



Village of Antioch Lake Michigan Water

The Village of Antioch is facing an uncertain future with regard to its supply of water. The underground aquifers that currently provide water have limited capacity and can be susceptible to impurities and contaminants.

Antioch, along with eleven communities in northern and western Lake County, have joined together to try and secure Lake Michigan water as their permanent water supply source. The goal is to transition from ground water to Lake Michigan water in order to meet long-term water demands.

What's wrong with the water we have?

Significant depletion of the shallow aquifer in neighboring communities is causing serious water supply issues. Demand for water has resulted in over pumping of several aquifers creating low water levels and poor water quality. As a result, Antioch may need to spend millions of dollars on the construction of new shallow and deep wells or find another permanent water source.

Antioch's municipal water system is utilizing shallow wells and 2 deep wells. In the late 1980's one well was abandoned and sealed because of contaminants from a landfill. Another well had to be repaired because of its high iron content. In addition, the two deep wells are costly to operate.

A 2006 water supply study commissioned by the Village of Antioch found production levels from the existing wells will not be sufficient to meet future water demands. As a result, the study called for the construction of new shallow or deep wells. Even if the Village decided to construct new wells, their useful life expectancy is limited due to the continued depletion of the underground aquifer.

Why Lake Michigan Water?

Studies show that Lake Michigan water is the most cost-effective, long-term solution to our drinking water needs. Lake Michigan water is of high-quality, only requiring conventional treatment and disinfection. Our current well water is hard, requiring consumer water softening systems. Lake Michigan water is used as a high-quality water source by Chicago, most of Cook and DuPage County, and some parts of Lake County.

The Facts about Antioch's Drinking Water Supply

- 💧 The Village Relies on 7 shallow wells and 2 deep wells.
- 💧 A 2006 water supply study showed existing wells were not sufficient to meet future water supply demands.
- 💧 Continued depletion of the Village's groundwater supply may cause serious short and long term water supply concerns.
- 💧 The Village must consider all options for a sustainable water source for future demand.
- 💧 Lake Michigan Water has been identified as the most cost-effective and reliable permanent water supply solution.
- 💧 Lake Michigan water is available and is currently used by many Lake County Communities.
- 💧 However, the availability of Lake Michigan water is limited and if we do not act quickly, our opportunity to obtain a permanent water supply solution will pass us by.