



NORTH SHORE LIFE  
LAKE BLUFF STYLE

## Village of Lake Bluff, Illinois

# 2018 Annual Water Quality Report

This is your annual water quality report for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2017. 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. *Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

For more detailed information about our water's quality, including test results for unregulated compounds, contact Melissa Olenick at CLCJAWA at (847) 295-7788, visit the CLCJAWA website at [www.clcjawa.com](http://www.clcjawa.com), or contact Lake Bluff Public Works at (847) 234-0774.

## Where does our water come from?

Lake Bluff receives water from the Central Lake County Joint Action Water Agency, located at 200 Rockland Road in Lake Bluff. CLCJAWA is an inter-governmental cooperative, formed by the communities it serves: Grayslake, Gurnee, Lake Bluff, Libertyville, Lindenhurst, Mundelein, Round Lake, Round Lake Beach, Round Lake Heights, Round Lake Park, and Lake County representing the unincorporated areas of Knollwood, Rondout, Vernon Hills, Wildwood, and Grandwood Park.

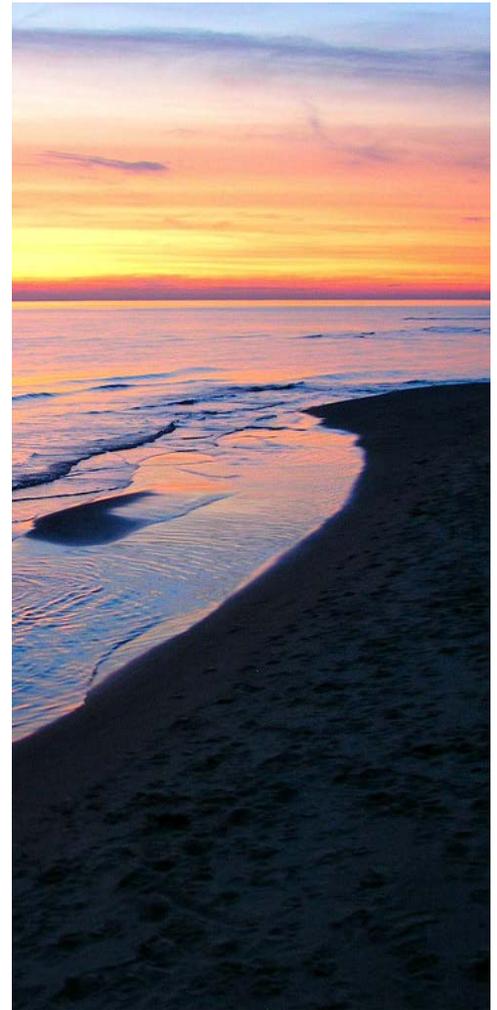
## How is the water delivered to my tap?

CLCJAWA utilizes 32 miles of pre-stressed concrete water main installed in 1991 to deliver water to the Village of Lake Bluff. All water purchased from CLCJAWA enters the Village's water distribution system at the Village's one-million gallon elevated water tank located along Illinois Route 176.

From the tank water is delivered throughout the Village via a network of 39 miles of cast iron and ductile iron water mains. The Village has an ongoing program to remove and replace older water mains to further assure the continued, uninterrupted conveyance of quality drinking water to your tap.

Each property owner has their own water service line that extends from each building to the public water main, which is typically located within the public right-of-way.

If there should be a problem with the Village's supply of water, the Village does have emergency interconnections with the City of Lake Forest's water system. Both the Village and the City of Lake Forest have the ability to transfer water across systems should an occasion occur where one community's primary source of supply is unable to provide water.



## Quality Water Assured

The Village of Lake Bluff and CLCJAWA were in full compliance with all drinking water regulations this year.

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 every 10 seconds, and our water is checked for hundreds of contaminants.

## Water Quality Contaminants Detected in 2017

| Contaminant (unit of measure)<br>Typical Source of Contaminant  | Highest Level Detected   | MCLG | MCL         | Range of Detection | Violation | Date of Sample    |
|---|--|------|-------------|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| <b>MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS</b>   |  |      |             |                    |           |                   |
| <b>Total Coliform Bacteria (% Pos/Month)</b><br>Naturally present; human and animal fecal waste       | 0  | 0    | 1 per month | none               | -         | Monthly           |
| <b>E. Coli (% Pos/Month)</b><br>Naturally present; human and animal fecal waste                       | 0  | 0    | 0 per month | none               | -         | Monthly           |
| <b>Turbidity (NTU/Lowest Monthly % &lt; 0.3 NTU)</b><br>Lake Sediment; soil runoff                    | 100% below 0.3 NTU   | none | 0.3 NTU     | 100%               | -         | Monthly           |
| <b>Turbidity (NTU/Highest Single Measurement)</b><br>Lake Sediment; soil runoff                       | 0.1  | none | 1 NTU       | 0.04 – 0.1         | -         | 9/2017 Monthly    |
| <b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>   |  |      |             |                    |           |                   |
| <b>Arsenic (ppb)</b><br>Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, glass and electronic waste | 0.621  | 0    | 10          | Single Sample      | -         | 7/2017            |
| <b>Barium (ppm)</b><br>Discharge of drilling wastes & metal refineries; natural erosion               | 0.0249   | 2    | 2           | Single Sample      | -         | 7/2017            |
| <b>Copper (ppm)</b><br>Corrosion of household plumbing systems; natural erosion                       | 0.073<br>90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile   | 1.3  | AL=1.3      | 0<br>Sites over AL | -         | 7/2017            |
| <b>Lead (ppb)</b><br>Corrosion of household plumbing systems; natural erosion                         | 3.8<br>90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile   | 0    | AL=15       | 0<br>Sites over AL | -         | 7/2017            |
| <b>Nitrate as nitrogen (ppm)</b><br>Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic; natural erosion | 0.319  | 10   | 10          | Single Sample      | -         | 4/2017            |
| <b>DISINFECTANT/DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS</b>  |  |      |             |                    |           |                   |
| <b>HAA5 Haloacetic Acids (ppb)</b><br>By-product of drinking water disinfection                       | 1  | None | 60          | 0 – 1.31           | -         | Semi-Annual       |
| <b>TTHMs Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)</b><br>By-product of drinking water disinfection                 | 12   | None | 80          | 8.52 – 12.04       | -         | Semi-Annual       |
| <b>Bromate (ppb)</b><br>By-product of drinking water disinfection                                     | 3  | 0    | 10          | 0 – 11             | -         | 10/2017 Quarterly |
| <b>Chlorine (ppm)</b><br>Drinking water disinfectant  | 0.7  | 4    | 4           | 0.5 – 0.8          | -         | Monthly           |
| <b>TOC (Total Organic Carbon)</b>   | The % of TOC removal was measured each month & the system met all removal requirements set by IEPA |      |             |                    |           |                   |
| <b>STATE REGULATED CONTAMINANTS</b>   |  |      |             |                    |           |                   |
| <b>Fluoride (ppm)</b><br>Water additive which promotes strong teeth; natural erosion                  | 0.7  | 4    | 4           | 0.5 – 0.7          | -         | 7/2017 Monthly    |
| <b>Sodium (ppm)</b><br>Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; water softener                        | 8.83   | none | none        | Single Sample      | -         | 7/2017            |
| <b>RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS</b>   |  |      |             |                    |           |                   |
| <b>Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L)</b><br>Decay of natural and man-made deposits                      | 0.92   | 0    | 5           | Single Sample      | -         | 4/13/15           |
| <b>Gross Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)</b><br>Erosion of natural deposits                                    | 0.39   | 0    | 15          | Single Sample      | -         | 4/13/15           |

### Regulated Contaminants Table:

The table above lists all of the regulated compounds detected in our water. 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 the maximum single value. The Sample Date 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.

### Definition of Terms:

**Action Level (AL):** level that triggers special treatment or other required action by water plant.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** the highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** level of a contaminant below which there is no known or expected health risk.

**Treatment Technique (TT):** refers to a required process used to reduce contaminants in drinking water.

### Units of Measure:

**ppm:** Parts per million or milligrams per liter

**ppb:** Parts per billion or micrograms per liter

**pCi/L:** Picocuries per liter used to measure radioactivity

**NTU:** Nephelometric turbidity unit that measures clarity in drinking water.

**Dash symbol (-):** No violation



## Lake Michigan Susceptibility to Potential Contaminants

The Illinois EPA, using the Great Lakes Protocol, completed an 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. NSSD 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.

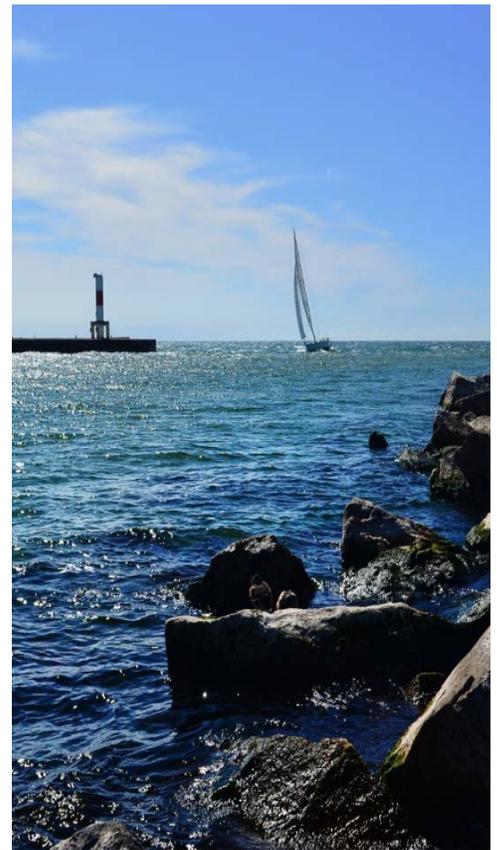
We are all participants in the water cycle. Our individual activities impact the rivers and lakes in our watershed and those into which our waste water plants discharge. Please properly use, store, and dispose of all medications and household chemicals. Visit the Solid Waste Agency of Lake County website for disposal options and information at [www.swalco.org](http://www.swalco.org).

### What's Present in Untreated Water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain 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 US Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 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 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 drinking water contaminants 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 from their health care providers about drinking water.

The USEPA and Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## CLCJAWA 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, the water is treated with ozone to kill organisms and break down contaminants. Ozone is produced on-site from air, bubbled into the water, and then converted back into oxygen. The water is then mixed with coagulant to remove sediment and other material from the water. Once clarified, the water is further refined as it passes through filters containing activated carbon and fine sand. Turbidity is a measure of water clarity. Treatment facilities monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of their filtration and disinfection systems. At CLCJAWA, turbidity is checked every ten seconds in numerous locations by automatic monitoring equipment and twice a day, by hand, in the laboratory.

Next, the water is treated with ultraviolet light to inactivate any remaining organisms. Finally, the purified water is treated with chlorine to protect it as it travels through the water main, fluoride for dental health, and a small amount of an often used food additive called phosphate. Phosphate protects the water from the metals, such as lead and copper, found in our homes' plumbing systems.

CLCJAWA is a 13-time Excellence in Water Treatment award winning facility. CLCJAWA was the third facility in the nation to achieve this distinction presented by the Partnership for Safe Water. This voluntary water quality program, sponsored in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, holds its awardees to higher standards than required by current drinking water regulations.

## Lead and Drinking Water

Elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially in pregnant women and young children. Some homes with old lead service lines, lead plumbing, or copper plumbing with lead solder, may have lead and copper in their water. To minimize these levels, the Illinois EPA requires that CLCJAWA add phosphate to our water at a concentration of 0.3 ppm orthophosphate. This commonly used food ingredient coats the inside of your plumbing with a thin film. The film reduces lead and or copper levels that may have otherwise leached from your plumbing into your water.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. You can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using the water for drinking or cooking. To know with certainty whether you have lead in your drinking water, have your water tested at a certified laboratory. Please call us at (847) 295-7788 for testing information.

As of January 16, 2017, all schools where kindergarten through 5th graders are present, as well as day care facilities must test all water sources used for cooking and drinking for the presence of lead. Any facilities constructed after 2000 are not required to complete the testing at this time. Schools will notify parents of the results, and if any levels exceed 5 ppb at any location, as well as any actions the schools are taking to reduce the levels.

Water providers are now generating an inventory of all known lead service lines in use, as well as public notification to the homeowners if construction or repair work is completed on water pipes known to affect lead service lines due to the increased risk of lead exposure following pipeline disturbance.

For more information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure, contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or go to <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.



### Regulatory Agencies

To ensure tap water safety, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) prescribes limits on the amount 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.

### Local Agencies

The Village Board meets on the second and fourth Mondays of each month, and the public is always welcome to attend any of these meetings. Our Village President is also a member of the Board of Directors of CLCJAWA, which meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month. CLCJAWA provides tours of the water treatment facility, and staffmembers are also available for public speaking or for school visits. Please contact the Village or CLCJAWA for more information.



# Water is Hard Work!

This is just a peek at all of the facilities and people that work together to bring fresh, clean drinking water to your tap.



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