

Land & Water

Conserving Natural Resources in Illinois

University of Illinois Extension • College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences

Water Quality—Who to Contact

Who to Contact in Illinois

The potential for water contamination can come from any number of sources—underground storage tanks, septic systems, pesticides on the farm, pesticides at home, or livestock waste, to name a few. Because of the wide range of hazards to water, there is no single organization or government agency that can handle all questions or all problems.

The purpose of this publication is to outline which agencies or organizations in Illinois you can contact for assistance on different water-quality issues. The telephone numbers, addresses, and websites for state and regional offices can be found on page 4.

WATER TESTING

To locate an EPA-approved water-testing laboratory in your area

- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency website: <http://www.epa.state.il.us/labs/combinedlist.html>
- Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health
- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office

To have your water tested

- County or regional Public Health Department
- Illinois State Water Survey

To find out more about drinking water contaminants and to obtain drinking water health advisories (reports that describe drinking water standards and risks of different chemicals)

- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health

- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office
- The U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline

WATER TREATMENT

For information about water-treatment methods

- Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health
- Water Quality Association
- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office
- Illinois State Water Survey

To report deceptive sales methods or faulty claims

- Federal Trade Commission Regional Office
- Illinois Attorney General
- Better Business Bureau

WATER SUPPLIES

For information about regulations and contamination standards for **community** water supplies

- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

For information about regulations and contamination standards for **private, semi-private, or non-community** water supplies

- Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health
- County or regional Public Health Department

SEWAGE

If you experience problems with sewage back-flow or sewage infiltration into your community drinking water supply

- Your municipality
- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office
- Regional office of the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

If you experience problems with sewage back-flow or sewage infiltration into your private, semi-private, or non-community water supply

- County or regional Public Health Department

WELLS

For information and assistance in sealing abandoned wells

- Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Illinois Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Land and Water Resources
- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office
- County or regional Public Health Department

For information about well construction and regulations

- Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health
- Illinois State Water Survey
- County or regional Public Health Department

For well records and help in locating an aquifer

- Illinois State Geological Survey, Hydrogeology Section

Types of Water Supplies

In Illinois, water supplies fall into four categories:

Community supplies. These public water supplies serve residents year round. A public supply is any well with 15 or more service connections or any well that serves at least 25 people at least 60 days per year.

Non-community supplies. These public water supplies serve non-residents—for instance, wells that serve restaurants and campgrounds.

Semi-private supplies. Although these water supplies are not considered public, they serve more than one single-family dwelling.

Private supplies. These water supplies, usually wells, serve an owner-occupied, single-family dwelling.

In general, if you have concerns about community water supplies, contact the water supplier or the Illinois EPA. For concerns about any of the other three types of water supplies, contact the Illinois Department of Public Health or the local health department.

For information about testing and disinfecting wells

- Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health
- Illinois State Water Survey
- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office
- County or regional Public Health Department

SEPTIC SYSTEMS

For information about septic system construction, operation, maintenance, and regulations

- Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health
- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office
- County or regional Public Health Department

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS

For information about underground storage tanks

- Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal, Division of Petroleum and Chemical Safety
- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

To report a leaking underground storage tank

- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

HAZARDOUS WASTE

For information about hazardous waste disposal and regulations

- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- Illinois State Waste Management and Research Center

INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT

For information about crop scouting and ways to use pesticides more efficiently

- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office
- University of Illinois Integrated Pest Management

For a diagnosis of pest damage to plants

- University of Illinois Plant Clinic
(The clinic is open from May 1 to mid-September.)

HOUSEHOLD PESTICIDES

For information on chemical use and application

- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office

PESTICIDES ON THE FARM

To report a chemical spill

- Illinois Emergency Management Agency

For information about regulations and requirements for reporting chemical spills

- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

For information about chemical storage and disposal—including regulations

- Illinois Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Environmental Programs
- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

For information about soil types and soil-pesticide interactions

- Local Natural Resources Conservation Service office

For information on pesticide label changes and concerns about agricultural chemicals

- Illinois Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Environmental Programs
- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office

CHEMIGATION

For information about chemigation regulations

- Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of Environmental Health
- Illinois Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Environmental Programs

NUTRIENTS

For information about soil testing and nutrient management

- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office
- Local Natural Resources Conservation Service office
- Local Soil and Water Conservation District

LIVESTOCK WASTE STORAGE

For information about livestock waste storage regulations

- Illinois Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Environmental Programs
- Illinois Environmental Protection Agency
- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office

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Sources

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SOIL EROSION

For information and assistance in controlling soil erosion

- Local Natural Resources Conservation Service office
- Local Soil and Water Conservation District office
- Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts
- Illinois Department of Agriculture, Bureau of Land and Water Resources
- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office

For financial assistance in implementing conservation measures

- Illinois State Farm Service Agency
- Local Soil and Water Conservation District office
- Local Natural Resources Conservation Service office

WATER-QUALITY INFORMATION

To obtain educational information about water protection

- Local University of Illinois Extension unit office
- Council on Best Management Practices
- Watershed Management Clearinghouse
- Illinois Department of Natural Resources
- Local Farm Bureau office
- American Water Works Association

Finding a Local Office

The numbers and addresses on page 4 are for state and regional offices. To locate a local office, check the websites below:

University of Illinois Extension

<http://web.extension.uiuc.edu/cie/offices/findoffice.html>

Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts

<http://www.aiswcd.org/soilandwater/htdocs/MEMBERS/ILSWCDs.html>

Farm Bureau

<http://www.ilfb.org/countymap.asp>

Natural Resources Conservation Service

<http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?service=page/CountyMap&state=IL&StateName=Illinois&state>

Farm Service Agency

<http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=il&agency=fsa>

County Health Departments

<http://www.idph.state.il.us/local/alpha.htm>

State and Regional Addresses and Phone Numbers

American Water Works Association

6666 W. Quincy Ave.
Denver, CO 80235
(303) 794-7711
(800) 926-7337
<http://www.awwa.org/>

Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts

4285 N. Walnut Street
Springfield, IL 62707
(217) 744-3414
<http://www.aiswcd.org/>

Better Business Bureau

330 N. Wabash, Ste. 2006
Chicago, IL 60611
(312) 832-0500
<http://www.chicago.bbb.org/>

Council on Best Management Practices

University of Illinois Extension
Springfield Center
P.O. Box 8199
Springfield IL 62791
(217) 782-6515
www.cbmp.uiuc.edu/

Farm Bureau

1701 Towanda Ave.
Bloomington, IL 61701
(309) 557-2111
<http://www.ilfb.org/>

Federal Trade Commission

Regional Office
55 E. Monroe St., Ste 1825
Chicago, IL 60603
877-FTC-HELP (382-4357)
<http://www.ftc.gov/ro/midwest.shtm>

Illinois Department of Agriculture

P.O. Box 19281
State Fairgrounds
Springfield, IL 62794-9281
Bureau of Environmental Programs
(217) 785-2427
(800) 641-3934
<http://www.agr.state.il.us/>
Bureau of Land and Water Resources
(217) 782-6297, (800) 864-7311
<http://www.agr.state.il.us/>

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way
Springfield, IL 62702-1271
(217) 782-6302
<http://www.dnr.state.il.us/>

Illinois Department of Public Health

Division of Environmental Health
535 W. Jefferson St.
Springfield, IL 62761
(217) 782-4977
(800) 547-0466
<http://www.idph.state.il.us/envhealth/ehhome.htm>

Illinois Emergency Management Agency

(800) 782-7860

Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

1021 North Grand Avenue East
PO Box 19276
Springfield, IL 62794-9276
(217) 782-3397
<http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/>

Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal

Division of Petroleum and Chemical Safety
1035 Stevenson Dr.
Springfield, IL 62703-4259
(217) 785-0969
<http://www.state.il.us/osfm/PetroChemSaf/home.htm>

Illinois State Farm Service Agency

3500 West Wabash Ave.
P.O. Box 19273
Springfield, IL 62711
(217) 241-6600
<http://www.fsa.usda.gov/il/>

Illinois State Geological Survey

615 E. Peabody Dr.
Champaign, IL 61820
Main number: (217) 333-4747
Hydrogeology: (217) 244-2458
www.isgs.uiuc.edu/

Illinois State Waste Management and Research Center

One East Hazelwood Dr.
Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 333-8940
<http://www.wmrc.uiuc.edu>

Illinois State Water Survey

2204 Griffith Dr.
Champaign, IL 61820
(217) 333-2210
<http://www.sws.uiuc.edu/>

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Illinois State Office
2118 West Park Court
Champaign, IL 61821
(217) 353-6600
<http://www.il.nrcs.usda.gov/>

University of Illinois Extension

214 Mumford Hall
1301 W. Gregory Dr.
Urbana, IL 61801
(217) 333-5900
<http://www.extension.uiuc.edu>

University of Illinois Integrated Pest Management

<http://www.ipm.uiuc.edu/>

University of Illinois Plant Clinic

1401 W. Saint Mary's Rd.
Urbana, IL 61802
(217) 333-0519
<http://plantclinic.cropsci.uiuc.edu>

The U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline

(800) 426-4791
<http://www.epa.gov/safewater>

Water Quality Association

4151 Naperville Rd.
Lisle, IL 60532-1088
(630) 505-0160
<http://www.wqa.org/>

Watershed Management Clearinghouse

www.watershed.uiuc.edu