City of East Grand Rapids 2020
Water Quality Report

Prepared in conjunction with the City of Grand Rapids Water System

The City of East Grand Rapids Water System is proud to present our annual Water Quality Report. This report provides important information about your drinking water. We have continued to meet the challenge of providing safe, quality water which meets or exceeds the requirements set forth by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy (EGLE).

Why do you get this report?
The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires every community water supply throughout the United States to report specific details regarding water quality along with any contaminants which may be found in our tap water and source water. In order to ensure this information reaches all of our customers, the EPA requires this report be made available to each household and business we supply.

The City of East Grand Rapids Water System, in conjunction with the City of Grand Rapids, is committed to providing you with high quality water. We also understand that occasionally a concern may arise. At times water may appear cloudy or rusty, or may have an unusual odor. This change in water quality could be caused by various reasons including construction in the area, in-house water filtration, water system maintenance, recent plumbing work done in your home/business, or seasonal weather related changes. These are just a few possibilities. Whatever the reason, we want to address those concerns, which may be conveyed by calling: the East Grand Rapids Department of Public Works-Operations Division at 616-940-4870.

Source water assessment:
Lake Michigan is the sole source of water treated for the Grand Rapids Water System. The City of East Grand Rapids purchases our drinking water from this system. This is considered a surface water source. The EGLE completed a Source Water Assessment for the City of Grand Rapids water supply in 2003. This report found that our water supply has a moderately high susceptibility to contaminants. Environment contamination is not likely to occur when potential contaminants are used and managed properly. The Grand Rapids Water Treatment Plant routinely and continuously monitors the water for a variety of chemicals to assure safe drinking water. The Grand Rapids Water System continues to be involved in and supports watershed protection efforts. If you would like information about the Source Water Assessment or have questions concerning the water quality testing results in this report, please contact: City of Grand Rapids Water System at 311, 616-456-3000 or water@grcity.us

Where does my drinking water come from? Treated water from Lake Michigan (a surface water source) is the sole source of drinking water in East Grand Rapids. The City of Grand Rapids treats water at the Lake Michigan Filtration Plant and sends water to the City of East Grand Rapids as a wholesale customer. The City of East Grand Rapids is responsible for the water distribution system within the City.

Water Quality Data of 2020 (Data Table-See Next Two Pages):
In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA has regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table on the next page lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detected In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.								
Chlorine [as Cl2] (ppm)	4	4	1.01	0.68	1.26	2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids Group [HAA5] (ppb)	NA	60	31.43	13.8	52.8	2020	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	NA	80	41.12	19.3	56.6	2020	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.019	NA	NA	2018	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.51	0.28	0.64	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.4	NA	NA	2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid [PFOS] (ppt)	NA	16	1.65	ND	2.34	2020	No	Firefighting foam; discharge from electroplating facilities; discharge and waste from industrial facilities
Perfluorooctanoic acid [PFOA] (ppt)	NA	8	0.52	ND	2.10	2020	No	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; stain-resistant treatments
Sodium (ppm)	NA	NA	11	NA	NA	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Contaminants								
Information collected through the monitoring of these contaminants/chemicals will help to ensure that future decisions on drinking water standards are based on sound science.								
Brominated Haloacetic Acids Group [HAA6Br] (ppb)	NA	MNR	11.6	6.08	17.63	2019	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids Group [HAA9] (ppb)	NA	MNR	41.47	19.22	77.73	2019	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Manganese (ppb)	NA	MNR	0.446	ND	0.446	2019	No	Naturally occurring element; used in steel production, fertilizer, batteries and fireworks; essential nutrient
Microbiological Contaminants								
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	0.3	100%	NA	NA	2020	No	Soil runoff
100% of the samples were below the TT value of 0.3. A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation. The highest single measurement was 0.110. Any measurement in excess of 1 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.								

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile	Range		Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Inorganic Contaminants								
Copper [action level at consumer taps] (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0	ND	0.1	2020	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead [action level at consumer taps] (ppb)	0	15	4	ND	10	2020	0	Lead services lines, corrosion of household plumbing including fittings and fixtures; erosion of natural deposits
These 2020 sample results are from 30 homes selected as high risk for lead and copper contamination.								

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detected In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Voluntary Monitoring								
Information collected through the monitoring of these contaminants/chemicals will help to ensure that future decisions on drinking water standards are based on sound science.								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	ND	NA	NA	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Chromium-6 [hexavalent chromium] (ppb)	NA	MNR	ND	NA	NA	2020	NR	Erosion of natural deposits; industrial contaminant
Cryptosporidium	0	TT	ND	NA	NA	2020	NR	Contaminated rivers and lakes
Giardia lamblia	0	TT	ND	NA	NA	2020	NR	Contaminated rivers and lakes
Mercury [inorganic] (ppb)	2	2	ND	NA	NA	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid [HFPO-DA] (ppt)	NA	370	ND	NA	NA	2020	No	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities utilizing the Gen X chemical process
Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid [PFBS] (ppt)	NA	420	ND	NA	NA	2020	No	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; stain-resistant treatments
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid [PFHxS] (ppt)	NA	51	ND	NA	NA	2020	No	Firefighting foam; discharge and waste from industrial facilities
Perfluorohexanoic acid [PFHxA] (ppt)	NA	400,000	ND	NA	NA	2020	No	Firefighting foam; discharge and waste from industrial facilities
Perfluorononanoic acid [PFNA] (ppt)	NA	6	ND	NA	NA	2020	No	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; breakdown of precursor compounds

Is my water safe? Yes. The City of East Grand Rapids, in conjunction with the City of Grand Rapids, meets or exceeds all of the requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality.

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 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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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 all of the following: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Do I need to take special precautions?
The EPA sets legal limits and regulates the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water provided by all public water systems. Sources of drinking water worldwide (both tap and bottled) may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. Though contaminants are present it does not necessarily indicate that the water poses any kind of health risk. We treat our water according to EPA regulations.

While the EPA's health-based standards for drinking water are generally safe, some people may be more sensitive to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Some infants, children or elderly, individuals who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or persons receiving chemotherapy can be at risk for infections. These people should seek advice from their health care providers. More information on potential health effects of specific contaminants can be obtained by contacting the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or their website at:
www.epa.gov/safewater/dwhealth.

Lead and Drinking Water:
If present, elevated levels of 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 internal plumbing in a home. The East Grand Rapids Water System is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. Water that has been sitting for several hours has the potential to pick up these contaminants. In order to minimize the potential exposure you can flush the tap 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. Use only water from the cold-water tap for drinking, cooking and especially for making baby formula. Hot water is likely to contain higher levels of lead.

The City of East Grand Rapids has 3,956 water services in the water distribution system. Water services from the water main to the curb stop/shut off are owned/responsibility of the City. Water service lines from the curb stop/shut off valve to the home are private and are the responsibility of the property owner. In accordance with requirements from EGLE the City completed the preliminary distribution system material inventory (DSMI) in 2019. Estimated numbers of service connections by service line materials are as follows: Any portion contains lead: 398, contains galvanized previously connected to lead: 0, likely contains lead: 2,165, likely does not contain lead: 1,246, material is unknown: 0 and contains neither lead nor galvanized previously connected to lead: 147. Information pertaining to the preliminary DSMI was compiled by inspectors from various water meter replacement programs which have been verified by inspection record cards. The City will be completing a comprehensive DSMI by 2025 that will be submitted to EGLE. The City is hydro excavating all lead service line locations at the stop box (shut off valve typically between the sidewalk and street) from 2021-2024 to fully verify all water service line materials. The City will provide notice to residents if water services are lead. Under current EGLE lead and copper rules the City of East Grand Rapids is replacing all lead service lines, whether they are City or privately owned, during capital improvement projects in accordance with asset management planning. As the comprehensive DSMI is completed and the City has additional data, the City will be developing a targeted lead service line removal

plan. In accordance with the Michigan Lead and Copper Rule, water systems have 20 years to remove all lead service lines.

To view the lead FAQ that pertains to the City of East Grand Rapids, please visit the following link: 2021-Lead-FAQ (eastgr.org)

If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. The Kent County health Department provides water testing for residents and there are also private EGLE certified labs available in the Grand Rapids area. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or their website at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead. The City of Grand Rapids Water Plant (EGR's source) implemented a corrosion control program in 1994 to reduce the amount of lead possibly leaching from household plumbing and is monitored following EPA guidelines. The federal maximum limit for drinking water for lead is 15 parts per billion (ppb).

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.

For concerns regarding other sources of lead levels in homes, including paint and soils that are more prevalent around older homes, please contact the Kent County Health Department to discuss your specific concern. Healthy Homes Coalition-Get the Lead Out is also a resource that can assist with lead related concerns.

Kent County Health Department: Kent County Health Department Lab: 616-632-7210
https://www.accesskent.com/Health/laboratory.htm

Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program: 616-632-7063
https://www.accesskent.com/Health/Lead/

Healthy Homes Coalition of West Michigan-Get the Lead Out Program: 616-241-3300
http://gettheleadoutgr.org/

Take a Lake Michigan Filtration Plant Tour! Residents are encouraged to take a tour of the Grand Rapids Water Filtration Plant located on Lake Michigan between Holland and Grand Haven. Guests take a walking tour of the facility and learn more about the people and processes that diligently safeguard your water supply. To schedule a tour, please call 311 or 616-456-3000.

More Information:

If you have any questions regarding your bill, please contact the City of East Grand Rapids Finance Department at 616-949-2110. For questions regarding water leaks or water service related issues, please contact the City of East Grand Rapids Department of Public Works-Operations Division at 616-940-4870. For additional copies of this report, please contact the City of East Grand Rapids Department of Public Works-Administration at 616-940-4817 or in the lower level of City Hall at 750 Lakeside Dr. The report is also posted online at: Water/Sewer Systems | East Grand Rapids, MI - Official Website