JUSTICE-WILLOW SPRINGS
WATER COMMISSION

2025 Monitoring Year, Consumer Confidence Report **May 2026**
Public Water Supply Facility ID: IL0315820
Commissioners: Mary Jane Mannella, George Pastorino, John Zapala
Director: Colleen H. Kelly
Water Operator: Paul Gal
Water Commission Phone Number: (708) 458-7010

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

Dear Water Customer;

The Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission is issuing this Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act for the monitoring period of January 1 through December 31, 2025. Prepared in coordination with the City of Chicago and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, 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.

Throughout 2025, JWSWC delivered water that met all drinking water standards set by the U.S. EPA and the Illinois EPA. We are pleased to report that there were no water quality violations during the monitoring year, reflecting our continued commitment to providing safe, high-quality drinking water for our community.

How do I get involved?

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 at 7000 S. Archer Road, Justice, IL 60458. The board meets at 9:30 AM every fourth Thursday of the month. These meetings are open to the public and residents and business owners are encouraged to participate. Additionally, you can contact USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

If there are any questions or if additional information is needed, please contact Paul Gal, Water Operator, 708-458-7010.

I would like to share this information with my neighbors or loved ones:

Please share this information with all other individuals who drink this water, particularly those who may not have received this notice directly, such as residents of apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses. You can accomplish this by posting the notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. Copies of this report will be available at our office, 7000 S. Archer Road, Justice, IL 60458.

How can I pay my water bill?

You will receive a postcard bill bi-monthly from the Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission; we offer several ways for you to pay your water bill.

We accept payment in the form of cash, check, money orders and credit cards. Please make checks payable to: Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission.

Mail or drop off your payment. The office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. A drop box is located outside the building for your convenience when the office is closed. Payments can be mailed to: Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission, 7000 S. Archer Road, Justice, IL 60458.

Sign up for automatic payment (ACH Debit) through your checking or savings account. You will receive a bill, but the payment will be made from your bank automatically. ACH Debit is a secure transaction.

Check our website at https://www.jwswc.org for more details

Water Conservation and Lawn Care

For more conservation tips, please visit: https://www.epa.gov/watersense

- Use WaterSense labeled fixtures to reduce water use and improve efficiency.
- Repair leaking faucets and toilets to prevent wasting water.
- Run laundry and dishwashers during the evening or early morning to reduce water use during peak daytime demand.
- Water lawns during the early morning because cooler temperatures help water soak into the ground instead of evaporating in the heat.
- Set sprinklers to water lawns and gardens only. Make sure you are not watering the street or sidewalk. Avoid overwatering your landscaping by learning your plants' water needs and watering different types appropriately.
- To maintain a healthy lawn, the JWSWC suggests watering deeply but infrequently. Ideally, lawns should receive about one inch of water per week. Overwatering not only wastes water and money, but can also remove essential nutrients from the soil and lead to lawn disease problems.

Important Information

Lead Service Line Inventory:
JWSWC has developed and maintains a water service line material inventory in accordance with state and federal requirements. Based on the most current review of available records, JWSWC has not identified any known lead service lines within the distribution system. Some service line materials may be listed as unknown and are being actively evaluated.
The most recent Lead Service Line Material Inventory is available at:
https://jwswc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/IEPA-2024-Final-Material-Inventory2.pdf

Lead & Copper Tap Sampling Results:
The JWSWC tests its water supply for lead contamination through designated lead testing site locations. The most recent test results shown in the table indicate that the Water Commission is in compliance with IEPA lead regulations.

Lead Range: <1.0 µg/L to < 1.8 µg/L
Copper Range: <3.0 µg/L to 180 µg/L

To obtain a copy of the system's lead tap sampling data: https://jwswc.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/06/2024-Lead-and-Copper.pdf
or call Paul Gal, Water Operator at 708-458-7010.

Where does our water come from?

Source of our Community Water Supply – JWSWC

In 2025, the Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission (JWSWC) purchased around 800 million gallons of water from the City of Chicago, which sources water from Lake Michigan via two treatment plants. The Jardine Plant, located near Navy Pier, treats water for northern areas, including JWSWC. Water is extracted from offshore cribs in Lake Michigan, treated at the Jardine Plant, and transported to the Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission facility at 7000 S. Archer Road. It is then distributed through the Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission's 85-mile water main system.

Source Water Location – City of Chicago / Lake Michigan

The City of Chicago utilizes Lake Michigan as its source of drinking water through two water treatment facilities. The Jardine Water Purification Plant (Intake #00104 – Jardine Shore Intake & Intake #01306 Jardine Dever Intake) serves the northern areas of the City of Chicago and surrounding suburbs, while the Sawyer Water Purification Plant (Intake #00105 Sawyer Plant Shore) serves the southern areas of the City and suburbs. Lake Michigan is the only Great Lake entirely contained within the United States. It borders Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, and Wisconsin and is the second-largest Great Lake by volume, containing approximately 1,180 cubic miles of water, and the third-largest by surface area.

Source Water Assessment Summary

The Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of community water supply to be susceptible to potential pollution problems. The very nature of surface water allows contaminants to migrate into the intake with no protection, only dilution. This is the reason for mandatory treatment for all surface water supplies in Illinois. Chicago's offshore intakes are located at a distance that shoreline impacts are not usually considered a factor on water quality. At certain times of the year, however, the potential for contamination exists due to wet-weather flows and river reversals. In addition, the placement of the crib structures may serve to attract waterfowl, gulls and terns that frequent the Great Lakes area, thereby concentrating fecal deposits at the intake and thus compromising the source water quality. Conversely, the shore intakes are highly susceptible to storm water runoff, marinas and shoreline point sources due to the influx of groundwater to the lake. The Illinois EPA implemented a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) to assist with watershed protection of public drinking water supplies. The SWAP inventories potential sources of contamination and determined the susceptibility of the source water to contamination. The Illinois EPA has completed the Source Water Assessment Program for our supply.

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 the Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission or call our water operator. 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, please visit: http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl or call by calling DWM at (312)742-2406.

Mandatory Water Testing

The JWSWC and the City of Chicago conduct water sampling as mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Chicago, as the source water provider, tests for a broader range of contaminants, in accordance with EPA specifications.

The JWSWC tests the water supply for chlorine content daily to maintain the optimum levels for the consumers' needs. On a monthly basis, bacteriological samples are taken. On a yearly basis, samples are submitted for Total Trihalomethane (TTHM) Analysis. Samples are also provided for lead and copper monitoring on a schedule established by the IEPA. All testing and reports are performed according to the requirements of IEPA.

Susceptibility to Contamination

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater 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 may pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

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 EPA's 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.

Potential Contaminants in Source Water

Drinking water sources may contain the following contaminants:

- **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 stormwater 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.

Important Health Information – Do I need to take special precautions?

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).

Copper Educational Statement

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

Copper in drinking water is primarily from corrosion of household plumbing systems. The JWSWC is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for copper exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. Additional information on copper in drinking water and steps to reduce exposure is available from the U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Lead Educational Statement

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 JWSWC 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 our water operator, Paul Gal, at 708-458-7010.

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.

What are the risks if exposed to lead above the action level?

Infants and Children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

2025 City of Chicago Voluntary Monitoring

The City of Chicago has continued monitoring Cryptosporidium, Giardia and E. coli in its source water as part of its water quality program. No Cryptosporidium or Giardia was detected in source water samples collected in 2025. Treatment processes have been optimized to provide effective barriers for removal of Cryptosporidium oocysts and Giardia cysts in the source water, effectively removing these organisms in the treatment process. By maintaining low turbidity through the removal of particles from the water, the possibility of Cryptosporidium and Giardia organisms getting into the drinking water system is greatly reduced.

For more information, please visit:
http://www.cityofchicago.org/city/en/depts/water/supp_info/water_quality_resultsandreports/city_of_chicago_emergincontaminantstudy.html

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

For more information, please contact Patrick Schwer at 312-744-8190
Chicago Department of Water Management
1000 East Ohio Street
Chicago, IL 60611

This notice is being sent to you by:
The City of Chicago
Department of Water Management
Water System ID# IL0316000

Regulated Contaminant Table Definitions and Units of Measurement

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.

Date of Sample: If a date appears in this column, the Illinois EPA requires monitoring for this contaminant less than once per year because the concentrations do not frequently change. If no date appears in the column, monitoring for this contaminant was conducted during the CCR calendar year.

Fluoride is added to the water supply to help promote strong teeth. The Illinois Department of Public Health recommends an optimal fluoride level of 0.7 mg/L with a range of 0.6 mg/L to 0.8 mg/L.

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 Contaminant Level (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.

Minimum Reporting Level (MRL): The lowest concentration of a contaminant that a laboratory can reliably measure and report using an approved analytical method. Results below the MRL are considered too uncertain to quantify accurately and are typically reported as "< MRL" (less than the reporting level).

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of 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.

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.

Range of Detections: This column represents a range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest that were collected during the CCR calendar year.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Sodium: There is no state or federal MCL for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials who have concerns about sodium intake due to dietary precautions. If you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician about the level of sodium in the water.

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.

Unregulated Contaminants: A maximum contaminant level (MCL) for this contaminant has not been established by either state or federal regulations, nor has mandatory health effects language. The purpose for monitoring this contaminant is to assist USEPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water, and whether future regulation is warranted.

90th Percentile: Compliance with the lead and copper action levels is based on the 90th percentile lead and copper levels. This means that the concentration of lead and copper must be less than or equal to the action level in at least 90% of the samples collected.

MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level
N/A: Not applicable
ND: Not detectable at testing limits.
NR: Monitored not required, but recommended

Units of Measurement
ppm: Parts per million, or milligrams per liter
ppb: Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter
NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in drinking water
%≤0.3 NTU: Percent of samples less than or equal to 0.3 NTU
pCi/L: Picocuries per liter, used to measure radioactivity

Contaminant *Typical Source of Contaminant*								
Regulated Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Highest Level Detected**	**Range of Levels Detected**	**Unit of Measurement**	**Water Supplier**	**Violation**	**Collection Date**
Chlorine	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1	0.8 - 1	ppm	JWSWC	N	2025
Water additive used to control microbes.	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1	1 -- 1	ppm	Chicago	N	2025
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	No Goal	60	20	5.29 - 29	ppb	JWSWC	N	2025
By-product of drinking water disinfection	No Goal	60	17	7.4 - 18.8	ppb	Chicago	N	2025
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	No Goal	80	39	13.19 - 53	ppb	JWSWC	N	2025
By-product of drinking water disinfection	No Goal	80	34	13 - 34.2	ppb	Chicago	N	2025
Inorganic Contaminants								
Arsenic *Natural erosion of rock and mineral deposits, particularly in groundwater. It is also released through human activities such as pesticide application, mining, smelting, and wood preservatives.*	0	10	0.54	ND - 0.54	ppb	Chicago	N	2025
Barium *Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits*	2	2	0.0191	0.0182 - 0.0191	ppm	Chicago	N	2025
Nitrate (Measured as Nitrogen) *Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits*	10	10	0.36	0.32 - 0.36	ppm	Chicago	N	2025
Total Nitrate & Nitrite (as Nitrogen) *Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits*	10	10	0.36	0.32 - 0.36	ppm	Chicago	N	2025
Total Organic Carbon (TOC): The percentage of TOC removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by IEPA.								
Unregulated Contaminants								
Sulfate *Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used as water softener*	N/A	N/A	27.2	26.8 - 27.2	ppm	Chicago	N	2025
Sodium *Erosion of naturally occurring deposits*	N/A	N/A	9.1	8.67 - 9.10	ppm	Chicago	N	2025
State Regulated Contaminants								
Fluoride *Water additive which promotes strong teeth.*	4	4	0.75	0.65 - 0.75	ppm	Chicago	N	2025
Radio Active & Synthetic Organic Contaminants								
Combined Radium 226/228 *Decay of natural and man-made deposits.*	0	5	0.95	0.83 — 0.95	pCi/L	Chicago	N	2/4/2020
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium *Decay of natural and man-made deposits.*	0	15	3.1	2.8 — 3.1	pCi/L	Chicago	N	2/4/2020

Coliform Bacteria - Likely Source of Contaminants: Naturally present in the environment.						
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	**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**	**Water Supplier**
0	5% of the monthly samples are positive.	0.6	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli MCL: A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive.	1	N	Chicago

Lead and Copper								
	MCLG	**Action Level (AL)**	**90th Percentile**	**# Sites Over AL**	**Units**	**Water Supplier**	**Violation**	**Date**
Lead	0	15	0	1	ppb	JWSWC	N	7/13/2021
Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	0	15	8.8	2	ppb	Chicago	N	2025
Copper	1.3	1.3	0.082	0	ppm	JWSWC	N	8/7/2024
Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.	1.3	1.3	0.079	0	ppm	Chicago	N	2025

Water Clarity						
Turbidity	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Highest Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Violation**	**Water Supplier**
Turbidity (NTU/Lowest Monthly % ≤0.3 NTU) Soil runoff	N/A	TT (Limit: 95%≤0.3 NTU)	Lowest Monthly %: 100%	100% - 100%	N	Chicago
Turbidity (NTU/Highest Single Measurement) Soil runoff	N/A	TT (Limit 1 NTU)	0.29	N/A	N	Chicago
2025 JWSWC Violations: NONE						

UCMR5 Information

In 2025, the Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission participated in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) program. As part of this monitoring, JWSWC tested for Lithium, HFPO-DA (GenX), ADONA, and multiple per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). All results were reported at levels below the Minimum Reporting Level (MRL). A summary of the 2025 UCMR5 testing results is provided in the table below. For more information about the UCMR program, please visit: https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr.

Special Notice for Availability of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Data

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
Availability of Monitoring Data for Unregulated Contaminants for Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission

Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by 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 Paul Gal, Water Operator, at (708) 458-7010 or by mail at Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission, 7000 S. Archer Road, Justice, IL 60458.

This notice is being sent to you by Justice-Willow Springs Water Commission. State Water System ID#: IL0315820.
Date distributed: May, 2026.

For more information about PFAS health advisories, please visit: https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/pfas/pfas-healthadvisory.html.

2025 UCMR5 Testing Results Table

Contaminant	Start of Collections	End of Collections	Number of Samples Taken	Result From	Result To
11Cl-PF3OUdS	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
4:2 FTS	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
6:2 FTS	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
8:2 FTS	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
9Cl-PF3ONS	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
ADONA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
HFPO-DA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
NEtFOSAA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
NFDHA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
NMeFOSAA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFBA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFBS	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFDA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFDoA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFEESA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFHpA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFHpS	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFHxA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFHxS	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFMBA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFMPA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFNA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFOA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFOS	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFPeA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFPeS	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFTA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFTrDA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
PFUnA	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL
Lithium	2/13/2025	11/20/2025	4	< MRL	< MRL

MRL = Minimum Reporting Level