

Consumer Confidence Report

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

SAINTE MARIE

IL0790200

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2025

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

The source of drinking water used by SAINTE MARIE is Purchased Ground Water

For more information regarding this report contact:

Name Josh Kreke

Phone 217-925-5566

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

Source of 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 source water include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- 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 EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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 Doug Baxter at 217-925-5566. 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>.

Source Water Information

Source Water Name

Type of Water

Report Status

Location

CC01 - SAINTE MARIE MASTER METER CONNECTION TO EJ WATER

GW

Source Water Assessment

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 meetings. The source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA. If you would like a copy of this information, please stop by City Hall or call our water operator at 217-925-5566. 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>.

Source of Water: HARDINVILLE WATER COMPANY To determine Hardinville Water Company's susceptibility to groundwater contamination, the 2007 survey was reviewed. No potential sources, routes, or possible problem sites exist within the 400 foot minimum setback zones, 1,000 foot maximum setback zone, or the 5-year recharge area. No sites are located within either setback zone or recharge area. The Illinois EPA considers the source water of this facility to be susceptible to SOC contamination. This determination is based on a number of criteria including: monitoring conducted at the wells, monitoring conducted at the entry point to the distribution system, the available hydrogeologic data on the wells, and the land-use activities in the recharge area of the wells.

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.

Copper Range: 0 ug/L to 110 ug/L
 Lead Range: 0 ug/L to 6 ug/L

To obtain a copy of the system's lead tap sampling data: Doug Baxter 217-925-5566

CIRCLE ONE: Our Community Water Supply has not developed a service line material inventory.
 To obtain a copy of the system's service line inventory: Doug Baxter 217-925-5566

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2025	1.3	1.3	0.058	0	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Errosion of natural deposits.
Lead	2025	0	15	5.3	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Errosion of natural deposits.

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are 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 or MCL: 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or 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 or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Water Quality Test Results

Maximum residual disinfectant level
goal or MRDLG:

The level of a drinking water disinfectant 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.

na:

not applicable.

mrem:

millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

ppb:

micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

ppm:

milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

Treatment Technique or TT:

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2025	1.6	1.4 - 1.7	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	08/07/2023	10.2	10.2 - 10.2	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	08/07/2023	19.49	19.49 - 19.49	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Violations Table

Lead and Copper Rule			
The Lead and Copper Rule protects public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosivity. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials.			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
FOLLOW-UP OR ROUTINE TAP M/R (LCR)	10/01/2024	05/12/2025	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated. Samples were not properly collected in 2024. All samples were properly collected in 2025 and the system has returned to compliance.

2025 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Coliform Bacteria

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E.coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E.coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	1 Positive Monthly Sample	1		0	N	Naturally Present in the environment

Lead and Copper

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Copper Range:

EJ Water- DS3	20 ug/L to 230 ug/L
EJ Water- DS4	7.9 ug/L to 220 ug/L
EJ Water- DS5	<3.0 ug/L to 220 ug/L

Lead Range:

EJ Water- DS3	<1.0 ug/L to 5.6 ug/L
EJ Water- DS4	0 ug/L to <1.0 ug/L
EJ Water- DS5	<1.0 ug/L to 4.1 ug/L

To obtain a copy of the system's lead tap sampling data: **Doug Baxter 217-925-5566 dbaxter@ejcoop.com**

CIRCLE ONE: Our Community Water System **has** / **has not** developed a service line material inventory.

To obtain a copy of the system's service line inventory: **Doug Baxter 217-925-5566 dbaxter@ejcoop.com**

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level	90th Percentile	# Sites over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper- DS3	2025	1300	1300	220	0	ug/L	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead- DS3	2025	15	15	4.4	0	ug/L	N	
Copper- DS4	2025	1300	1300	170	0	ug/L	N	
Lead- DS4	2025	15	15	0	0	ug/L	N	
Copper- DS5	2025	1300	1300	110	0	ug/L	N	
Lead- DS5	2025	15	15	0	0	ug/L	N	

Water Quality Test Results

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Water Quality Test Results

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 or MCL:	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.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or 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 or MRDL:	The highest level of a 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 or MRDLG:	The level of a drinking water disinfectant 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.
na:	not applicable.
mrem:	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
ppb:	micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppm:	milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
Treatment Technique or TT:	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2025	2	2 - 2	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorite	2025	0.96	0.058 - 0.96	0.8	1	ppm	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2025	57	2.66 - 73.1	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2025	75	9.54 - 98	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2025	0.0042	0.0042 - 0.0042	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2025	0.4	0.413 - 0.413	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2025	0.38	0.18 - 0.38	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	2025	12	12 - 12			ppb	N	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits. Used in water softener regeneration.
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	07/07/2021	0.189	0.189 - 0.189	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Atrazine	2025	1	0 - 0.48	3	3	ppb	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.

Turbidity

	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest single measurement	1 NTU	0.208 NTU	N	Soil runoff.
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	0.3 NTU	100%	N	Soil runoff.

Information Statement: 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, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.

Violations Table

Consumer Confidence Rule			
The Consumer Confidence Rule requires community water systems to prepare and provide to their customers annual consumer confidence reports on the quality of the water delivered by the systems.			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
CCR ADEQUACY/AVAILABILITY/CONTENT	07/01/2025	2025	A number entry error was discovered in our reporting of Lead and Copper results. While there was no number in excess of maximum contaminant levels, the true levels were not represented. More rigorous and diligent proofreading will solve this in the future.

Cryptosporidium			
Gastrointestinal illness (e.g., diarrhea, vomiting, cramps).			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, SOURCE (LT2), MAJOR	04/01/2025	04/30/2025	A laboratory error caused our sample to be analyzed outside of the approved time window, triggering a violation. We have changed laboratory partners to ensure proper timing and results in the future.
MONITORING, SOURCE (LT2), MAJOR	07/01/2025	07/31/2025	A laboratory error caused our sample to be analyzed outside of the approved time window, triggering a violation. We have changed laboratory partners to ensure proper timing and results in the future.

E. coli			
Fecal coliforms and E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, SOURCE (LT2), MAJOR	04/01/2025	04/30/2025	A laboratory error caused our sample to be analyzed outside of the approved time window, triggering a violation. We have changed laboratory partners to ensure proper timing and results in the future.

Turbidity			
Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, SOURCE (LT2), MAJOR	04/01/2025	04/30/2025	A laboratory error caused our sample to be analyzed outside of the approved time window, triggering a violation. We have changed laboratory partners to ensure proper timing and results in the future.

Special Notice for Availability of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Data

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Availability of Monitoring Data for Unregulated Contaminants by EJ Water Cooperative

Our water system has tested for a series of unregulated contaminants during 2025. Unregulated contaminants are those which do not yet have a drinking water standard set by the EPA. The purpose of monitoring these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have a right to know that this data is available.

In 2025, there were no detections of any unregulated contaminants in our tests.

If you are interested in examining the results or have questions about these contaminants, please contact Doug Baxter at 217-925-5566.

This notice is being sent to you by EJ Water Cooperative (IL0790010).

Date Distributed: 05/01/2026