City of Highland Park Annual Water Quality Report for 2015

This report covers the drinking water quality for the City of Highland Park for the calendar year 2015. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2015. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State standards.

The City of Highland Park purchased treated drinking water from the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department (DWSD) in 2015. DWSD provides drinking water to approximately 40 percent of the state's population. DWSD withdrawals source water from the Detroit River and Lake Huron. Two of the intakes are located in the Detroit River; one at the north end near Lake St. Claire and one at the south end near Lake Erie. A third intake is located at the south end of Lake Huron. Intake water is conveyed to five large water treatment plants for physical and chemical treatment. The City of Highland Park receives the majority of its drinking water from DWSD's Water Works Park Water Treatment Plant located in southeast Detroit.

- **Contaminants and their Presence in 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 **EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.**
- **Vulnerability of Sub-Populations:** 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 at (800) 426-4791.
- **Sources of Drinking Water:** The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells; our water comes from 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:

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 discharge, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.

Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring.

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 runoff and septic systems.

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. Food and Drug Administration regulations established limits for contaminants in bottled water, which provide the same protection for public health.

The table on the back of this sheet lists all the drinking water contaminants we detected during the 2015 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done from January 1 to December 31, 2015. The state allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All data is representative of the water quality, but some may be more than one year old.

Terms and abbreviations used in the following table:

- ***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.*
- ***Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL):*** *The highest level of disinfection allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.*
- ***Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal (MRDLG):*** *The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.*
- ***N/A:*** *Not Applicable*
- ***ND:*** *Non Detect*
- ***ppm:*** *parts per million or milligrams per liter. One ppm can be equated to a single penny in $10,000.*
- ***ppb:*** *parts per billion or micrograms per liter. One ppb can be equated to a single penny in $10,000,000.*
- ***Action Level (AL):*** *The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.*
- ***RAA:*** *Running Annual Average. Average of test results for previous year to current year.*
- ***TTHM:*** *Total Trihalomethanes*
- ***HAA5:*** *Haloacetic Acids*
- ***LRAA:*** *Locational Running Annual Average*

Lead Copper samples taken every three years. Next Lead Copper sampling takes place in 2016.

**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. The City of Highland Park is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for 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 to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.*