

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## REND LAKE INTERCITY WATER SYSTEM

IL0555100

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023

**This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the REND LAKE INTERCITY WATER SYSTEM to provide safe drinking water.**

**The source of drinking water used by REND LAKE INTERCITY WATER SYSTEM is Surface Water. For more information regarding this report contact:**

**Name: Tony Furlow**

**Phone: 618-439-4394**

**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable 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 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 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 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.

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.

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. 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 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>

### Source Water Assessment

Rend Lake is utilized by the Rend Lake Intercity Water System (Facility # IL0555100) to provide water to 67 communities in Williamson, White, Saline, Perry, Jefferson, Jackson, Hamilton and Franklin Counties. This facility draws water from Rend Lake through one surface water intake (IEPA #IN70290). The supply provides approximately 15 million gallons per day to 67 satellite supplies with an estimated population of 175,000 people. 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. Our surface supply location is INTAKE (70290) REND LAKE SURFACE. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more, please feel welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. These meetings are on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at our administration office located at 11231 Marcum Branch Rd., Benton, IL. The source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA. If you would like to view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessments, including: Importance of Source Water; Susceptibility to Contamination Determination; and documentation/recommendation of Source Water Protection Efforts, you may access the Illinois EPA website at: <http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl>

## 2023 Regulated Contaminants Detected

### Lead and Copper      Date Sampled: 2023

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

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALG's allow for a margin of safety.

Lead MCLG	Lead Action Level (AL)	Lead 90th Percentile	# Sites Over Lead AL	Copper MCLG	Copper Action Level (AL)	Copper 90th Percentile	# Sites Over Copper AL	Likely Source of Contamination
0	15 ppb	0 ppb	0	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	0.0524	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

### Water Quality Test Results

Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation. **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goal as feasible using the best available treatment technology. **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety. **ppm:** milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water. **ppb:** micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water. **N/A:** not applicable. **Avg.:** Regulatory compliance with some MCL's is based on running annual average of monthly samples. **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants. **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants. **pCi/L:** Picocuries per Liter (a measure of radioactivity)

### Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source Of Contaminant
<i>*Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest level detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future.</i>								
*Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2023	20	11 - 23.5	N/A	60	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
*TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]	2023	41	22.3 - 56.7	N/A	80	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorite	2023	0.54	0.26 - 0.54	0.8	1	ppm	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chloramines	2023	3.0	2.6 - 3.2	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source Of Contaminant
Barium	2023	0.0126	0.0126 - 0.0126	2	2	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	2023	1.28	1.28 - 1.28	0	10	ppb	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from electronics production wastes

Inorganic Contaminants (continued)	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source Of Contaminant
Fluoride	2023	0.69	0.69 – 0.69	4	4	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Fertilizer or Aluminum Factory discharge
Sodium	2023	20.6	20.6 – 20.6			ppm	No	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits. Used in water softener regeneration

The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source Of Contaminant
Combined Radium 226/228	1/22/2020	0.86	0.86 - 0.86	0	5	pCi/L	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	1/22/2020	0.12	0.12 – 0.12	0	15	pCi/L	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits

**Turbidity Information Statement:** Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the 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.

**Definitions:** Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.  
 NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units

Lowest Monthly % meeting limit	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Violation	Source
100%	0.3 NTU	No	Soil Runoff
Highest Single Measurement	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Violation	Source
0.39	1 NTU	No	Soil Runoff

**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 sections.

**VIOLATIONS:** Rend Lake Intercity Water received a monitoring violation for failure to sample for Haloacetic Acids during the 11/1 – 11/30/23 monitoring period. This violation was due to laboratory error. RLIW collected the required sample again on 12/6/23 and the results were within EPA regulatory guidelines. (See attached public notice)

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Rend Lake Intercity Water System

Our water system violated a drinking water standard over the past year. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

*We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 11/1/23 – 11/30/23, we did not monitor for Total Haloacetic Acids and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.*

**What should I do?**

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminant we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for Total Haloacetic Acids, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	When samples were taken
Total Haloacetic Acids	Quarterly	0*	11/1/23 – 11/30/23	12/6/23

**What happened? What is being done?**

\*Rend Lake Intercity Water collected the required sample during the monitoring period; however, the sample was not analyzed due to a lab error. We collected the additional sample less than a week after the end of the compliance period and the result was within EPA regulatory guidelines.

*Rend Lake Intercity Water System has continued to meet all EPA regulatory requirements since this incident.*

For more information, please contact Tony Furlow at: 618-439-4394 or [tfurlow@rendlake.org](mailto:tfurlow@rendlake.org). You can also reach by mailing: Rend Lake Intercity Water System, PO Box 907, Benton, IL 62812

*Please share this information with all the 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.*