ALTAMONT WATER QUALITY REPORT - 2000

This year, as in years past, your tap water met all USEPA and State drinking water health standards. Our system vigilantly safeguards its surface water supply, and we are able to report that the Department had no violation of a contaminant level or of any other water quality standard in the previous 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 it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water system, please contact Kevin Whitten at (618) 483-6370.

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 council meetings at the Municipal Building, 202 N Second Street, Altamont, IL Meetings are held the Second and Fourth Monday of each month at 7:00 P.M.

Our Town uses the Altamont Reservoir, south east of town. Constructed in 1973, the reservoir is 60 surface acres, with 685 acres of water shed.

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 (1-800-426-4791.

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, reserviors, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it can dissolve naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Possible contaminants consist of:

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 salt and metals, which can be naturally occuring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining and farming;

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses;

Organic chemical contaminant, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems;

Radioactive contaminants, which may 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, USEPA prescribes regulations that 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.

In addition to the informational section of the water quality report, we have included for your review several tables. The tables will give you a better picture of the contaminants that were detected in your water and the contaminants that were tested for but not detected.

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1999 Water Quality Data

-Definition of Terms-

Maximium 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.*

Level Found: *This column represents an average of sample result data collected during the CCR calendar year. In some cases, it may represent a single sample if only one sample was collected.*

Range of Detections: *This column represents a range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest that were collected during the CCR calendar year.*

Date of Sample: *If a date appears in this column, the Illinois EPA requires monitoring for this contaminant less than once per year because the concentrations do not frequently change. If no date appears in the column, monitoring for this contaminant was conducted during the CCR calendar year.*

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

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

nd: *Not detectable at testing limits.*

n/a: *Not applicable*

Detected Contaminants

Contaminant (unit of measurement) Typical Source of Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level found	Range of detections	Date of Violation	Sample
Microbial Contaminants						
TURBIDITY (%<0.5 NTU) Soil runoff.	n/a	TT	100.000	100.000 - 100.000		
TURBIDITY (NTU) Soil runoff.	n/a	TT=5NTUmax	0.390	n/a		
Radioactive Contaminants						
BETA/PHOTON EMITTERS (pCi/l) Decay of natural and man-made deposits.	0	50*	4.000	4.000 - 4.000	03/09/1998	
Inorganic Contaminants						
BARIUM (ppm) Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.	2	2	0.022	0.022 - 0.022		
COPPER (ppm) Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.	1.3	AL=1.3	0.500	0 exceeding AL	09/30/1997	
FLUORIDE (ppm) Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	4	4	1.000	1.000 - 1.000		
NITRATE (AS NITROGEN) (ppm) Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	10	10	0.400	0.400 - 0.400	04/27/1998	
NITRATE & NITRITE (ppm) Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	10	10	0.230	0.230 - 0.230		
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
CARBON TETRACHLORIDE (ppb) Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities.	0	5	0.213	nd - 0.850		
Disinfectants\Disinfection By-Products						
TTHMs [TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES] (ppb) By-product of drinking water chlorination.	n/a	100	68.430	37.500 - 99.530		

Contaminant (unit of measurement) *Typical Source of Contaminant*	*MCLG*	*MCL*	*Level found*	*Range of detections*	*Date of Violation*	*Sample*
Unregulated Contaminants						
BROMODICHLOROMETHANE (ppb) By-product of drinking water chlorination.	n/a	n/a	8.475	7.500 - 9.300		
CHLOROFORM (ppb) Used as as solvent for fats, oils, rubber, resins; A cleansing agent; Found in fire extinguishers.	n/a	n/a	59.000	29.000 - 90.000		
DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE (ppb) Used as a chemical reagent; An intermediate in organic synthesis.	n/a	n/a	0.955	0.830 - 1.000		
SULFATE (ppm) Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.	n/a	n/a	33.000	33.000 - 33.000		
State Regulated Contaminants						
IRON (ppb) Erosion from naturally occurring deposits.	n/a	1000	14.000	14.000 - 14.000		
MANGANESE (ppb) Erosion of naturally occurring deposits.	n/a	150	14.000	14.000 - 14.000		
SODIUM (ppm) Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used as water softener.	n/a	n/a	28.000	28.000 - 28.000		
ZINC (ppb) Naturally occurring; Discharge from metal factories.	n/a	5000	13.000	13.000 - 13.000		

Unit of Measurement

ppm - Parts per million, or milligrams per liter
ppb - Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter
pCi/l - Picocuries per liter, used to measure radioactivity
NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in drinking water
%<0.5 NTU - Percent samples less than 0.5 NTU

Water Quality Data Table Footnotes

TURBIDITY

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.

BETA/PHOTON EMITTERS

The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/l to be a level of concern for beta particles.

IRON, MANGANESE and ZINC

This contaminant is not currently regulated by USEPA. However, the state has set an MCL for this contaminant for supplies serving a population of 1000 or more.

SODIUM

There is not a state or federal MCL for sodium. Monitoring is required to provide information to consumers and health officials that are concerned about sodium intake due to dietary precautions. If you are on a sodium-restricted diet, you should consult a physician about this level of sodium in the water.

1999 Non-detected Contaminants

The following table includes contaminants monitored for, but not detected in the most recent sampling. The CCR Rule does not require that this information be reported; however, monitoring has indicated that these contaminants were not present in the water supply. In some cases, if a contaminant is not detected in a water supply, monitoring can be reduced to once every three or six years.

-Definition of Terms-

Maximium 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.*

Level Found: *This column represents an average of sample result data collected during the CCR calendar year. In some cases, it may represent a single sample if only one sample was collected.*

Date of Sample: *If a date appears in this column, the Illinois EPA requires monitoring for this contaminant less than once per year because the concentrations do not frequently change. If no date appears in the column, monitoring for this contaminant was conducted during the CCR calendar year.*

nd: *Not detectable at testing limits.*

n/a: *Not applicable.*

Contaminant (unit of measurement) *Typical Source of Contaminant*	*MCLG*	*MCL*	*Level found*	*Date of Sample*
Microbial Contaminants				
TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA (# pos/mo) Naturally present in the environment.	0	>1	nd	
FECAL COLIFORM AND E. COLI (# pos/mo) Human and animal fecal waste.	0	>1	nd	
Radioactive Contaminants				
ALPHA EMITTERS (pCi/l) Erosion of natural deposits.	0	15	nd	03/09/1998
Inorganic Contaminants				
ANTIMONY (ppb) Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder.	6	6	nd	
ARSENIC (ppb) Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.	n/a	50	nd	
BERYLLIUM (ppb) Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries.	4	4	nd	
CADMIUM (ppb) Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints.	5	5	nd	
CHROMIUM (ppb) Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.	100	100	nd	
CYANIDE (ppb) Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories.	200	200	nd	

Contaminant (unit of measurement) *Typical Source of Contaminant*	*MCLG*	*MCL*	*Level found*	*Date of Sample*
LEAD (ppb) Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	0	AL=15	nd	09/30/1997
MERCURY (INORGANIC) (ppb) Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland.	2	2	nd	
NITRITE (AS NITROGEN) (ppm) Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	1	1	nd	04/27/1998
SELENIUM (ppb) Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.	50	50	nd	
THALLIUM (ppb) Leaching from ore-processing sites; Discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories.	0.5	2	nd	

Synthetic Organic Contaminants

2,4-D (ppb) Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.	70	70	nd	
2,4,5-TP [SILVEX] (ppb) Residue of banned herbicide.	50	50	nd	
ALACHLOR (ppb) Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.	0	2	nd	
ATRAZINE (ppb) Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.	3	3	nd	
BENZO(A)PYRENE [PAH] (ppt) Leaching from linings of water storage tanks and distribution lines.	0	200	nd	
CARBOFURAN (ppb) Leaching of soil fumigant used on rice and alfalfa.	40	40	nd	
CHLORDANE (ppb) Residue of banned termiticide.	0	2	nd	
DALAPON (ppb) Runoff from herbicide used on rights of way.	200	200	nd	
DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL)ADIPATE (ppb) Discharge from chemical factories.	400	400	nd	
DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL)PHTHALATE (ppb) Discharge from rubber and chemical factories.	0	6	nd	
DIBROMOCHLOROPROPANE (ppt) Runoff/leaching from soil fumigant used on soybeans, cotton, pineapples and orchards.	0	200	nd	
DINOSEB (ppb) Runoff from herbicide used on soybeans and vegetables.	7	7	nd	
DIQUAT (ppb) Runoff from herbicide use.	20	20	nd	

Contaminant (unit of measurement) *Typical Source of Contaminant*	*MCLG*	*MCL*	*Level found*	*Date of Sample*
ENDOTHALL (ppb) Runoff from herbicide use.	100	100	nd	
ENDRIN (ppb) Residue of banned insecticide.	2	2	nd	
ETHYLENE DIBROMIDE (ppt) Discharge from petroleum refineries.	0	50	nd	
GYLPHOSATE (ppb) Runoff from herbicide use.	700	700	nd	
HEPTACHLOR (ppt) Residue of banned pesticide.	0	400	nd	
HEPTACHLOR EPOXIDE (ppt) Breakdown of heptachlor.	0	200	nd	
HEXACHLOROBENZENE (ppb) Discharge from metal refineries and agricultural chemical factories.	0	1	nd	
HEXACHLOROCYCLOPENTADIENE (ppb) Discharge from chemical factories.	50	50	nd	
LINDANE (ppt) Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on cattle, lumber, gardens.	200	200	nd	
METHOXYCHLOR (ppb) Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on fruits, vegetables, alfalfa, livestock.	40	40	nd	
OXAMYL [VYDATE] (ppb) Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on apples, potatoes and tomatoes.	200	200	nd	
PCBs-POLYCHLORINATED BIPHENYLS (ppt) Runoff from landfills; Discharge of waste chemicals.	0	500	nd	
PENTACHLOROPHENOL (ppb) Dicharge from wood preserving factories.	0	1	nd	
PICLORAM (ppb) Herbicide runoff.	500	500	nd	
SIMAZINE (ppb) Herbicide runoff.	4	4	nd	
TOXAPHENE (ppb) Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on cotton and cattle.	0	3	nd	

Volatile Organic Contaminants

BENZENE (ppb) Discharge from factories; Leaching from gas storage tanks and landfills.	0	5	nd	
CHLOROBENZENE (ppb) Discharge from chemical and agricultural chemical factories.	100	100	nd	
O-DICHLOROBENZENE (ppb) Discharge from industrial chemical factories.	600	600	nd	

Contaminant (unit of measurement) *Typical Source of Contaminant*	*MCLG*	*MCL*	*Level found*	*Date of Sample*
P-DICHLOROBENZENE (ppb) Discharge from industrial chemical factories.	75	75	nd	
1,2-DICHLOROETHANE (ppb) Discharge from industrial chemical factories.	0	5	nd	
1,1-DICHLOROETHYLENE (ppb) Discharge from industrial chemical factories.	7	7	nd	
CIS-1,2-DICHLOROETHYLENE (ppb) Discharge from industrial chemical factories.	70	70	nd	
TRANS-1,2-DICHLOROETHYLENE (ppb) Discharge from industrial chemical factories.	100	100	nd	
DICHLOROMETHANE (ppb) Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories.	0	5	nd	
1,2-DICHLOROPROPANE (ppb) Discharge from industrial chemical factories.	0	5	nd	
ETHYLBENZENE (ppb) Discharge from petroleum refineries.	700	700	nd	
STYRENE (ppb) Discharge from rubber and plastic factories; Leaching from landfills.	100	100	nd	
TETRACHLOROETHYLENE (ppb) Discharge from factories and dry cleaners.	0	5	nd	
1,2,4-TRICHLOROBENZENE (ppb) Discharge from textile-finishing factories.	70	70	nd	
1,1,1-TRICHLOROETHANE (ppb) Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories.	200	200	nd	
1,1,2-TRICHLOROETHANE (ppb) Discharge from industrial chemical factories.	3	5	nd	
TRICHLOROETHYLENE (ppb) Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories.	0	5	nd	
TOLUENE (ppm) Discharge from petroleum factories.	1	1	nd	
VINYL CHLORIDE (ppb) Leaching from PVC piping; Discharge from plastics factories.	0	2	nd	
XYLENES (ppm) Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories.	10	10	nd	

Unregulated Contaminants

1,1,1,2-TETRACHLOROETHANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
1,1,2,2-TETRACHLOROETHANE (ppb) Discharge from industrial chemical factories, metal degreaser, found in paints and pesticides.	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998

Contaminant (unit of measurement) *Typical Source of Contaminant*	*MCLG*	*MCL*	*Level found*	*Date of Sample*
1,1-DICHLOROETHANE (ppb) Discharge from industrial chemical factories, degreaser, finish removers.	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
1,1-DICHLOROPROPENE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
1,2,3-TRICHLOROPROPANE (ppb) Discharge from industrial chemical factories, paint remover and cleaner.	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
1,3-DICHLOROPROPANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
2,2-DICHLOROPROPANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
3-HYDROXYCARBOFURAN (ppb)	n/a	n/a	nd	
ALDICARB (ppb) Runoff from use as an insecticide, acaricide, and nematocide.	n/a	n/a	nd	
ALDICARB SULFONE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	nd	
ALDICARB SULFOXIDE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	nd	
BROMOBENZENE (ppb) Discharge from industrial chemical factories; Motor oil additive.	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
BROMOFORM (ppb) Discharge from manufacturing plants; Used to dissolve dirt and grease.	n/a	n/a	nd	
BROMOMETHANE (ppb) Runoff from use as a pesticide; Used in production of other chemicals.	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
BUTACHLOR (ppb) Runoff from use as an herbicide.	n/a	n/a	nd	
CARBARYL (ppb) Runoff from use as a contact insecticide.	n/a	n/a	nd	
CHLOROETHANE (ppb) Used as a refrigerant and solvent.	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
CHLOROMETHANE (ppb) Discharge from use as a refrigerant.	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
DIBROMOMETHANE (ppb)	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
DICAMBA (ppb) Runoff from use as an herbicide.	n/a	n/a	nd	
M-DICHLOROBENZENE (ppb) Occurs as a result of chlorination of chlorobenzene.	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998

Contaminant (unit of measurement) *Typical Source of Contaminant*	*MCLG*	*MCL*	*Level found*	*Date of Sample*
METHOMYL (ppb) Runoff from use as an insecticide.	n/a	n/a	nd	
METOLACHLOR (DUAL) (ppb) Runoff from use as an herbicide.	n/a	n/a	nd	
METRIBUZIN (ppb) Runoff from use as an herbicide.	n/a	n/a	nd	
PROPACHLOR (ppb) Runoff from use as an herbicide.	n/a	n/a	nd	

State Regulated Contaminants

ALDRIN (ppb) Runoff from use as an insecticide, not used since 1987.	n/a	1.0	nd	
DDT (ppb) Runoff from use as a contact insecticide.	n/a	50.0	nd	
DIELDRIN (ppb) Runoff from use as an insecticide, not used since 1987.	n/a	1.0	nd	

Additional Contaminants

ACETOCHLOR (ppb) Runoff from use as a pre-emergent herbicide.	n/a	n/a	nd	05/04/1998
ACIFLUORFEN (ppb) Runoff from use as a pre- and post-emergence herbicide.	n/a	n/a	nd	05/04/1998
CHLOROTOLUENES (TOTAL) (ppb) Found in solvents; Used in organic synthesis and as a dyestuff intermediate.	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
CIS-1,3-DICHLOROPROPENE (ppb) Runoff from use as a soil fumigant; Discharge from pesticide manufacturing plants.	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
CYANAZINE (ppb) Runoff from use as an herbicide.	n/a	n/a	nd	05/04/1998
DACTHAL (DCPA) (ppb) Runoff from use as a pre-emergence herbicide.	n/a	n/a	nd	05/04/1998
DICHLOROBENZENE (ppb) Discharge from manufacturing plants; Runoff from use as insecticide.	n/a	n/a	nd	10/10/1995
METHYL TERT-BUTYL ETHER (MTBE) (ppb) Exhaust from vehicles; Used as an octane booster in gasoline.	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998
MOLYBDENUM (ppb) Erosion from naturally occurring deposits; Used in manufacture of special steels.	n/a	n/a	nd	04/06/1998
NICKEL (ppb) Erosion from naturally occurring deposits; Discharge from nickel plating, storage batteries, magnets, electrodes and spark plugs.	n/a	n/a	nd	
TRANS-1,3-DICHLOROPROPENE (ppb) Runoff from use as a soil fumigant, nematocide; Discharge from pesticide maufacture.	n/a	n/a	nd	02/09/1998

Contaminant (unit of measurement) *Typical Source of Contaminant*	*MCLG*	*MCL*	*Level found*	*Date of Sample*
TREFLAN (TRIFLURALIN) (ppb) Runoff from use as an herbicide.	n/a	n/a	nd	05/04/1998

Unit of Measurement *- Definitions*

ppt - Parts per trillion,or nanograms per liter
ppm - Parts per million, or milligrams per liter
ppb - Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter
pCi/l - Picocuries per liter, used to measure radioactivity
pos/mo - Number of positive samples per month

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1999 Non-regulated Contaminant Detections

The following table identifies contaminants detected within the past five years. State and federal regulations do not require monitoring for these contaminants and no maximum contaminant level (MCL) has been established. These detections are for informational purposes only. No mandated health effects language exists. The CCR Rule does not require that this information be reported; however, it may be useful when evaluating possible sources of contamination or characterizing overall water quality.-

Definition of Terms-

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Range of Detections: *This column represents a range of individual sample results, from lowest to highest that were collected during the CCR calendar year.*

Date of Sample: *If a date appears in this column, the Illinois EPA requires monitoring for this contaminant less than once per year because the concentrations do not frequently change. If no date appears in the column, monitoring for this contaminant was conducted during the CCR calendar year.*

Contaminant (unit of measurement) *Typical Source of Contaminant*	*Level found*	*Range of detections*	*Date of Sample*
Additional Contaminants			
BORON (ppb) Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used in detergents and as a water softener; Used in production of glass, cosmetics, pesticides, fire retardants, and for leather tanning.	26.000	26.000 - 26.000	04/06/1998

Unit of Measurement *- Definition*

ppb - Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter