



LINDENHURST – LAKE MICHIGAN WATER GOES LIVE!

The Village of Lindenhurst has completed the long awaited transition from ground water to Lake Michigan water! Over the next two weeks Public Works will introduce Lake Michigan water into the distribution system. Most residents will not notice the change with the exception of a slight temperature change at the water tap. We anticipate the changeover of ground water to Lake Michigan water to last approximately 4-5 days.

Public Works has taken measures to flush the water distribution system prior to the changeover to remove existing sediments from the piping. Although some areas will need additional flushing of the hydrants: we do not anticipate any problems with the switch over to Lake Michigan water.

Listed below is the chemical make-up that you had been receiving from Lindenhurst pump houses compared to what you are receiving from CLCJAWA. Additional analysis are available at www.clcjawa.com

PARAMETER	LINDENHURST	CLCJAWA
TEMPERATURE (Degrees F)	52 – 55	33 - 73
HARDNESS (mg/l as CaCO3)	250 – 457	112 - 180
HARDNESS (Grains/Gallon)	14.6 – 26.7	6.5 – 10.5
ALKALINITY (mg/l as CaCO3)	240 – 395	93 – 105
IRON (mg/l)	0.08 – 1.5	Not Detectable
Sulfate (mg/l)	23 – 86	25 – 29
pH	7.2 – 8.1	7.7 – 8.0
ORTHOPHOSPHATE (mg/L)	0.6 – 0.9	0.28 – 0.37
FREE CHLORINE (mg/l)	0.9 – 2.0	0.72 – 0.95

Additionally; listed below are frequently asked questions that we have received from residents. To better assist in any additional questions that you may have specific to Lake Michigan water; please follow the link to CLCJAWA’s website at <http://www.clcjawa.com/water-quality/what-to-expect-when-shifting-to-lake-michigan-water-1> .

What is the hardness of our water?

Answer: The hardness of our water is about 8 grains per gallon or 137 mg/l as CaCO₃. It does not change significantly.

Should I buy bottled water?

Answer: In general, no. There are no health benefits to drinking bottled water compared to your tap water. Your water is tested for more kinds of bacteria and contaminants and is tested much more often than bottled water. Your tap water is held to higher standards than bottled water. Our doors and water quality records are always open for your critical review. Your treatment plant uses the same water treatment technology available to bottled water producers. And, our water is much less expensive. Bottled water does offer advantages to those who prefer the taste of a specific kind of water or to people on the go who don't have time or forget to fill a sports bottle with tap water.

Do I still need my softener now that we receive Lake Michigan water?

Answer: Most residents have made the decision to stop using their softeners. However, the answer to this question depends on why you purchased your softener in the first place. If you purchased it to keep your pipes from plugging up with scale, you no longer need it. Lake Michigan water does not typically clog water pipes. If you purchased it to reduce the amount of scale or lime that builds up on your faucet or around sinks and tubs, you will find this problem greatly diminished with Lake Michigan water, though it will cause a slight scale build up over time that requires cleaning. If you purchased your softener to remove iron from your water, you no longer need it. Lake Michigan contains almost no iron. If you purchased your softener because you want to use less detergent or soap, you will find that with Lake Michigan water, you will use much less detergent and soap than you did with your well water. If you are considering purchasing a water softener, please consider these things. A softener will remove the calcium and magnesium (hardness) from your tap water. These essential minerals will be replaced with sodium (salt) in your tap water. While this does not improve the health-related aspects of your tap water, it will cut down slightly on soap and detergent use. A softener does eliminate any scale from building up around your kitchen and bathroom fixtures but most people feel the amount of scale that does form around their faucets is so minimal, the expense of a softener is not worth it. Softeners do increase the corrosiveness of water and are often implicated in increased lead and copper levels in homes with these plumbing materials. Finally, if you decide to purchase a softener, please invest the time to flush it out after being away for more than a few days. This reduces the number of nuisance bacteria that are present inside stagnant softener tanks.

Do I need a water filter?

Answer: No. The water you receive from your tap is safe to drink and has already been filtered through granular activated carbon and fine sand. The water produced by CLCJAWA is more than five times clearer than required by the Environmental Protection Agency.

If you are sensitive to chlorine in your water, a carbon filter will remove all chlorine. Carbon filters must be consistently maintained to minimize bacteriological contamination of your water. Most folks sensitive to the chlorine will fill a pitcher with tap water and place it in the refrigerator overnight. Usually by the next day, the chlorine will have evaporated out of the water. If your immune system is compromised in any way, ask your doctor about any precautions you should take when drinking bottled or tap water.

Does our water contain fluoride?

Answer: Yes. In Illinois, the Department of Public Health requires that we add fluoride to our water to provide children with one of the building blocks needed for strong teeth. At CLCJAWA, we only add what is required, no less and no more. Evanston was the first community to add fluoride to drinking water in 1947. Fluoride in drinking water is primarily absorbed into the blood stream and deposited to the teeth of children up to the age of about 8.

What is in our water?

Answer: Unlike many utilities and most water bottlers, CLCJAWA tests for hundreds more compounds than required. For a complete listing of compounds detected in our water please visit www.clcjawa.com . If you have a concern about a specific compound not on the list, please contact us at 847-295-7788.

Does my water contain lead?

Answer: The water that CLCJAWA delivers to each community contains no detectable lead. Lead in tap water typically comes from the service pipe that enters a building or the plumbing within the building. Newer homes typically do not have lead service pipes or lead containing plumbing. Because homeowners, typically own the service pipe leading into their building and the plumbing within it, they should consult with a licensed plumber and/or consult with their public works department if they are concerned. The US EPA also offers guidance to reduce lead in your water, click [here](#) for more information You may also wish to have your water tested for lead by a lab like the Lake County Health Department Environmental Lab (847-377-8017).

CLCJAWA does add a drinking water certified corrosion inhibitor called orthophosphate, to the water. This common drinking water and food ingredient binds with metals like lead, to keep them from corroding and getting into your water from your plumbing. This compound reduces lead in many homes but does not remove it completely from all homes or to levels considered safe in some homes. Because your community is responsible for lead compliance, contact them for more information or refer to your annual Consumer Confidence Water Report.

The conversion to Lake Michigan water has been a process almost a decade in the making. We are fortunate that the final phases of this project ended almost a month ahead of schedule and under budget. If you would like to learn more about the project, please visit www.lindenhurstil.org or contact the Village Hall at 847-356-8252.