



FACT SHEET

COVID-19 and Schiller Park's Drinking Water

While walk-in service has been suspended at the Schiller Park Village Hall building to protect employee and community health during the current outbreak of the COVID-19 (Coronavirus), employees continue to provide services. The Village of Schiller Park is well-prepared with staff and infrastructure to maintain water service around the clock, and all our facilities are operating normally.

The Village of Schiller Park understands this is a stressful time for the community, and we are committed to taking all steps necessary to maintain safe, reliable water and wastewater treatment services.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has stated that Americans can continue to use and drink water from their tap as usual. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), along with the EPA, has stated that COVID-19 has not been detected in public drinking water supplies.

The following information was published by the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago, which supplies drinking water to the Village of Schiller Park. **“Our region’s drinking water is safe.** Drinking water is subjected to a thorough treatment process which includes disinfection. This treatment process is highly effective at killing microbes including COVID-19. Treated water is continually sampled and tested to confirm that is meeting strict federal, state, and local standards, and there is currently no evidence that COVID-19 is transmitted through drinking water or by contact with sewage. However, by taking precautions to avoid contact with untreated water and sewage, you can reduce your overall risk of illness.”

Only flush toilet paper. Don’t flush anything else. Alternatives can potentially clog your home’s plumbing or the Village sewer in your neighborhood and contribute to basement backups.

If you have a basement backup, avoid direct contact with the water and use disinfectants such as bleach to clean up. See <https://www.cdc.gov/disasters/bleach.html> for more on cleaning with bleach.

Avoid contact with waterways and consider rescheduling water recreation. It is unknown if COVID-19 can be transmitted through contact with waterways, but it is well established that other pathogens that can cause illness can be present in rivers, lakes and streams. You can effectively reduce your overall risk during this time by rescheduling your water recreation for after the pandemic. Do clean with soap and water if you touch river water.