

2026 Consumer Confidence Report



Village of Mt. Zion

Consumer Confidence Report For 2026

In 1996, the U.S. Congress and the president amended the Safe Drinking Water Act. They added a provision requiring that all community water systems deliver an **annual** water quality report to their customers. This report includes basic information on the source(s) of your water, the levels of any contaminants detected in the water, compliance with other drinking water rules, as well as some brief educational material.

This report is called the "**Consumer Confidence Report.**"

Consumers who are familiar with the basic drinking water information in the CCR will not only help to make informed choices that affect the health of themselves and their families, but they will also consider the challenges of delivering safe drinking water. Educated consumers are more likely to help protect drinking sources and be more understanding of the need to upgrade the treatment facilities that make their drinking water safe.

The Village of Mt. Zion purchases water from the City of Decatur. Although the village has limited authority in producing water quality, the village is still responsible for sampling, monitoring, and maintenance of the water distribution within the village limits. The Mt. Zion Water Department obtains over 30 water samples each month and monitors water quality daily.

At certain times, decisions affecting the water supply are made by the Village of Mt. Zion Board, which meets on the third Monday each month at 5:15 p.m., 1400 Mt. Zion Parkway, Mt. Zion, IL 62549. Information on Board meeting agendas may be obtained by calling the Village Clerk at 217-864-5424 or at www.mtzion.com.

If you have any questions, please contact the Village Administrator at 217-864-5424.

For the year of 2025, your tap water met all other USEPA and State drinking water standards. 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 it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with information about your drinking water so that you will be an informed consumer.

Source Water

Our water drinking water is supplied by Lake Decatur and nine groundwater wells. Lake Decatur is 2,880 surface acres in size and is located entirely within the City limits of Decatur. The Sangamon River is the primary source of water for Lake Decatur, which has a drainage area of 926 square miles, 80% of which is used for growing corn and soybeans. When Lake Decatur water levels are low, the City uses a former sand-and-gravel pit near the South Water Treatment Plant and located in Dewitt County to supplement the water supply. Currently, all water in the Village's distribution system flows through the Mt. Zion Pump House located at 1087 Baltimore Avenue. The City of Decatur feeds this pump house from their water tower located on South Franklin Street and a meter at Cannon Park (located at the intersection of Baltimore Avenue and Lost Bridge Road). If you have any questions about the City of Decatur's portion of the report or their procedures with collecting and treating their water, please call Keith Alexander, Water Production Manager, at 217-424-2863 or e-mail at kalexander@decaturil.gov.

Source Water Assessment

The Source water assessment for our water supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA, which is available at <https://dataservices.epa.illinois.gov/swap/factsheet.aspx>. If you would like a copy of this information, please stop by Village Hall or call our water operator at 217-864-4811. Illinois EPA considers all surface water sources of public water supply to be susceptible to potential pollution problems. Hence the reason for mandatory treatment of all public water supplies in Illinois. Mandatory treatment includes coagulation, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection. Primary sources of pollution in Illinois lakes can include agricultural runoff, land disposal (septic systems) and shoreline erosion. Due to the low geologic sensitivity of the wells and monitoring results, the Illinois EPA does not consider Decatur's wells to be susceptible to volatile organic contaminants (VOCs), synthetic organic contaminants (SOCs) or inorganic contaminants (IOCs). In accordance with Illinois EPA regulations, the wells each have a minimum protection zone of 200 feet.

Under the Clean Water Act Section 319, the U.S. EPA provides grants for the Illinois EPA to finance projects that demonstrate cost-effective solutions to nonpoint source (NPS) problems and promote public knowledge and awareness of NPS pollution. Section 319 projects funded for the Lake Decatur Watershed include the Upper Sangamon River Basin Water Quality Improvement Project and the Nutrient Management Plan Implementation. The Macon County Soil and Water Conservation District and the Agricultural Watershed Institute also administer several water quality improvement projects in the watershed.

Groundwater protection efforts have included Illinois EPA. To further minimize the risk to the city's groundwater supply, the Illinois EPA recommends that three additional activities be considered. First, the water supply staff may wish to revisit their contingency planning documents in order to ensure the plans are kept current, and the water department and emergency response staff are aware of and minimize their risk of being without safe and adequate water. Second, the water supply staff is encouraged to review and sustain their cross connection control program to ensure that it remains current and viable. Cross connections to either the water treatment plant or in the distribution system may negate all source water protection initiatives provided by the community. Finally, the Illinois EPA recommends that the city continue to evaluate

additional source water protection management options to address the regulatory and non-regulatory land use activities within the community wells' recharge area.

How is My Water Treated and Purified?

The treatment process consists of a series of steps. First, raw water is pumped from Lake Decatur to the South Water Treatment Plant. Chlorine dioxide is added to destroy viruses, bacteria and protozoa that may be in the raw water. The water then goes to mixing tanks where aluminum sulfate and calcium hydroxide are added for softening. The addition of these substances causes small particles to adhere to one another (called floc) making them heavy enough to settle into basins from which the floc is removed. Powdered activated carbon is also added for taste and odor control. Fine particles that remain after the basin treatment are removed in the filtration process, which consists of layers of sand and anthracite. After filtration, chlorine is added to maintain the disinfection process through the distribution system. Lastly, a small amount of fluoride is added to prevent dental decay. Water pressure is maintained in the distribution system to prevent the intrusion of any contaminants into our water mains.

Cryptosporidium in Drinking Water

Cryptosporidium is a microbial parasite found in surface water throughout the world. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100% removal. The monitoring of our raw water and finished water indicates the presence of these organisms only in the raw water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immunocompromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immunocompromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water. Steps taken to reduce this organism from entering Lake Decatur are part of ongoing watershed management programs.

Possible Contaminants

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. 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. **(1-800-426-4791)**

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 can dissolve naturally occurring minerals and radioactive materials, and pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. Substances 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 wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which may 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 may also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic system
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which may be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Special Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or water.epa.gov/drink/hotline.

What Are The Health Effects of Lead?

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 Village of Mt. Zion is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested, contact the Village of Mt. Zion village hall, 217.864.5424. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

During the past year, we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The tables below show only those contaminants that were detected in the water. The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less often than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken. We participated in the 5th stage of the EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 benefits the environment and public health by providing the EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water, in order to determine if the EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality.

CITY OF DECATUR'S RESULTS

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTANT BY-PRODUCTS

SUBSTANCE	YEAR SAMPLED	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVELS DETECTED	MCGL	MCL	UNITS	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chlorine	2025	1.2	1.0-1.5	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite	2025	0.96	0.68-0.96	0.8	1	ppm	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5]	2025	19	8.79-26.2	No goal for the total	60	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2025	63	14.9-75.3	No goal for the total	80	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

*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 system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

INORGANIC SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE	YEAR SAMPLED	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVELS DETECTED	MCGL	MCL	UNITS	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Barium	2025	0.0072	0.0072-0.0072	2	2	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Flouride	2025	0.7	0.733-0.733	4	4	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)*	2025	4	0.07-4	10	10	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

*Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should seek advice from your health care provider.

Sodium	2025	16	16-16	NA	NA	ppb	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Used in water softener regeneration
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LEAD AND COPPER

SUBSTANCE	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	90TH PERCENTILE	SITES ABOVE AL	UNITS	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper	2025	1.3	1.3	0.019	0	ppm	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	2023	15	0	1.6	0/32	ppb	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, including fittings and fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits

*Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community.

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	UNITS	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Aluminum (ppb)	2023	200	NA	11	11-11	ppb	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Residual from some surface water
Chloride (ppm)	2023	250	NA	34	34-34	ppm	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	2023	250	NA	31	31-31	ppm	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids [TDS] (ppm)	2023	500	NA	190	190-190	ppm	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

*No MCL or mandatory health effects language has been established for this contaminant by either state or federal regulations. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the U.S. EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinkin water and whether future regulation is warranted.

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	UNITS	TYPICAL SOURCE
Bromochloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2020	6.4	2.5-6.4	ppb	Disinfection byproduct
Bromodichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2020	1.5	0.63-1.5	ppb	Disinfection byproduct
Chlorodibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	2020	0.86	ND-0.86	ppb	Disinfection byproduct
Dibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	2020	1.6	0.93-1.6	ppb	Disinfection byproduct
Dicamba (ppb)	2023	0.52	0.52-0.52	ppb	Disinfection byproduct
Dichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2020	16	6.3-16.0	ppb	Disinfection byproduct
HAA5 (ppb)	2020	20.4	8.4-20.4	ppb	Disinfection byproduct
HAA6Br (ppb)	2020	10	4.2-10.0	ppb	Disinfection byproduct
HAA9 (ppb)	2020	33	12-33	ppb	Disinfection byproduct
Metachlor (ppb)	2023	0.22	0.22-0.22	ppb	Disinfection byproduct
Monochloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2020	2.5	ND-2.5	ppb	Disinfection byproduct
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (ppb)	2021	2.6	2.6-2.6	ppb	NA
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2020	4.3	1.1-4.3	ppb	Disinfection byproduct

TURBIDITY

	LIMIT (Treatment Technique)	LEVEL DETECTED	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Highest Single Measurement	1 NTU	0.33 NTU	No	Soil runoff
Lowest Monthly % Meeting Limit	0.3 NTU	98%	No	Soil runoff

*Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.

Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violation section.

VILLAGE OF MT. ZION'S RESULTS

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

COLIFORM BACTERIA

MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT GOAL LEVEL (MCGL)	TOTAL COLIFORM MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT	HIGHEST NUMBER OF POSITIVE SAMPLES	FECAL COLIFORM OR E. COLI	TOTAL NUMBER OF POSITIVE SAMPLES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
0	1 positive monthly sample	0	NA	0	No	Naturally present in the environment

LEAD AND COPPER

DEFINITIONS:
Action Level Goal (AGL): The level of a contaminant in the drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.
Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements with a water system must follow.

LEAD AND COPPER	YEAR SAMPLED	MCLG	ACTION LEVEL (AL)	90TH PERCENTILE	NUMBER OF SITES OVER AL	UNITS	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Lead (ppb)	2025	0	15	1.5	0	ppb	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm)	2025	1.3	1.3	0.023	0	ppm	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

**To obtain a copy of the lead/copper testing results, please contact Village Hall @ 217.864.5424*

**A survey of the water system service lines was conducted, with no lead service lines served. To obtain a copy of the survey, please contact Village Hall @ 217.864.5424.*

DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTANT BY-PRODUCTS

SUBSTANCE	YEAR COLLECTED	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVELS DETECTED	MCLG	MCL	UNITS	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chlorine	2025	1.2	0.72-1.52	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2025	23	11.74-27.6	No goal for the total	60	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2025	60	24.5-70.5	No goal for the total	80	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

SUBSTANCE	COLLECTION DATE	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVELS DETECTED	MCLG	MCL	UNITS	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Iron*	11/13/2018	0.101	0-0.101	NA	1	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits

**This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, it is regulated by the state.*

The tables included in this report contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require an explanation. The terms and definitions are listed below.

TABLE OF DEFINITIONS

ppm (parts per million)	One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter)
ppb (parts per billion)	One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter)
ppt (parts per trillion)	One part substance per trillion parts water (or nanograms per liter)
mrem (millirems)	Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units)	Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
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.
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
MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal)	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
NA	Not Applicable
ND (Not Detected)	Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.
TT (Treatment Technique)	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL (Action Level)	The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other required actions by the water supply.
SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level)	These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.
90TH %TILE	The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.
Avg (average)	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on the running annual average of monthly samples.
Level 1 Assessment	A Level 1 Assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment	A Level 2 Assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

VIOLATIONS TABLE

The Village of Mt. Zion had no violations reported for the year 2025.