



7603012

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report 2023

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report for 2023

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration 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 these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it can acquire naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material; and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Substances that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial Contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife.
- **Inorganic Contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **Pesticides and Herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- **Organic Chemical Contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive Contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



How much water can be lost from a leak?

A toilet running continuously amounts to the following amount of wasted water:

- 210 gallons per hour
 - 5,040 gallons per day
 - 35,280 gallons per week
 - 141,120 gallons per month
 - 282,240 gallons per billing cycle (37600 consumption on your bill)
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. After 15 minutes, check the bowl to see if the color has appeared and if so, your flapper in the bottom of the tank is leaking and needs cleaned and/or replaced.

Cross Connection Control Survey

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross connection control regulations and ensuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below, please contact us so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

Take care of your water supply!

The main shut off valve inside your home is your responsibility to maintain. To avoid an emergency turning into a disaster, always exercise your main shut off valve at least annually so it works when you need it. A good way to remember to do that is to turn your water valve off and on a couple times whenever you change batteries in your smoke detectors.

Source Water Information

Your water is treated by using gravity filtration to remove or reduce harmful contaminants that may come from the source water. Ohio EPA completed a study of the City of Louisville's source drinking water,

to identify potential contaminant sources and provide guidance on protecting the drinking water source. According to the study, the aquifer (water rich zone) that supplies water to the City of Louisville has a high susceptibility to contamination. This determination is based on the following: lack of a protective layer of clay/ shale/other overlying the aquifer, shallow depth (less than 15 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer, and the presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area. This susceptibility means that under currently existing conditions, the likelihood can be minimized by implementing appropriate protective measures. More information about the source water assessment or what consumers can do is available by calling the Utilities Department at (330) 875-5644 or email waterdept@louisvilleohio.org. Questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact the Louisville Utilities Department by mail to 1022 W Main, Louisville, OH 44641 or email at waterdept@louisvilleohio.org.

Important Health Information

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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426- 4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.

2023 Test Results

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

| Contaminants (Units) | MCLG | MCL | Level Found | Range of Detections | Violation | Sample Year | Source of Contaminant |
|---|-------------------|----------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|--------------|---|
| Disinfectant and Disinfectant By-Products | | | | | | | |
| Total Chlorine (ppm) | MRDLG = 4 | MRDL = 4 | 1.145 | 1.1 - 1.2 | No | 2023 | Water additive used to control microbes |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) | N/A | 60 | 7.57 | 4.84 - 7.57 | No | 2023 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb) | N/A | 80 | 10.3 | 2.58 - 10.3 | No | 2023 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Inorganic Contaminants | | | | | | | |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 0.97 | 0.82 - 1.11 | No | 2023 | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Barium (ppm) | 2 | 2 | 0.136 | NA | No | 2022 | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radioactive Contaminants | | | | | | | |
| Combined Radium | 0 | 5 | 0.067 pCi/L | N/A | No | 2022 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Lead and Copper | | | | | | | |
| Contaminants (units) | Action Level (AL) | MCLG | Individual Results over the AL | 90% of test levels were less than | Violation | Year Sampled | Typical source of Contaminants |
| Lead (ppb) | 15 ppb | 0 ppb | 0 | 1.24 ppb | No | 2023 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits |
| 0 out of 21 lead samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 pp. | | | | | | | |
| Copper (ppm) | 1.3 ppm | 1.3 ppm | 0 | 0.1131 ppm | No | 2023 | Erosions of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosions of household plumbing systems |
| 0 out of 21 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm. | | | | | | | |

In the following tables you may find many terms and abbreviations you are not familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

DEFINITIONS:

ALG (Action Level):

The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

ALG (Action Level Goal):

The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):

The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):

The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow a margin of safety.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):

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 a 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.

N/A: Not Applicable ND (Not detected):

Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):

Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

ppb (parts per billion):

Unit of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

ppm (parts per million):

A unit of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days.

TT (Treatment Technique):

We have a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. Louisville is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials 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 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

What can I do to conserve water?

There are many things you can do to conserve water. Running your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full can save up to 1,000 gallons a month. Watering your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler will help minimize evaporation. Shortening your shower by a minute or two can save up to 150 gallons per month. Turning off the water while you are brushing your teeth can save up to 25 gallons per month. Also, take time to review your water bill on a regular basis as this can help you quickly realize if there are leaks in your system.



Protecting Our Water From Backflow

Homes with underground irrigation systems and most non-residential buildings are required by the Division of Water to have a backflow prevention device. These backflow devices protect the public water system from any potentially contaminated water flowing into the public system from a customer's plumbing. Some examples requiring backflow systems include: swimming pools, restaurants, medical facilities, laboratories, car washes, automotive shops, industrial sites, and property with a well or pond. A cross-connection is a physical connection between a possible source of contamination and the drinking water system piping. If the pressure of the source of contamination is greater than the water system pressure, contaminated water may backflow into the drinking water system. Pressure drops in the public water system caused by water line breaks, pump failures, and firefighting can also cause a backflow situation. If our rules and regulations require a backflow preventer, it must be tested annually by a tester you hire who is approved by our office. For more information about backflow prevention and cross-connection control please visit our website at [https:// www.louisvilleohio.gov/water](https://www.louisvilleohio.gov/water) or [https://epa.ohio.gov/ Portals/28/documents/pws/PWS-02-003%20brochure.pdf](https://epa.ohio.gov/Portals/28/documents/pws/PWS-02-003%20brochure.pdf). Please report suspected cross-connections to the City of Louisville Utilities Department at **(330) 875-5644**.

What can I do to keep my pet's water bowl clean and free of germs?

There are several ways to keep your pet's water bowls clean. If you choose to hand wash pet bowls, use a mild detergent, and warm water. Rinse the bowls thoroughly to ensure no residue is left behind. The chemicals in the residue could upset your dog's stomach. Most bowls can withstand high temperatures and can be run through the dishwasher. Run the dishwasher on the sanitize cycle, which is the highest temperature setting, to rid the bowls of as many germs and bacteria as possible. With both methods, it is important to keep the dog's dishes separate from your own to prevent contamination.