

2020

# Water Quality Report

Public Water Systems ID:  
1195550

## Introduction

The 2020 Water Quality Report from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville provides information about the source of campus drinking water, contaminant testing, general health precautions, and how calendar year 2020 sample results compare to regulatory requirements. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville is pleased to report that all United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA) drinking water quality standards have been met, with no violations of maximum contaminant levels (MCLs).

If you have any questions about this report or SIUE drinking water quality, please contact Facilities, at 618-650-3711 or via email at [fmserv@siue.edu](mailto:fmserv@siue.edu).

In compliance with state and USEPA regulations, the university issues a report annually describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to increase the understanding of drinking water standards and raise awareness of the need to protect your drinking water resources.

### Water Information Sources

**City of Edwardsville**

<https://www.cityofedwardsville.com/261/Water-Department>

**United State Environmental Protection Agency**

[www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)

**State Drinking Water Hotline**

800-426-4791

**Illinois Environmental Protection Agency**

[www2.illinois.gov/epa](http://www2.illinois.gov/epa)

SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY  
**EDWARDSVILLE**

## WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF SIUE DRINKING WATER?

SIUE purchases water from the city of Edwardsville. Edwardsville's water treatment plant is located outside of the Edwardsville city limits. Water is obtained from two well fields that draw water from the American Bottoms Underground Aquifer. The system has nine wells that have been drilled to an average depth of 114 feet. The water is filtered, softened, and disinfected. Water is pumped from the water treatment plant to the City and its bulk water customers through a network of water mains. Water pressures is maintained in the system by two elevated storage tanks and two ground-level storage tanks. The tanks are constructed of steel and concrete and have a combined volume of 3,420,000 gallons of water. In addition, the water treatment plant has one ground-level storage basin with a volume of 990,000 gallons of water.

On the SIUE campus, water is received into a 400,000 gallon underground reservoir. Water is pumped from there through a system of underground mains serving the entire campus and into a 500,000 gallon elevated tank which maintain system water pressure. A sec-

## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT AND ITS AVAILABILITY

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency's Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) is available at the city of Edwardsville Water Department. This plan is an assessment of the delineated area around our listed sources through which contaminants, if present, could migrate and reach our source water. It also includes an inventory of potential sources of contamination within the delineated area, and a determination of the water supply's susceptibility to contamination by the identified potential sources.

## 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 such as:

- 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 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 be the result of oil and gas production and mining activi-

## PROTECTING THE WATER YOU DRINK

To ensure tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health as public water systems. The city of Edwardsville's advanced water treatment plant processes are designed to reduce any such substances to levels well below any health concern.

The university is required to test the water in its distribution system for coliform, lead, copper, trihalomethanes (TTHM), and haloacetic acids. IEPA requires 4 samples per month to be analyzed for coliform. 63 samples were taken for lead and copper from various locations on campus with trihalomethanes (TTHM) and haloacetic acids sam-

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR LEAD

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 home plumbing. Southern Illinois University Edwardsville is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. On the SIUE campus, there are no lead service lines. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the

# WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below 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

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	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.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection 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 contaminants.
MRDL	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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

## 2020 City of Edwardsville Water Quality Data

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</b>								
<b>(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)</b>								
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	1.2	1.2	1.3	2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	9	6.8	9	2020	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalo-methanes] (ppb)	NA	80	32	24.36	32.2	2020	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.085	NA	NA	2020	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.434	NA	NA	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	1	NA	NA	2020	No	Runoff from fertilizer uses; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (optional)	NA		130	NA	NA	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	1.54	NA	NA	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	.215	NA	NA	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Copper-action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.67	2020	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead-action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0	2020	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

### Additional Contaminants

In an effort to insure the safest water possible the State has required the city of Edwardsville to monitor source contaminants not

## 2020 City of Edwardsville Water Quality Data

Contaminants	State MCL	Your Water	Violation	Explanation and Comment
Manganese	150 ppb	4.6 ppb	No	This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates. Source-Erosion of natural deposits.

## 2020 SIUE WATER QUALITY DATA

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</b>								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	.925	.6	1.2	2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	5.7	NA	NA	2020	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	66.5	NA	NA	2020	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.615	2020	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	1.5	2020	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	