

Lead and Copper Service Line Survey

In January 2017, the IEPA amended the Illinois Environmental Protection Act to include a mandate for operators of community water systems in the State of Illinois to create a comprehensive service line inventory. This inventory must account for the total number of service lines in the system, the number of lead service lines in the system, and the number of lead service lines replaced the previous year. Moving forward, this inventory must be updated and submitted on or before April 15th of each year.

In an effort to expedite the inventory process, the Village of Western Springs encouraged residents to fill out the Lead and Copper Service Line Survey web form. The web form is designed for those residents that are already aware of the material composition of their service line, as it contains little to no instruction. If you need help identifying your service line, please feel free to contact the Water Department at 708.246.1800 x214.

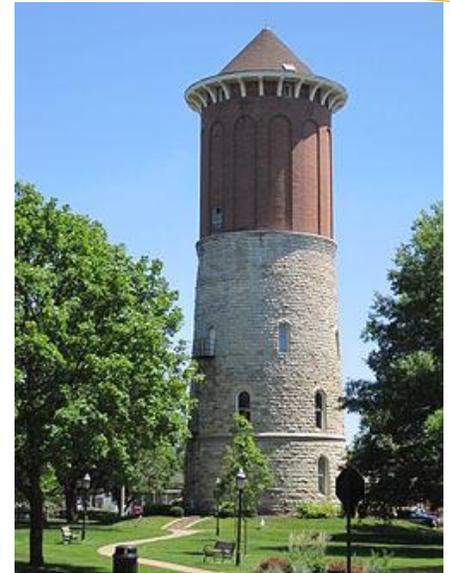
this issue

Infrastructure Improvements	1
Water Comparison Data IEPA Compliance Data	2
Water Main Break Information	3

UPDATE: Water Infrastructure Improvements

Over the next three years, the Village of Western Springs will be undergoing several water infrastructure improvement projects including well five construction, the maintenance and repainting of both the standpipe and the elevated tank, and the replacement of water main on Clausen, Rose, and Grove Avenues.

Before construction on well five can commence, the Village must replace approximately 100 feet of sanitary sewer with ductile iron, water quality pipe. This pipe replacement will allow for well five to be placed within 50 feet of the sanitary sewer and remain in compliance with Illinois Environmental Protection Agency standards. The anticipated start date for this initial project is mid-November and expected completion is within two to four weeks. Village staff will be hosting an information session on well five on October 30, 2018, at 6pm in the Board Room to answer any remaining questions and address resident concerns.



In the early Spring of 2019, the Village will begin the overhaul of the standpipe located behind Garden Market. This work will include an enclosure surrounding the standpipe to prevent dispersal of both sandblast and paint residue, a full blast clean of both the interior and exterior of the tank, and repainting of all surfaces. While completing this work, the Village will also be updating safety mechanisms including a new cable-type fall prevention device on the interior dry ladder and a roof handrail at the roof of the standpipe.

In the Spring of 2020, the elevated tank located in Spring Rock Park will undergo a similar overhaul; however, this tank has a cathodic protection system that will also be updated along with interior maintenance. Cathodic protection is a technique used to control the corrosion of a metal surface by making it the cathode of an electrochemical cell and providing a sacrificial metal to act as the anode.

Cross Connection Control Program

The Village of Western Springs Cross Connection Control Program is designed to safeguard public health by protecting the municipal drinking water supply, and your cooperation is essential. The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency requires every water supply provider to develop and implement a backflow prevention control program.

The program mandates surveying all residential water customers every two years to identify connections that could allow

contaminants to accidentally flow back into the drinking water from sources such as fire protection sprinkler systems, boilers, lawn sprinklers, and swimming pools. For more information regarding the cross connection control program, please visit the water department webpage where you will find an FAQ section and a link to the survey.

If you already have access to your backflow prevention test information for 2018, you can email a copy to eduffy@wsprings.com, mail a copy to 740 Hillgrove Ave, Western Springs, IL 60558, or drop a copy off at Village Hall.



Water Comparison Chart

How does Western Springs water stack up against neighboring communities?

	pH	T Hardness	Ca Hardness	M Alkalinity	Turbidity	TDS	Free Cl	Total Cl	Fluoride	Total Iron
WS Water Plant	7.96	101	81	132	0.070	290	1.18	1.32	0.83	0.01
Old Town North	7.62	102	69	131	0.124	314	0.64	0.83	0.72	0.02
Old Town South	8.02	106	75	128	0.081	263	1.24	1.40	0.58	0.02
Field Park	8.00	107	77	154	0.136	350	0.87	0.95	0.78	0.05
Forest Hills	8.02	94	71	137	0.119	327	0.80	0.93	0.76	0.03
Hinsdale	7.90	130	84	101	0.098	201	0.69	1.00	0.67	0.10
LaGrange	7.96	131	84	102	0.077	204	0.42	0.60	0.80	0.01
LaGrange Park	7.97	132	86	101	0.102	202	0.99	1.08	0.81	0.05*
Brookfield	7.90	140	86	99	0.120	204	0.60	0.79	0.79	0.26
Berwyn	7.90	130	91	98	0.142	201	0.08	0.20	0.80	0.05
Woodridge	7.94	134	86	98	0.112	202	0.95	1.01	0.77	0.02
Chicago	7.88	129	84	98	0.105	199	0.86	1.07	0.84	0.01

*LaGrange Park experienced an issue while servicing their storage tank that resulted in a boil order prior to collecting this sample. The higher iron content of the water is a result.

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Compliance and Inspection

The Village regularly undergoes compliance sampling demanded by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The Village receives a demand letter from the IEPA and then must submit a sample/s to a third party laboratory within thirty days. The third party laboratory reports the results to both the IEPA and the Village.

Since July 1st, the Village has received three demand letters from the IEPA. The first demand letter was for an IEPA on-site inspection scheduled for August 9, 2018. During the inspection period, the Village fills out and submits a pre-inspection questionnaire. Upon the inspectors arrival, Village staff are required to provide a comprehensive tour of the water system, which includes well houses, temporary chlorination locations, off site storage tanks, and the water treatment plant.

The Village received a second demand letter requesting two samples for Nitrite (nitrogen) and Nitrate. Nitrogen is essential for all living things as it is a component of protein. Nitrogen exists in the environment in many forms and changes forms as it moves through the nitrogen cycle; however, excessive concentrations of nitrate or nitrite in drinking water can be hazardous to health, especially for infants and pregnant women. The results of both of our samples were non-detect.

The third demand letter was for samples testing the presence of disinfection byproducts. Disinfection byproducts are chemical, organic, or inorganic substances that can form during a reaction of a disinfectant with naturally present organic matter in the water. The Village has not received the report identifying the results of these samples.



Water Main Breaks

Water main breaks happen with no warning. The breaks are usually the result of shifting of the earth near the main or the deterioration of the main itself. This quarter, the period from July 1 through October 1, the Village experienced **18** water main breaks. The Department of Public Works (DPW) strives to make necessary repairs as quickly and safely as possible, with the least disruption to residents and traffic.

The Village appreciates the community's patience with any disruptions. If a main break does require a water shutdown to repair, DPW staff will go door-to-door to notify affected residents of the shutdown. Depending on Village staff availability, the severity of the break, and the time in which the break occurs, a notice of a repair may be sent to resident subscribers via a Newsflash. A CodeRED alert is only used for emergencies where a boil order is required.

During main break situations, residents in the affected and sometimes adjacent areas may experience sediment or discolored water. The discoloration in the water is usually rust; possibly some sand and other minerals that have precipitated out of the water. If you experience discoloration following a water main break, the Village recommends that you run the cold water tap in the lowest location in your house until the water runs

Hard Water Cleaning Tips

Q: The hard water is leaving unsightly spots on ceramic and glass, particularly in the bathroom and kitchen. How do I remedy this?

A: A 50/50 mixture of white vinegar and water in a spray bottle will do the trick for water fixtures and glass shower doors; however, avoid the use of vinegar solution on marble countertops. Keep in mind that these surfaces must be cleaned of dirt, debris, and soap scum before the use of the vinegar solution will be effective.

Q: How can I prevent hard water spots from building up on glassware or dishes in the dishwasher?

A: It's frustrating to remove dishes from the dishwasher that don't look clean. You can utilize a cleaning agent, such as LemiShine, or even stop by the home economist and pick up some Citric Acid. While this will help to remove hard water spots and stains from dishes and glassware, this procedure is not recommended for silver, painted glassware or mugs, aluminum, or non stick coated cookware. You can also utilize LemiShine Booster to remove hard water buildup from the internal components of your dishwasher.

Rust Stains on Clothes/Linens?

During abnormal water quality events (i.e. water main breaks, hydrant flushing, etc.), you may notice rust marks on your clothing. While your knee-jerk reaction may be to mix chlorine bleach with detergent in your white loads or use bleach to remove rust stains, chlorine bleach will mix with the iron in the water and produce iron oxide which will stain your clothes/linens permanently.

In order to remove these marks and stains, you can purchase a detergent like Iron Out, that has multiple applications; or, if you prefer a natural alternative, create your own. To create your own, you will need one teaspoon of cream of tartar, one teaspoon of baking soda, and few drops of hydrogen peroxide (just enough to create a paste). Dab the paste on the marks and wash normally. Always pay close attention to the laundering instructions on delicate garments and dry clean only items.

Water Facts

- **Less than one percent of the water supply on Earth can be used as drinking water** Only approximately three percent of Earth's water is fresh water, and most of that water is inaccessible as it is trapped in ice caps and glaciers.
- **About 6800 gallons of water is required to grow a day's worth of food for a family of four** Food items are assumed as fresh (unfrozen) and do not include the footprint for cooking, when applicable.
- **An acre of corn will give off 4000 gallons of water per day in evaporation** Evaporation of water from plant leaves is called transpiration, which is the process by which moisture is carried through plants from roots to small pores on the underside of leaves, where it changes to vapor and is released to the atmosphere. See below for a diagram of the hydrologic (water) cycle.

