In 2013, as in years past, your tap water met all USEPA and state drinking water health standards. Our system vigilantly safeguards its groundwater supply, and we are able to report that the department had no violations of a contaminant level of any other water quality standard during the past year. This report summarizes the quality of water that we provided last year, including details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how we ensure that it meets federal and state regulations. We are committed to providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies. We invite you to participate in the decision making processes that affect drinking water quality. Please feel welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings and work sessions which are held at 7:00 PM on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at the Whiteside County Board Room, 200 E. Knox Street. The City of Morrison Water Department will notify you immediately if there is any reason for concern about your drinking water.

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the City of Morrison Water Department to provide safe drinking water for our residents. The source of drinking water used by the City of Morrison is Ground Water.

For more information regarding this report, contact:

Name: Gary M. Teuscher
Phone: 815.786.2878

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

Source of Drinking Water

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 can dissolve 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 USEPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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. USEPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microorganisms, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; and
- 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 may 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 gas and production mining and agricultural activities.

Availability of Morrison Source Water Assessment

Below is a summary of the EPA source water assessment of Morrison’s water system. The full report is available for viewing at City Hall and Odell Public Library.

Source Water Assessment

Based on information gathered in a Well Site Survey published in 1989 by the Illinois EPA, several potential sources are located within 1,000 feet of the wells.

The Illinois EPA has determined that the Morrison Community Water Supply’s source water is not susceptible to contamination. This determination is based on a number of criteria including: monitoring conducted at the wells; monitoring conducted at the entry point to the distribution system; and available hydrogeologic data on the wells.

Furthermore, in anticipation of the US EPA’s proposed Ground Water Rule, the Illinois EPA has determined that the Morrison Community Water Supply is not vulnerable to stratal contamination. This determination is based upon the evaluation of the following criteria during the Vulnerability Waivers Process. The community’s wells are properly constructed with sound integrity and proper sitting conditions; a hydraulic barrier exists which should prevent pathogen movement; all potential public routes and sanitary defects have been mitigated such that the source water is adequately protected; monitoring data did not indicate a history of disease outbreak; and the sanitary survey of the water supply did not indicate a viral contamination threat. Because the community’s wells are constructed in a confined aquifer, which should prevent the movement of pathogens into the wells, well hydraulics were not considered a significant factor in the susceptibility determination. Hence, well hydraulics were not evaluated for this system ground water supply.

Source Water Protection Efforts

The Illinois Environmental Protection Act provided minimum protection zones of 200 feet for your wells. These minimum protection zones are regulated by the Illinois EPA. To further reduce the risk to source water, the facility has implemented a wellhead protection program which includes the proper abstraction of potential routes of groundwater contamination and correction of sanitary defects at the water treatment facility. This effort resulted in the community water supply receiving a special exception permit from the Illinois EPA which allows a reduction in monitoring. The outcome of this monitoring reduction has saved the community considerable laboratory analysis costs.

Vulnerability waiver

Due to favorable monitoring history,aquifer characteristics, and inventory of potential sources of contamination, our water supply was issued a vulnerability waiver renewal for SOCs at Tap2 – Well number 11910 (Well 84). No monitoring for SOCs were required, between January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2016.

2013 Water Quality Data

- Definition of Terms -

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.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal (MRDGL): The level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDGLs are established to protect the public against certain diseases caused by disinfection by-products.

Residual Disinfection Level (RDL): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water

Range of Detection: This column represents a range of individual sample results from lowest to highest that were collected during the CCR calendar year. In some cases, it may represent a single sample, if only one sample was collected.

- Abbreviations -

ppb: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter – or one ounce in 7,500 gallons of water.

ppm: Parts per million or micrograms per liter – or one ounce in 7,500,000 gallons of water.

ppb: Micrograms per liter, used to measure radioactivity.

- Distribution -

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Additional Data Available

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State Requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water is SAFE at these levels.

We, at the Morrison Water Department, work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children’s future.

Additional Data Available

If you would like additional data please contact City Hall at the address below.

This report will not be mailed to customers

Additional copies are available at

City Hall
200 West Main St.
Morrison, IL 61270