



City of East Grand Rapids 2024 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. 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. Environmental 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 2024 (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 Cl ₂] (ppm)	4	4	1.03	.65	1.19	2024	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids Group [HAA5] (ppb)	N/A	60	22.53	13.2	27.4	2024	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	N/A	80	34.73	22.4	40.6	2024	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.67	N/A	N/A	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	15	N/A	N/A	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)								
Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid [PFOS] (ppt)	N/A	16	1.9	ND	2.7	2024	No	Firefighting foam; discharge from electroplating facilities; discharge and waste from industrial facilities
Radioactive Contaminants								
Combined radium [226 & 228] (pCi/L)	zero	5	0.94	N/A	N/A	2021	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)	N/A	MNR	11.02	9.95	12.88	2019	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids Group [HAA9] (ppb)	N/A	MNR	34.95	31.73	38.34	2019	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Manganese (ppb)	N/A	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)	N/A	0.3	100%	N/A	N/A	2024	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 0.120. Any measurement in excess of 1 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.								

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	90 th Percentile	Range		Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Inorganic Contaminants								
Copper [action level at consumer taps] (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.0	ND	0.1	2024	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead [action level at consumer taps] (ppb)	zero	15	6	ND	12	2024	0	Lead services lines, corrosion of household plumbing including fittings and fixtures; erosion of natural deposits
These 2024 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			
Additional 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)	zero	10	ND	N/A	N/A	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Chromium-6 [hexavalent chromium] (ppb)	NA	MNR	ND	N/A	N/A	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits; industrial contaminant
<i>Cryptosporidium</i>	zero	TT	ND	N/A	N/A	2024	No	Contaminated rivers and lakes
<i>Giardia lamblia</i>	zero	TT	ND	N/A	N/A	2024	No	Contaminated rivers and lakes
Mercury [inorganic] (ppb)	2	2	ND	N/A	N/A	2024	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid [HFPO-DA] (ppt)	N/A	370	ND	N/A	N/A	2024	No	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities utilizing the Gen X chemical process
Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid [PFBS] (ppt)	N/A	420	ND	N/A	N/A	2024	No	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; stain-resistant treatments
Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid [PFHxS] (ppt)	N/A	51	ND	N/A	N/A	2024	No	Firefighting foam; discharge and waste from industrial facilities
Perfluorohexanoic acid [PFHxA] (ppt)	N/A	400,000	ND	N/A	N/A	2024	No	Firefighting foam; discharge and waste from industrial facilities
Perfluorononanoic acid [PFNA] (ppt)	N/A	6	ND	N/A	N/A	2024	No	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; breakdown of precursor compounds
Perfluorooctanoic acid [PFOA] (ppt)	N/A	8	ND	N/A	N/A	2024	No	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; stain-resistant treatments

Testing results for water treatment are completed by the City of Grand Rapids while distribution system testing results are completed by the City of East Grand Rapids

Important Drinking Water Definitions and Units:

- **90th Percentile:** The minimum level of contamination found in the highest 10 percent of samples collected.
- **AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that the water system must follow.
- **MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water, MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):** 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.
- **MNR:** Monitored Not Regulated.
- **MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** 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.
- **MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** 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 disinfection to control microbial contaminants.
- **NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.
- **NA:** Not applicable
- **ND:** Not detected
- **NR:** Monitoring not required but recommended
- **ppm (parts per million):** Number of milligrams of substance in one liter of water
- **ppb (parts per billion):** Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
- **ppt (parts per trillion):** Number of nanograms of substance in one liter of water
- **TT (Treatment Technique):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

****Note:** The data table contains the highest annual test results for all required and voluntary monitoring of regulated substances. The City of East Grand Rapids in partnership with the City of Grand Rapids monitors many regulated and unregulated substances more frequently than required and, as a consequence, these results are included in the tables. In addition to the test results listed in the table, Grand Rapids also analyzed drinking water supplied for 82 different contaminants/chemicals in 2024; none of which were found at detectable levels. **

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. 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.

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the United States EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline: 800-426-4791.

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, persons receiving chemotherapy, 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. The 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 and Drinking Water:

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially 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. The City of East Grand Rapids 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 at least 5 minutes to flush water from both your home plumbing and lead service line. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the City of East Grand Rapids at 616-940-4870 for available resources. 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>.

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects on all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavioral problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.

The City of East Grand Rapids has 3,946 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. Estimated numbers of service connections by service line materials are as follows:

Current 2024 Inventory Assessment Update:

- 3,946 total water service lines in the city
- Total presumed full lead/GPCL: 52
- Total presumed partial lead/GPCL: 285
- Total known full lead/GPCL: 52
- Total known partial lead/GPCL: 302
- Total presumed full copper: 241
- Total known full copper or poly: 2,987
- Total known full ductile/cast iron, ductile x copper: 12

A map of the city's water service materials/records can be viewed at <https://regis-apps-login.gvmc-regis.org/mwaterservicematerialinventory> or via the QR Code below:



- Unknown/not enough information: 15
- Total known: 3,353
- Total presumed or not enough information: 593 (currently under investigation via EGLE three-point inspection)

*GPCL= Galvanized Previously Connected to Lead

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 currently 15 parts per billion (ppb), with the State of Michigan via EGLE at 12ppb. East Grand Rapids tested at 6ppb in 2024 with no exceedances.

For additional resources regarding lead please call or visit the following:

Kent County Health Department: 616-632-6900

<https://accesskent.com/health/lead/>

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: [2024-City-of-East-Grand-Rapids-Water-Quality-Report](#) or <https://www.eastgrmi.gov/DocumentCenter/View/4333/2024-City-of-East-Grand-Rapids-Water-Quality-Report?bidId=>