

City of Ontario

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

PWS: OH7003512
For 2023

The Ontario Water Plant has the pleasure to provide you, the consumer, the following information:

- Inform you on the general health and quality of the city water supply.
- Water Purity Test Results
- Involvement of fellow citizens in the decision-making aspects of your water supply through meetings.

The City of Ontario's daily water supply consists of three wells located next to the water plant. In the event of a power outage, we have an on-site emergency generator that will power the water plant at full capacity.

The City of Ontario has a Wellhead Protection Plan in place. This entails mandating local businesses to provide information on possible contaminate sources to the well fields so appropriate precautions can be taken. The Ohio EPA has conducted a Source Water Assessment plan as well, that shows the City of Ontario's well field has a low susceptibility to contamination due to the confining layer of glacial till over 200 feet thick between the ground surface and the aquifer. A copy of the source water assessment plan can be supplied by calling 419-529-3846. Additionally, the City has a Backflow Prevention Program in place to ensure that no contaminate can be drawn back into the drinking water supply through cross connections or low pipe pressure.

To begin with, the water is drawn from the wells and passes through two filters. This removes and drops the levels of iron to .08 mg/l and manganese to .02 mg/l. This also removes gaseous hydrogen sulfide, methane, and carbon dioxide. The water was then softened to an annual average hardness of 130 mg/l or 7.6 grains, and has an annual average sodium concentration of 138 mg/l. Also, the water is chlorinated at an annual average level of .8 mg/l daily to remove additional contaminants. The water is then pumped to one of three elevated tanks: two 500,000 gallon and a 1-million-gallon tank. The city is operating at approximately one third of our total water capacity of 3.5 MG/day.

What are sources of contaminants to drinking water?

The sources of drinking water, both tap water and bottled water, includes rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (A) microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife; (B) inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; (C) pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; (D) organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; (E) radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

More Information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Who needs to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infection. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. Samples were collected for over 52 different contaminants, most of which were below detectable limits. We are proud to report that Ontario's drinking water met all EPA standards for 2023. There were 84 routine bacteria samples taken, all of which were negative. All of the Lead and Copper samples taken in the previous year were below the Action Level. The Ohio EPA requires us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. In 2023 the City of Ontario participated in the fifth round of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5). For a copy of the results please call the water plant at 419-529-3846.

Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the City of Ontario drinking water.

Contaminates (units)	MCLG	MCL	Max Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contamination
Inorganic							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.21	.34-1.2	No	2023	Erosion of natural deposits Additive which promotes strong teeth
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.026	NA	No	2022	Discharge of drilling waste; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	1.2	0.2-1.2	No	2023	Water additives are used to control microbes.
Lead (ppb)	15	AL=15	3.4	NA	No	2022	Erosion of natural deposits. Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper (ppm)	1.3	AL=1.3	0.171	0.05-0.195	No	2022	Erosion of natural deposits. Corrosion of household plumbing.
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.15	0.14-0.15	No	2023	Run off run fertilizer use: leaching form septic tanks, sewage: Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfection By-Products							
TTHMs (ppb) [Total Trihalomethane]	NA	60	22.8	3.1- 22.8	No	2023	By-product of drinking water chlorination

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Ontario is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of material used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4719 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

We have a current, unconditional license to operate our system.

How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comments are encouraged at City Council Meetings, every first and third Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM. For more information on your drinking water, contact, Water Department Supervisor at 419-529-3846.

THE FOLLOWING ARE DEFINITIONS OF SOME TERMS CONTAINED IN THIS REPORT:

ppm	units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in approximately 11.5 days.
ppb	Unit of measure, Parts Per Billion = Micrograms per Liter (ug/L), a part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
MCL	The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
AL	Action Level, the concentration of contaminant which, (if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow).
MG	Million Gallons.
Chlorination	to treat with chlorine for sterilization.
MRDL	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants."
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal. The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.