City of Elkhart
Mayor Rod Roberson
1201 South Nappanee Street
Elkhart, Indiana 46516

Water Quality Report 2025

Este informe contiene información muy importante. Tradúzcalo o hable con algien que lo entienda bien. Para discutir esta información en español, por favor llame al (574) 293-2572 durante las horas regulares de oficina.

The Consumer Confidence Report

This report on the City of Elkhart's water supply gives you, our customer, information about the water you drink. There were no violations or exceedances in 2025. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires that publicly owned drinking water systems send this report every year to consumers showing that the water you drink meets regulatory standards and expectations for quality. This report outlines the City's commitment to preserving this quality. Included in the report is information on levels of regulated substances detected in the City's water in 2025.

The Board of Public Works, which oversees the Water Utility, holds public meetings on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the City Council Chambers. Please call Bryan Cress at (574) 293-2572 with any questions about this report. The 2025 City of Elkhart, Water Quality Report meets the requirements of 40 C.F.R. § 141 as specified by the Environmental Protection Agency.

Elkhart's Water Source

All of the City's water is supplied from groundwater sources. Groundwater is held within pore spaces in the soil in what is known as an aquifer. This aquifer reaches several hundred feet below ground. The water is pumped to the surface, treated, and sent to City water customers from three wellfields around Elkhart; Northwest Wellfield, North Main Wellfield, and South Wellfield. The aquifer that supplies Elkhart with clean, safe water is a valuable resource.

Protecting Your Water Resources

Water Utility officials have created a master plan for Elkhart's water supply to ensure that water continues to meet all state and federal safe drinking water standards and keep water costs low. The City also maintains a Wellhead Protection Plan that is available for review at Elkhart Public Works and Utilities. The plan establishes protection areas surrounding each of our wellfields. Spills in these protected areas could contaminate the drinking water. The contaminated water could be difficult or impossible to treat. Limit the use of and appropriately recycle chemicals, fertilizers, pesticides, automotive fluids, and other household products used. Report any spills to 911. A source water assessment conducted by the State of Indiana determined that our water has a high susceptibility to contamination. Preventing water contamination before it occurs is the best way to continue to have healthy and safe water.

Explanation of Contaminants Reasonably Expected to be Found in All Water

Sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. The City of Elkhart exclusively utilizes wells. As water travels over the surface of 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.

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. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agriculture 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production or mining activities.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact (574) 293-2572.

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.

Lead in Your Water

There is no safe level of lead in drinking water. Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Some of the health effects to infants and children include decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can also result in new or worsened learning and behavior problems. The children of persons who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy may be at increased risk of these harmful health effects. Adults have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems. Contact your health care provider for more information about your risks.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Elkhart Public Works and Utilities 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 wish to have your water tested, contact Elkhart Public Works and Utilities at (574) 293-2572. 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.

Complete lead tap sampling data is available for review by contacting (574) 293-2572. Our system was required to complete a service line inventory in 2024. You can view this inventory online at cityofelkhartin.gov/lead. The service line material was determined using the best information currently available. The information is updated whenever better information becomes available or resources allow the City to complete a visual verification. Water systems must submit a lead service line replacement plan to the state by November 1, 2027. This report will be made available to customers when it is complete. Corrosion of pipes, plumbing fittings, and fixtures may cause lead and copper to enter drinking water. To assess corrosion of lead and copper, the City conducts tap sampling for lead and copper at selected sites every three years. The City helps limit corrosion of pipes by adding a corrosion inhibitor to the water. To ensure the treatment is operating effectively, the City monitors water quality parameters daily. Additionally, the City is required to sample for lead in schools and licensed child care facilities as requested by the facility and has attempted to make contact with all schools and registered childcare facilities to complete sampling. The public may contact their school or child care facility for further information about potential sampling results.

For additional information please contact:	**For other formats, contact the City of Elkhart ADA Coordinator:**
Elkhart Public and Utilities: (574) 293-2572 Elkhart County Department of Health: (574) 971-4600 Indiana Department of Environmental Management: (800) 451-6027 EPA Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791	**Voice** (574) 293-2572 **TTY Indiana Relay** 711 or (800) 743-3333 **Email** mark.lucas@cityofelkhartin.org

Health Concerns

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.

Waivers

The City of Elkhart has a Statewide waiver for PCBs and dioxin. This waiver was granted because Elkhart's groundwater system is not under the direct influence of surface water. The City also has a Use waiver for asbestos because asbestos is not used in the distribution system piping. These waivers are in place from January 1, 2020 — December 21, 2028.

Detected Levels of Contaminants
City of Elkhart Public Water System: PWSID #5220008

Disinfectant: Our water system tested a minimum of 50 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. With the microbiological samples collected, the water system collects disinfectant residuals to ensure control of microbial growth.

Disinfectant	Year	Highest RAA	Unit	Range	MRDL	MRDLG	Violation	Typical Source
Chlorine	2025	1	ppm	0.03 - 2.2	4	4	No	Water additive used to control microbes

Regulated Contaminants: In the tables below, we have shown the regulated contaminants that were detected. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, information provided in this table refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results.

Lead and Copper	Year	90TH Percentile: 90% of your water utility levels were less than	Range of Sampled Results (low - high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Violation	Typical Source
Copper, Free	2025	0.356	0.0052 - 0.79	ppm	1.3	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	2025	2	0 - 8.3	ppb	15	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Typical Source
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	3320 CASSOPOLIS ST	2024 - 2025	11	9.8	ppb	60	0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	3529 E BRISTOL ST	2024 - 2025	12	7.3	ppb	60	0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	52588 COUNTY ROAD 15	2024 - 2025	16	10.1	ppb	60	0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	58458 STATE ROAD 19	2024 - 2025	16	17.4	ppb	60	0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	3320 CASSOPOLIS ST	2024 - 2025	23	20.3	ppb	80	0	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	3529 E BRISTOL ST	2024 - 2025	24	16.4	ppb	80	0	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	52588 COUNTY ROAD 15	2024 - 2025	41	38.5	ppb	80	0	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	58458 STATE ROAD 19	2024 - 2025	33	30.9	ppb	80	0	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Typical Source
Barium	3/5/2024	0.14	0.031 - 0.14	ppm	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	3/5/2024	2.6	2.1 - 2.6	ppb	100	100	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	3/5/2024	0.94	0.89 - 0.94	ppm	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nickel	3/5/2024	0.0018	0.0012 - 0.0018	mg/L	0.1*	0.1*	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	1/2/2025	1.5	0.56 - 1.5	ppm	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Radiological Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Typical Source
Combined Radium (-226 & -228)	7/30/2020	2.2	1 - 2.2	pCi/L	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha, Excluding Radon & Uranium	7/30/2020	2.1	1.1 - 2.1	pCi/L	15	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity	7/30/2020	3	0 - 3	pCi/L	**	0	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
RADIUM-226	7/30/2020	0.31	0 - 0.31	PCI/L	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM-228	7/30/2020	2.2	1 - 2.2	PCI/L	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits

*Lifetime health advisory limit.
** The gross beta particle activity MCL is 4 mrem/year annual dose equivalent to the total body or any internal organ. 50 pCi/L is used as a screening level.

UCMR: Our system collected samples under the U.S. EPA Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR) for 29 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) compounds and Lithium. This monitoring is being conducted so the EPA can receive occurrence data for these compounds to determine what additional compounds may need to be regulated in drinking water. We collected samples in July 2024 and January 2025 and detected the compounds shown in this table. These compounds are not regulated at this time. The full UCMR sampling results are available at elkhartindiana.org/pfas or by contacting our office at 574-293-2572.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR)	Collection Date of Highest Value	Highest Value	Average Value	Range of Sampled Results	Unit	Violation	Typical Source
Perfluorobutanoic Acid (PFBA)	7/18/2024	7.5	1.3	MRL - 7.5	ppt	NA	Consumer products
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (PFBS)	7/18/2024	9.8	4.8	MRL - 9.8	ppt	NA	Consumer products
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (PFHxA)	7/18/2024	5.5	1.8	MRL - 5.5	ppt	NA	Consumer products
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS)	7/18/2024	8.8	4.0	MRL - 8.8	ppt	NA	Consumer products
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)	7/18/2024	5.2	0.9	MRL - 5.2	ppt	NA	Consumer products
Perfluoropentanoic Acid (PFPeA)	7/18/2024	8.3	2.7	MRL - 8.3	ppt	NA	Consumer products

PFAS: Although it is not a requirement to provide PFAS monitoring results in this report until 2027, the City of Elkhart has elected to provide the following 2025 PFAS monitoring results. The full PFAS sampling results are available at cityofelkhartin.gov/pfas or by contacting our office at 574-293-2572. Please note that on May 14, 2025 EPA announced its intent to reconsider PFAS regulatory determinations for some PFAS levels.

Per– and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)	Collection Date of Highest Value	Highest Value	Range of Sampled Results	Highest RAA	Unit	RAA MCL	RAA MCLG	Violation	Typical Source
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA)	8/6/2025	5.1	MRL - 5.1	2.4	ppt	4.0	0	No	Consumer products
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS)	12/16/2025	11.0	MRL -11.0	8.1	ppt	10	10	No	Consumer products

Definitions

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

Average: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

LRAA: Locational Running Annual Average

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs 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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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 contamination.

mrem/year: millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body

MRL (Minimum Reporting Level): The lowest measurable concentration of a contaminant that, with 95% confidence, is achievable by at least 75% of laboratories nationwide using a specified analytical method.

NA: Not applicable

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water

ppb (Parts Per Billion): Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L) - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

ppm (Parts Per Million): Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L) - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

ppt (Part Per Trillion: Parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L) - or one ounce in 7,350,000,000 gallons of water

RRA: Running Annual Average