



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NAVAL STATION GREAT LAKES
2601E PAUL JONES STREET
GREAT LAKES IL 60088-2845

15th NOTICE: IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER Naval Station Great Lakes Failed to Correct a Significant Deficiency Within Required Time Frame

Our water system was issued a violation on November 1, 2022, related to our drinking water. Although this incident was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing to correct this situation. While we work to correct the issue, we are required to send this notice to our customers every 3 months. **New information in bold text.**

A routine inspection, conducted in 2022 by the USEPA, found structural deterioration and areas of low water flow in our finished water storage tank, called the clearwell, at the treatment plant. The clearwell supports the final stage of water treatment.

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. Current sampling data confirms that the drinking water meets all regulatory requirements. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- Although our water quality continues to meet standards, if you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, are pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

What does this mean?

- This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. Water quality and residual disinfection levels are regularly monitored to ensure safe water in the system.
- While not the case in this situation, inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.
- These symptoms, however, are not caused only by organisms in drinking water, but also by other factors. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

What is being done?

On August 4, 2025, Naval Station (NAVSTA) Great Lakes awarded a twenty-five million dollar contract that will provide for a modernized water-treatment plant and correct all identified deficiencies. **The contractor is currently installing underground piping and excavating for the new clearwell tank foundations.** NAVSTA Great Lakes and USEPA Region 5 signed an agreement in fall 2023 that outlines and summarizes the Navy's plan and timeline to correct the deficiencies that generated the violation under the Safe Drinking Water Act. As part of that plan, our Architect/Engineering firm completed a design to install new clearwell tanks to correct the deficiency identified in the violation. As stated above, temporary mitigation efforts are in place, including modified operational procedures and monitoring. Continued sampling data reported to the EPA confirms that the drinking water is safe and meets all regulatory requirements. Basically, parts of our treatment plant infrastructure are aging, but the water quality still meets and/or exceeds EPA standards.

For more information, please contact Naval Station Great Lakes Public Affairs at (847)688-2430 ext. 359 or nsgl-pao@us.navy.mil.

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, others in your barracks, school or office). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or email.

This notice is being sent to you by NAVFAC Mid-Atlantic, PWD Great Lakes Utilities. State Water System ID#: IL0975227. Date distributed: 5/22/2026. Previous notices distributed on: 11/30/2022, 2/28/2023, 5/31/2023, 8/31/2023, 11/30/2023, 2/28/2024, 5/30/2024, 8/30/2024, 11/29/2024, 2/27/2025, 5/29/2025, 8/29/2025, 11/28/2025, and 2/27/2026.