This year your tap water met all USEPA and state drinking water health standards. This report summarizes the quality of water that we provided last year, including details of where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the Department of Utilities to provide safe drinking water. This report includes drinking water facts and contaminants detected in your drinking water supply for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2025. Each year, we will provide you a new report. If you need help understanding this report or have general questions, please contact the person listed below.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

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We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more, please feel welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled Utilities Committee meetings. Utilities Committee meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 4:00 PM in City Hall (730 Maine Street, Quincy, Illinois). Before we begin listing our unique water quality characteristics, here are some important facts you should know to help have a basic understanding of drinking water in general.

Sources of Drinking Water

Quincy's water comes from the Mississippi River, which is a surface water. Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of community water supply to be susceptible to potential pollution problems, hence, the reason for mandatory treatment for all surface water supplies in Illinois. Mandatory treatment includes coagulation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. Within the Illinois portion of the Mississippi River Watershed many commodities, including manufactured goods, petrochemicals, and pesticides are transported along the river system. The production, storage, and transportation of these commodities are a major concern, especially when occurring near surface water intakes. In addition, agricultural runoff within the Illinois portion of the Mississippi River Basin contributes to the susceptibility of the Quincy intakes. With high flow rates and long distances of travel on the Mississippi River, critical areas can be extensive. The critical area for the Quincy intake was determined using data from a joint U.S. Environmental Protection Agency/U.S. Geological Survey project. This project used a computer modeling program (SPARROW) to determine travel times on major rivers in the United States. Accidental spills of hazardous materials into navigable waterways are a major concern because of their frequency in the United States in recent years. Illinois has access to 1,116 miles of inland waterway that can handle commercial barge traffic. These include the Upper Mississippi River, Illinois River Waterway, and the Ohio River. Along these waterways are numerous facilities that load and unload hazardous materials. Analysis of reported spills indicate that between 1974 and 1989, 794 accidental spills of hazardous materials occurred along Illinois waterways. Approximately 92% of these spills occurred along the Mississippi and/or the Illinois River. A critical area of concern (Zone 1) for the Quincy surface water intake has been defined. Spills occurring in this critical area will travel to the intake in five hours or less, making contingency planning and spill reporting a major concern in this watershed. Further information concerning spill response planning on the Mississippi River may be found in U.S. EPA's website at www.epa.gov/region5/oil and at U.S. Geological Survey's website ftp://ftp.umesc.er.usgs.gov/pub/gis_data/oil_spill.

The source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA. If you would like a copy of this information, please contact Jeffrey Conte at 217-228-7732 or email jconte@quincyil.gov. To view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessments, including: Importance of Source Water; Susceptibility to Contamination Determination; and documentation/recommendation of Source Water Protection Efforts, you may access the Illinois EPA website at: http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl.

Other Facts about Drinking Water

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, 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 the 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 water runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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.

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).

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. The drinking water supplier is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standard Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested, contact Jeffrey Conte at 217-228-7732 or jconte@quincyil.gov. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

2025 Regulated Contaminants Detected

The next several tables summarize contaminants detected in your drinking water supply. Here are a few definitions and scientific terms which will help you understand the information in the contaminant detection tables.

Action Level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Action Level Goal (ALG)	The 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.
Avg	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly samples.
Level 1 Assessment	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	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.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)	The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)	The level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
N/A	Not Applicable
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L) - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
ppb	parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L) - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppt	parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L) – or one ounce in 7,350,000,000 gallons of water.
Treatment Technique or TT	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Lead and Copper

Definitions:

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

Action Level Goal (ALG): The 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.

Levels Detected:

Copper Range of Levels Detected: 0 to 0.28 ppm

Lead Range of Levels Detected: 0 to 6.9 ppb

To obtain a copy of Quincy's most recent lead tap sampling results, please contact Jeffrey Conte at 217-228-7732 or email at jconte@quincyil.gov

The City of Quincy has developed an inventory of water service lines. To obtain a copy of the City's most recent service line inventory, go to:

https://lead-service-line-inventory-2-quincyil.hub.arcgis.com/

Lead and Copper	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Action Limit (AL)	MCLG	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2025	0.28	0 – 0.28	0.055	0	1.3	1.3	ppm	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	2025	6.9	0 – 6.9	1.3	0	15	0	ppb	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

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. Quincy 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 Jeffrey Conte at 217-228-7732 or email at jconte@quinyil.gov.

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

Disinfectants & Disinfection Byproducts	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloramines	2025	3.6	3 – 4	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloaecetic acids (HAA5)	2025	40	17.9 – 35.6	No goal for total	60	ppb	No	By-product of water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2025	58.4	34.29 – 82.3	No goal for total	80	ppb	No	By-product of water disinfection

Note: Compliance for Disinfection Byproducts (HAA5 and TTHM) is measured based on the running annual average, i.e. the average of all samples taken within the 12-month period preceding the sample date. The Highest Level Detected for Disinfection Byproducts (HAA5 and TTHM) is the highest of the running annual averages for 2024, not the highest single measurement.

Note: Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Microorganisms	Date Sampled	MCLG (Samples Positive)	MCL (Samples Positive)	Highest No. of Positive	Total No. of Positive	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Coliform Bacteria	2025	0	5% of monthly samples	0%	0	No	Naturally present in the environment.

Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	06/01/20	0.808	0 – 0.808	0	5	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits.

Note: The state requires monitoring of certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of this data may be more than one year old.

Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
2, 4-D	2025	0.34	0 – 0.34	10	10	ppb	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.
Atrazine	2025	0.36	0 – 0.36	3	3	ppb	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.

Regulated Contaminants Detected (continued)								
Inorganic Contaminants	**Collection Date**	**Highest Level Detected**	**Range of Levels Detected**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Units**	**Violation**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Barium	2025	0.0059	0.0059 – 0.0059	2	2	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	2025	2.6	2.6 – 2.6	100	100	ppb	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2025	0.64	0.64 – 0.64	4	4	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2025	2.9	2.9 – 2.9	10	10	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Note: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels in drinking water may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.								
Nitrite (measured as Nitrogen)	05/09/24	0.015	0.015-0.015	1	1	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	2025	24	24 – 24	N/A	N/A	ppm	No	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits; Used in water softener regeneration.

Turbidity	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest Single Measurement	1 NTU	0.25 NTU	No	Soil Runoff
Lowest Monthly % Meeting Limit	0.3 NTU	100%	No	Soil Runoff

Note: Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.

Total Organic Carbon	The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency.

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

In 2021, our public water supply was sampled as part of the State of Illinois PFAS Statewide Investigation. Results from this sampling indicated PFAS were detected in our drinking water above the health advisory level established by Illinois EPA. Follow up monitoring is being conducted. For more information about PFAS health advisories please visit the following link:
https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/pfas/pfas-healthadvisory.html

PFAS Analyte	Acronym	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units
Perfluorooctanoic acid	PFOA	2.9	0 – 2.9	0	4	ppt
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	PFOS	2.0	0 – 2.0	0	4	ppt

Unregulated Contaminants Detected

Our water system has been sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that these data are available. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact Jeffrey Conte at 217-228-7732 or email at jconte@quincyil.gov
Detections of unregulated contaminants are listed in the following table.

Analyte	Acronym	Illinois EPA Health Advisory Guidance Level (ppt)	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Average Level Detected	Units
Perfluorobutanoic acid	PFBA	3,800	13.5	8.8 – 13.5	11.0	ppt
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	PFBS	2,100	5.7	0 – 5.7	1.4	ppt

Violations Table

The following table lists all violations that occurred during 2025:

Violation Type	Violation Begin Date	Violation End Date	Violation Explanation	Corrective Action
CCR Adequacy/Availability/Content	07/01/25	2025	We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that adequately informed you about the quality of our drinking water and the risks from exposure to contaminants detected in the drinking water.	Quincy updated its Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to include revised informational statements regarding risks from exposure to contaminants detected in drinking water and made other changes to improve the content of the CCR.