

Town of Syracuse, IN - 2014 Drinking Water Quality Report PWSID# 5243025

DEAR CUSTOMER:

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. The source of water for the Syracuse system is ground water. 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.

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, 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 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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

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 the system's business office.

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).

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. We cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Public input concerning the Town of Syracuse water system may be made at regularly scheduled Council Meetings, held at 7:00 pm every 3rd Tuesday of each month at 310 N Huntington St. You may also contact the Public Works Director at (574) 457-3229.

The Town of Syracuse has established a Wellhead Protection Plan to protect the ground water supply from potential sources of contamination. Syracuse is providing you notice that as a land owner or resident within the Town wellhead protection area, your activities can be a potential source of contamination to our water supply. This notice is to inform you there is a Wellhead Protection Plan in place and you may review a copy of the plan at the Syracuse Public Works Office, located at #1 Conrad Street, Syracuse, IN 46567.

Public Notice: We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. The results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets EPA's health standards. The last monitoring period testing for Trihalomethanes (THM) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA) was either not performed or failed to comply with all the requirements of the Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (Stage 2 DBPR); therefore, we cannot be sure of the quality of the water at that time. You do not need to use an alternate water supply (e.g., bottled). However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Please share this information with other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

2014 Drinking Water Quality Report

The last available information for the contaminants detected in our water during the sampling cycle ending in 2014 is given in the table below. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) does not require some contaminants to be monitored annually because their concentrations are not expected to vary. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management obtains and analyzes the samples in accordance with sampling cycles which vary according to EPA schedules. The definitions and abbreviations used are in the table below.

Definitions & Abbreviations:

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of contaminants 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 MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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

Below Detection Limit (BDL): Levels were below the detection limit set forth in the approved method for that test.

Parts per million (ppm): The equivalent of milligrams per liter (mg/l) is analogous to 1 minute in 2 years.

Parts per billion (ppb): The equivalent of micrograms per liter (ug/l) is analogous to 1 minute in 32 years.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): A measure of radioactivity.

Millirem per year (mrem/year): A measure of radioactivity.

NA: Not Applicable.

<i>Substance (units)</i>	<i>Sample Date</i>	<i>MCL</i>	<i>Result</i>	<i>Range</i>	<i>MCLG</i>	<i>Violation</i>	<i>Typical Sources</i>
<u>Inorganic Contaminants (Regulated at the Water Plant)</u>							
Chlorine (ppm)	2014	4	1	1-1	4	no	Additive for Disinfection
Barium (ppm)	2014	2	0.37	0.37-0.37	2	no	Natural Erosion
Fluoride (natural) (ppm)	2014	4	0.4	0.4-0.4	4	no	Natural Erosion
Nitrate (ppm)	2014	10	0.1	0.1-0.1	10	no	Natural Erosion, Runoff, Leaching
Nitrite (ppm)	2014	1	0.09	0.09-0.09	1	no	Natural Erosion, Runoff, Leaching
Sodium (ppm)	2014	NA	6.4	6.4-6.4	NA	no	Natural Erosion
<u>Radioactive Contaminants (Regulated at the Water Plant)</u>							
Radium (pCi/L)	1/27/09	5	0.2	0.2-0.2	0	no	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	1/27/09	15	0.8	0.8-0.8	0	no	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Gross Beta (mrem/yr)	1/27/09	4	0.4	0.4-0.4	0	no	Decay of Natural & Man Made Deposits
Uranium	1/27/09	0.03	0.0005	0.0005-0.0005	0	no	Erosion of Natural Deposits
<u>Synthetic Organic Compounds (Regulated at the Water Plant)</u>							
All 2012 SOC results were BDL						no	
<u>Volatile Organic Contaminants (Unregulated)</u>							
Chloroform (ppb)	2014	NA	0.6	0.6-0.6	NA	no	Naturally Occurring
<u>Trihalomethanes/Haloacetic Acids (Regulated in the Distribution System)</u>							
Trihalomethanes (ppb)	2014	80	25	24.8-24.8	N/A	no	By-Product of Drinking Water
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2014	60	18	18-18	N/A	no	By-Product of Drinking Water
<u>Total Coliform (Regulated in the Distribution System)</u>							
Total Coliform	3/month	Present	2	0-2	0	yes	Naturally present in environment
Present or Absent		3/month					
<i>Substance (units)</i>	<i>Sample Date</i>	<i>90th Percentile</i>	<i>EPA Action Level</i>	<i>Results Above</i>	<i>MCLG</i>	<i>Violation</i>	<i>Typical Source</i>
<u>Lead and Copper (Regulated at the Customer's Plumbing)</u>							
Lead (ppb)	2014	1.6	15	0	0	no	Customer plumbing
Copper (ppm)	2014	0.67	1.3	1	1.3	no	Customer plumbing

Violations Table

Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) – Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Violation Type

Monitoring, Routine (DBP), Major

Violation Begin

01/01/2014

Violation End

12/31/2014

Violation Explanation: We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) – Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Violation Type

Monitoring, Routine (DBP), Major

Violation Begin

01/01/2014

Violation End

12/31/2014

Violation Explanation: We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

Total Coliform – Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Violation Type

MCL (TCR), Monthly

Violation Begin

08/01/2014

Violation End

08/31/2014

Violation Explanation: Total coliform bacteria were found in our drinking water during the period indicated in enough samples to violate a standard.

Violation Type

Monitoring (TCR), Routine Minor

Violation Begin

07/01/2014

Violation End

07/31/2014

Violation Explanation: We failed to complete all the required tests of our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated.