internal connections to the home, items made of brass and bronze piping and fittings, items containing lead solder, and faucets and fixtures. Heating systems can also contribute to lead in drinking water if leaded solder is used in the system. If your water is high in lead, the EPA recommends that you flush 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 want to have your water tested. Information about drinking water, testing methods, and other ways you can take action in response to lead in your water can be found in the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f-31) and at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.