



**Ramsey Water Company, Inc.**  
Ramsey, Indiana

## 2014 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

**RAMSEY WATER COMPANY  
415 HIGHWAY 64 NW  
P.O. BOX 245  
RAMSEY, IN 47166  
812-347-2551**

**IN5231005**

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) for January 1 – December 31, 2014. It provides details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to the standards set by regulatory agencies. We routinely monitor for constituents mandated by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) and IDEM (Indiana Department of Environmental Management). Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

**Contact Information:**

If you have any questions about this report, please contact Ramsey Water at 812-347-2551. If you want to learn more about your water utility, we invite you to attend our Annual Meeting on the second Monday in January at 7:30 pm at 415 Highway 64 NW at the Ramsey Water Office.

**Where does your water come from?**

Your drinking water comes from two different sources. One water source is from wells located in the Ohio River Basin in Crawford County. Additionally, we purchase water from Indiana-American Water Company, which has wells located in Clark County. We also have a source water assessment plan available at our office that integrates geology and potential source of contamination in the Wellhead Protection Area.

**Important information for the Spanish-speaking population: (Espanol)**

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua potable. Por favor lea este informe o comuniquese con alguien que pueda traducir la informacion.

**How can you get involved?**

Your involvement starts with the environment around you. Surface water and groundwater are continually being impacted by your actions. The most effective way to prevent groundwater contamination is through education about potential contamination sources and how to minimize or eliminate them completely.

**Water Information Resources:**

IDEM (Indiana Department of Environmental Management) – [www.in.gov/idem](http://www.in.gov/idem)

EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) – [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)

CDC (Center for Disease Control) – [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

Safe Drinking Water Hotline – 800-426-4791

**RAMSEY WATER COMPANY TEST RESULTS – IN5231005**

**Regulated Contaminants:**

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation? Y / N	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2014	14	6.9-40.8	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2014	33	17.6-50.5	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine	2014	1.0	1 - 1	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	N	Water Additive used to control microbes.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation? Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2011	0.115	NA	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	2014	1	1 - 1	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2014	0.671	0.671 – 0.671	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Mercury	2011	0.2	0.2 – 0.2	2	2	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from cropland; Runoff from landfills.
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2014	1	0.514-0.514	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation? Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters*	2008	0.7	0.7 – 0.7	0	4	mrem/yr	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits..
Uranium	2008	0.5	0.5 – 0.5	0	30	ug/l	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

\*The MCL for Beta/photon emitters is written as 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L as the level of concern for beta emitters.

Lead and Copper*	Collection Date	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# Sites over AL	Units	Violation? Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2014	1.3	1.3	0.348	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2014	0	15	0.5	0	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

\*30 Sites were sampled for Lead and Copper.

**Unregulated Contaminants:**

Unregulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation? Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Sodium	2011	15.8	NA	NA	NA	ppm	N	Naturally occurring.

**INDIANA-AMERICAN WATER COMPANY TEST RESULTS – IN5210005**

**Regulated Contaminants:**

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG or MRDLG (Chlorine)	MCL or MRDL (Chlorine)	Units	Violation? Y / N	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2014	13	10.9-16.4	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2014	41.1	24.2-41.1	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine	2014	1.0	1.0 – 1.0	MMDLG=4	MRDL=4	ppm	N	Water Additive used to control microbes.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation? Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride	2012	0.77	0.77-0.77	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2014	0.24	0.24-0.24	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation? Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters*	2008	2.6	2.6-2.6	0	4	mrem/yr	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Uranium	2008	0.5	0.5-0.5	0	30	ug/l	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

\*The MCL for Beta/photon emitters is written as 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L as the level of concern for beta emitters.

Lead and Copper*	Collection Date	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# Sites over AL	Units	Violation? Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2012	1.3	1.3	0.576	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2012	0	15	0.5	1	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

\*30 Sites were sampled for Lead and Copper.

**Coliform Bacteria**

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	5% of monthly samples are positive.	1.1		0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

**Unregulated Contaminants: Measured on the Water Leaving the Treatment Facilities**

Unregulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation? Y/N	Likely Source of Contamination
Sulfate	2012	52.9	NA	NA	NA	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	2012	22.5	NA	NA	NA	ppm	N	Naturally occurring.
Hardness	2014	190	137 – 239	NA	NA	ppb	N	Naturally occurring.
Molybdenum(ppb)1	2014	2.4	2.2-2.4	NA	NA	ppb	N	Naturally-occurring element found in ores and present in plants, animals and bacteria; commonly used for molybdenum trioxide used as a chemical reagent
Strontium (ppb)1	2014	225.1	NA	NA	NA	ppb	N	Naturally-occurring element; historically, commercial use of strontium has been in the faceplate glass of cathode-ray tube televisions to block x-ray emissions
1,4-Dioxane (ppb)1	2014	0.28	0.19-0.28	NA	NA	ppb	N	Cyclic aliphatic ether; used as solvent or solvent stabilizer in manufacture and processing of paper, cotton, textile products, automotive coolant, cosmetics and shampoos

### **Why are there contaminants in your drinking water?**

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 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 can also 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which 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 contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

### **Do you need to take special precautions?**

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 or the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

### **Additional health effects you should know about:**

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing Copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing Copper in excess of the action level over many years can suffer liver or kidney damage.

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 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.

### **Important Drinking Water Definitions:**

In the attached tables, you will find many terms and abbreviations that you may not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:

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

**AVG (Average)**: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual averages of monthly or quarterly samples.

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)**: 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.

**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 Disinfection 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)**: Does not apply to this water system.

**ND (Not detected)**: Laboratory analysis determined the constituent was not present at detection limits.

**PPB (Part Per Billion or microgram per liter (ug/l))**: One part per billion equates to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**PPM (Part Per Million or Milligram per liter (mg/l))**: One part per million equates to one minute in two years, or a single penny in \$10,000.