



FAQs On Connecting To Village of Rockton Water System



The information in this handout is specific for residents of Winnebago County that live in the Wright & Kiles Blackhawk Acres subdivision in Rockton, Illinois. You are receiving this information because high levels of PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) above health guidance level were identified in multiple water samples in your area. **It is strongly recommended that you connect to a municipal water source** to protect the health of you and your family.

1. How do I know if I am connected to the municipal water source?

If you live in the Wright & Kiles Blackhawk Acres subdivision, and are unsure, please contact:

The Village Water Clerk at 815-624-7600

2. Is Village of Rockton Water safe to drink?

Yes, the Village of Rockton Water Department regularly monitors, tests, and treats the water that it delivers to your home each day as mandated by the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA).

For more information on Village Of Rockton Water go to:



**The Village of Rockton Website –
Drinking Water Division**

<https://tinyurl.com/y6p6bat8> or www.rocktonvillage.com



**The IEPA (Illinois EPA) –
Drinking Water Watch Web Portal**

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/drinking-water.html>

3. Can I connect my property to the Village of Rockton Water?

Yes, eligible properties can connect to Village water through an annexation process. This means you would become a part of the Village of Rockton, and you will be eligible to receive other Village services including garbage pick-up and discounted residential rates for the Walt Williamson Pool at Village Green Park and Barkwood Dog Park. The Village of Rockton welcomes our neighbors in the Wright & Kiles Blackhawk Acres subdivision to annex into the Village of Rockton.

4. Who covers the cost of connecting to Village of Rockton Water?

The Village of Rockton is working to secure funding to help connect residents to the Village water system. The Village is pursuing all funding options that eliminate the connection costs in efforts to make the overall cost to property owners as affordable as possible. The Village is optimistic that it will receive an IEPA forgivable loan that would not have to be paid back.

5. What would the cost of the taxes be if I join the Village of Rockton?

The estimated monthly property tax rate for the average Wright & Kiles Blackhawk Acres home is approximately \$19 a month, or about \$230 a year.

6. What would the cost of the water bill be if I connect?

The average family uses around 800 gallons per month. Including a \$20.99 per month fee for garbage removal service, the approximate average monthly cost is \$75. A one-person household using

For more information on PFAS, go to publichealth.wincoil.gov/pfas

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approximately 100 gallons of water would have an approximate \$55 monthly cost (including \$20.99 for garbage). If you would like a better estimate more specific to your household, including senior rates, please contact the Village Water Clerk at 815-624-7600.

7. How do I get connected to the Village of Rockton Water?

For more information on connecting to Village Water or if you know you would like to connect, call:

The Village Water Clerk at 815-624-7600

If you would like more information on the annexation process, please contact Patricia Diduch at Village Hall at 815-624-0935 or diduch@rocktonvillage.com.

8. What happens if I don't connect to municipal water?

Your water may have high levels of PFAS above health guidance level. Homeowners with private wells are responsible for their own water management which includes monitoring, testing, and treating the water for contaminants.

If you need information on how to test your water for PFAS, contact the Winnebago County Health Department's Center for Environmental Health Improvement at 815-720-4100. They will provide you with information on how to get started.

Take steps to reduce PFAS exposure through your drinking water by using home water treatment systems or carbon water filters that remove PFAS. The carbon water filters come in pitchers and as faucet attachments for the kitchen and bathroom sinks. For more information on the filters that can reduce PFAS, visit the Illinois EPA website at <https://www2.illinois.gov/epa/topics/water-quality/pfas/Pages/default.aspx>.

9. What happens if I choose not to connect to municipal water at this time?

Funds may not be available through Village of Rockton depending on the timeline. The EPA may also impose drinking water limits that cannot be effectively treated with current technology resulting in a loss of drinking water source. All residences are required to have a source of safe drinking water.

Future legislation may require disclosure of PFAS contaminants at the time of real estate transactions. Current FHA loans require that connection must be made to a public water system if connections are 3% or less of the estimated value of the property.

10. Who pays for water testing?

If you are on a private well, you are responsible for regular testing and maintenance of your drinking water. If you are connected to Village water, the Village regularly tests its drinking water as mandated by the IEPA, and the testing is paid for by the Village of Rockton.

