

West Terre Haute Water Works

2017 Consumer Confidence Report

IN5284021

Important information for the Spanish – speaking population:

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad del agua potable que usted consume. Por favor tradúzcalo, o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien y pueda explicarle.

Is our water safe?

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the drinking water we provided last year. Included as part of this report are details about where the water you drink comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Indiana standards. We are committed to provide you with all the information that you need to know about the quality of the water that you drink.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people, such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplant, people with HIV/AIDS or other kind of 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 has set guidelines with appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants which are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

Where does our water come from?

West Terre Haute pumps water from 2 wells.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk or that it is not suitable for drinking. More information about contaminants and their potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. The sources for 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, or can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

Contaminates that may be present in the raw, untreated water may include:

Microbial Contaminates, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminates, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally- occurring, or that result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, and mining or farming operations.

Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential uses.

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

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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants that may be present in the water provided by public drinking water systems. We are required to treat our water according to EPA regulations. Moreover, FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants that may be present in bottled water, which must provide the same level of health protection for public health

Special note on 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 the community as a result of materials used in your homes plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your homes water, you may wish to have your water tested and to flush your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800)-426-4791.

Our Watershed Protection Efforts: Our water system is working with the community to increase awareness of better waste disposal practices to further protect the sources of our drinking water. We are also working with other agencies and with local watershed groups to educate the community on ways to keep our water safe.

How can I get involved? If you have any questions about the contents of this report, please contact the water office at 812-533-1053, or you can join us at our Town Council Meetings, which are regularly held every second Monday of each month at 6:00 pm. We encourage you to participate and to give us your feedback.

Well Head Protection Program

"The Town of West terre Haute has developed a Wellhead Protection (WHP) Plan that lays out the approach the Town will take to protect our drinking water. You can view the WHP Plan, management strategies, and protection area map at the West Terre Haute Town Hall.

"Remember to practice good environmental methods such as proper disposal of all chemicals, oil, antifreeze, animal waste, household cleaners, paint, etc. Keep your septic systems in good working condition. Properly plug abandoned old wells. Properly dispose of batteries. Whenever possible, restrict the use and storage of pesticides and fertilizers to protect the water, as well as your own health. If you know of any sources of contamination, please call the West Terre Haute Water Works office, 812-533-1053.

Please Share This Information

Large water volume customers (Like apartment complexes, hospitals, schools, and/or industries) are encouraged to post extra copies of this report in conspicuous locations or to distribute them to your tenants, residents, patients, students, and/or employees. This good faith effort will allow non-billed customers to learn more about the quality of the water that they consume.