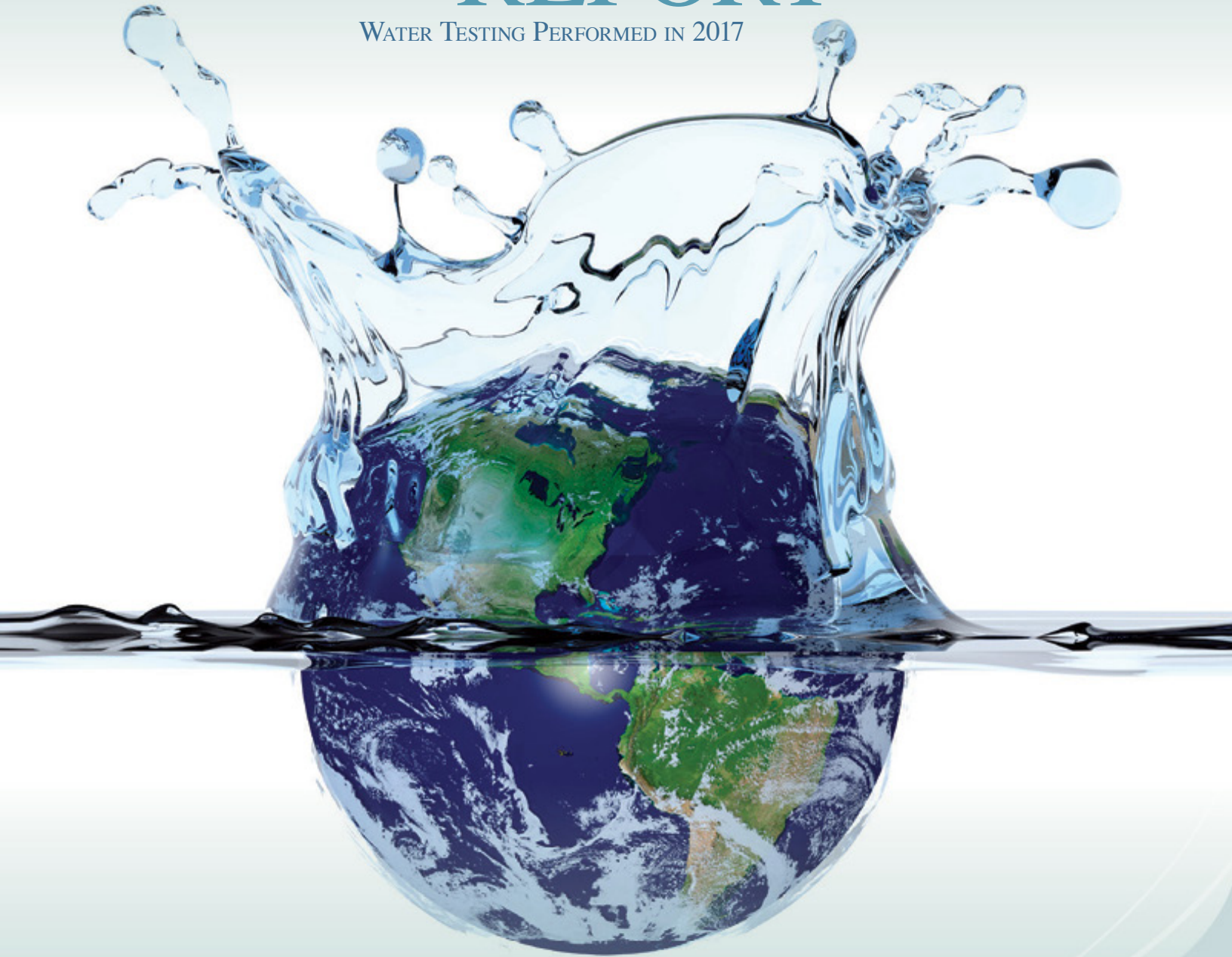


# ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

WATER TESTING PERFORMED IN 2017



*Presented By*



**Village of  
Richton Park**  
Your home.

## Quality First

Once again we are pleased to present our annual water quality report. As in years past, we are committed to delivering the best-quality drinking water possible. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of new regulations, source water protection, water conservation, and community outreach and education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve you and your family.

We encourage you to share your thoughts with us on the information contained in this report. After all, well-informed customers are our best allies.

### Where Does My Water Come From?

The Water Production System currently pulls from groundwater and utilizes ion exchange and aeration treatment facilities. Our total maximum daily pumping capacity is 3,400 gallons per minute (GPM) or 4.9 million gallons per day, and we have one (1) million gallons of storage capacity. In 2010, we delivered a total of 390,693,000 gallons for a daily average of 1.07 million gallons per day. In 2017, we delivered 350,499,000 gallons, which is an average of 960,000 gallons per day.



## Public Meetings

We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about your water quality. If you would like to learn more, please feel welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled board meetings. The Village is also providing a quarterly news letter as well as information you can obtain at the community center, library, and Village Hall.



## Water Treatment Process

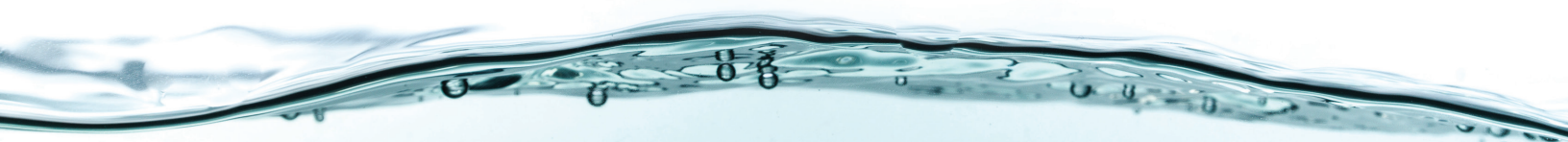
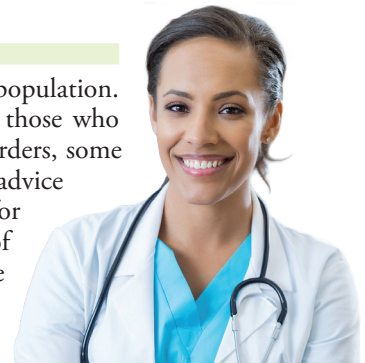
The Village water system consists of three wells, each with its own treatment and elevated tank for water storage. Our water treatment plants are located in Richton Hills subdivision with a capacity of 250,000 gallons of storage; in Lakewood subdivision with a capacity of 250,000 gallons of storage; and in the Lincoln Crossings subdivision with a capacity of 500,000 gallons of storage.

The Water Distribution System consists of approximately 42 miles of pipe ranging from 6 inches to 16 inches in diameter. There are also 650 fire hydrants, 600 water main-line valves, and approximately 3,500 water meters, ranging in size from 3/4 inch to 3 inches.

Chlorine is added as a precaution against any bacteria that may still be present. (We carefully monitor the amount of chlorine, adding the lowest quantity necessary to protect the safety of your water without compromising taste.) Finally, fluoride (to prevent tooth decay) and a corrosion inhibitor (to protect distribution system pipes) are added before the water is pumped to sanitized water towers and into your home or business.

## Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may 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 at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.





## Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting 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 that 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 these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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 dissolves naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from 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, or wildlife;

**Inorganic Contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

**Radioactive Contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Water treatment is a complex, time-consuming process.

## About Our Violation

Our water system violated the drinking water standards over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, you, as our customers, 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 2017, we did not test for all the required Lead and Copper samples and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

Below are listed the contaminants (lead and copper) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for them, 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.

CONTAMINANTS	NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN	REQUIRED SAMPLING
Lead and Copper	26 in 2017	30 samples every 3 years

## What happened? What is being done?

The Village of Richton Park will be on annual monitoring for the Lead and Copper Rule instead of every three years.

For more information, please contact Michael Wegrzyn at (708) 481-8950 X 147.

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 share it by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by Richton Park Public Works, Water System ID # IL0312550

## QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Michael Wegrzyn, Director of Public Works, at (708) 481-8950 X 147.



## Lead in Home Plumbing

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 are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but 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 [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead).

## Radon

Radon is a radioactive gas that you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. You should pursue radon removal for your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 pCi/L or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly. For additional information, call your state radon program or call the U.S. EPA's Radon Hotline at (800) SOS-RADON.

## Source Water Assessment

We want our valued customers to be informed about your water quality. The source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA. If you would like a copy of this information, please stop by Village Hall or call our water operator at (708) 481-8950. To view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessments, including Importance of Source Water; Susceptibility to Contamination Determination; and documentation and recommendation of Source Water Protection Efforts, you may access the Illinois EPA Web site at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl>.



## BY THE NUMBERS

The number of gallons of water produced daily by public water systems in the U.S.

**34**  
BILLION

**1**  
MILLION The number of miles of drinking water distribution mains in the U.S.

The amount of money spent annually on maintaining the public water infrastructure in the U.S.

**135**  
BILLION

**300**  
MILLION The number of Americans who receive water from a public water system.

The age in years of the world's oldest water found in a mine at a depth of nearly two miles.

**2**  
BILLION

## Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule. The information in the data tables shows only those substances that were detected between January 1 and December 31, 2017. Remember that detecting a substance does not necessarily mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels. The State recommends monitoring 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.

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month, and the system met all TOC removal requirements set by IEPA.

### REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	2014	15	0	0.323	0.323–0.323	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	2015	10	0	2.6	2.6–2.6	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2015	2	2	0.0058	0.0058–0.0058	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2017	[4]	[4]	0.3	0.2–0.5	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2014	5	0	0.61	0.61–0.61	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2015	4	4	1.08	1.08–1.08	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	2017	10	10	0.29	0.19–0.29	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

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

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH%TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2017	1.3	1.3	0.138	0/26	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2017	15	0	12	1/26	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

### STATE REGULATED SUBSTANCES <sup>1</sup>

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Iron (ppb)	2015	1,000	NA	0.21	0.21–0.21	No	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits
Manganese (ppb)	2015	150	NA	1.4	1.4–1.4	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Sodium (ppm)	2015	NA	NA	220	220–220	No	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits; Used in water softener regeneration
Zinc (ppb)	2015	5,000	NA	6	6–6	No	Naturally occurring; Discharge from metal factories

<sup>1</sup> Iron, manganese, sodium, and zinc are not currently regulated by the U.S. EPA. However, the state has set an MCL for supplies serving a population of 1,000 or more.

## Definitions

**AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other required actions by the water supply.

**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 contaminants.

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**NA:** Not applicable

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

**ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).