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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426 -4791 or visit their website at https://www.epa.gov/ccr.

Sources of drinking water (both tap 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 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 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, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemicals, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive materials, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

PROTECTING OUR GROUNDWATER RESOURCE

When common household products that contain hazardous or toxic substances are dumped down the drain, flushed down the toilet, and spilled or poured on the ground, these substances can contaminate the underlying groundwater aquifer, your drinking water supply.

Potential pollutants can come from pesticide and fertilizer use, a variety of household chemicals including cleaners, glues, detergents, paint and paint thinners, waste oil, gasoline, and antifreeze as well as failing septic systems.

WHAT YOU CAN DO .....

As a citizen, you can help protect our drinking water supply by doing the following:

- Read labels and follow all directions on household chemicals and any other hazardous products used around your home or business.
- Clean up your property. Properly dispose of any outdated or unused household chemicals stored in your basement, garage or barn.
- Utilize the Whitley County Solid Waste Management district's Household Hazardous Waste collection site. Household Hazardous Waste is accepted every Wednesday from 8am to 4pm at 701 South Line Street in Columbia City. For more information call (260) 248-3132.
- If you have a septic system, have it inspected and serviced regularly.
- Learn more about groundwater protection and your drinking water source by contacting the Indiana Department of Environmental Management at (800) 451-6027 or visit www.in.gov/idem/cleanwater/2381.htm.

NEED MORE INFORMATION?

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you have any questions about this report, concerning your water utility, or if you would like information regarding the wellhead protection program, please contact Alex Sturgess at (260) 213-9171. If you want to learn more, you are welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Council meetings held at 6:30 PM on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at the Town Hall.

2022 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

South Whitley Municipal Water Department

South Whitley, Indiana,
PWSID #5292007

The Town of South Whitley is pleased to present this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to keep you informed about the quality of your drinking water over the past year. Our goal is to provide you the customer with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all federal and state requirements.

WELLHEAD PROTECTION

Wellhead Protection is a program designed to protect our drinking water from contamination by managing land-use activities and potential contaminant sources in areas that overlie our local aquifer. To protect this groundwater resource, the Town has developed a wellhead protection plan. This community-based plan helps protect our source of drinking water through a program of pollution prevention.

The source of your drinking water is groundwater supplied at our well field located in Hagan Park. These wells are completed in a deep sand and gravel aquifer.

We ask that our customers help us protect our water resource, which is the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. Included in this year's report is information on what you and your family can do to preserve this resource and where you can find additional information.

AVERAGE WATER QUALITY DATA

The South Whitley Municipal Water Department routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to all Federal and State laws. The following table provides the results for those constituents that were detected as part of our 2021 monitoring.

Name of Substance	Violation Yes/No	Maximum Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Substance in Drinking Water
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products						
Chlorine	No	2	PPM	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	No	14	PPB	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	No	24	PPB	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Constituents						
Fluoride	No	0.534	PPM	4	4	Water additive that promotes strong teeth
Arsenic	No	1.4	PPB	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	No	0.282	PPM	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	No	14.0	PPM	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	No	0.451 (1)	PPM	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	No	1.1 (1)	PPB	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Constituents						
Gross Alpha excluding radon & uranium	No	1.86	pCi/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits

AVERAGE WATER QULAITY DATA TABLE NOTES

(1) - Levels detected for Copper and Lead represent the 90th percentile value as calculated from a total of 10 samples.

All analyses were performed in 2019 except for Lead, which was sampled in 2016, Gross Alpha sampled in 2016, and Fluoride and Barium were sampled in 2021. Arsenic and Sodium sampled in 2018. The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some of our data while representative, is more than one year old.

Included in the table above, you will find terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Not Applicable (N/A) – no MCLG or MCL has been established for these unregulated constituents.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – a measure of radioactivity.

Parts Per Million (PPM) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000.

Parts Per Billion (PPB) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in two thousand years or a single penny in $10,000,000.

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

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

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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 "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.