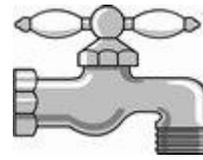


AURORA, OHIO WATER DEPARTMENT 2016 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT



UPDATED
6-12-2017

“We have current, unconditioned licenses to operate our water systems”

April 2017

PURPOSE:

The City of Aurora has prepared the following annual Consumer Confidence Report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water and raise awareness about what is involved with the production and delivery of safe water. This report is required as part of the Safe Drinking Water Act Re-authorization of 1996.

THE SOURCE OF YOUR WATER:

The City of Aurora purchases its water from Portage County Water Resources (PCWR). The water is derived from a well field located on Coit Road. The water is treated at the Shalersville Water Treatment Plant. The Shalersville plant utilizes ion exchange to soften the water. The aquifer, that supplies drinking water to the Shalersville area has a high susceptibility to contamination due to the sensitive nature of the aquifer in which the drinking water wells are located and existing potential contamination sources identified. More information is available by calling 1-800-963-1292. Portage County Water Resources vigilantly safeguards its ground water supplies. Future contamination may be avoided by implementing protective measures, and once again we are able to report that the department has never had a violation of a contaminant level or of any other water quality standard. Portage County Water Resources has actively monitored the area around its well field for thirty-five (35) years to protect it from potential pollution. Ohio EPA has approved the Shalersville “Wellhead Protection Area Delineation” and has prepared a “Drinking Water Source Assessment” on the Shalersville well field area. This document can be found on its web site at www.portageco.com/waterresources.htm. There are presently no known sources of pollution affecting our ground water and we intend to use public education and constant monitoring to improve our protection program. We need the cooperation of everyone living and working in the area where our water originates to prevent contamination. Portage County Water Resources maintains a comprehensive Source Water Protection Program to protect the area around the wells. Portage County supplies water to the cities of Aurora and Streetsboro, as well as Shalersville Township, from this plant.

The Cleveland Division of Water (CWD) uses surface water drawn from four intakes in Lake Erie as the source of our drinking water. Lake Erie is a part of the Great Lakes watershed. Ninety-five percent of the water entering Lake Erie comes from the upstream Great Lakes – Superior, Michigan and Huron as well as all of the rivers and streams that flow into these Lakes. The remaining 5% comes from rain and snow in the Lake Erie drainage basin which includes the various streams and rivers that flow into Lake Erie. By their nature, surface waters, such as lakes and rivers, are accessible and can be contaminated by chemicals and disease causing organisms. Since the intake systems are located a considerable distance offshore (built in the early 1900’s and again in the 1940’s and 1950’s), potential contamination from rivers, streams and other nearby sources is greatly minimized.

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water and is an indication of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity limit set by the EPA is 0.3 NTU in 95% of the daily samples and shall not exceed 5 NTU at any time. As reported above, the City of Cleveland’s highest recorded turbidity result for 2016 was 0.09 NTU and lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%.

Since no single treatment process can address all possible contaminants, Cleveland uses a multiple barrier process to treat Lake Erie water in order to meet drinking water quality standards.

Cleveland is a surface water supplier and meets all state and federal standards.

WHAT ARE SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION TO DRINKING WATER?

The sources of drinking water, both tap water and bottled water, include, 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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present 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, farming, or mining; (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources, including agriculture, urban storm run-off, 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, 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.

To ensure the safety of our tap water, the EPA regulates contaminant levels in water provided by public water systems. The FDA regulates contaminant limits 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 the 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 at 800-426-4791**.

WHO NEEDS TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons - such as persons with cancer and undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, as well as some elderly persons and infants - can be particularly at risk of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. The Environmental Protection Agency and Centers for Disease Control offer guidelines on the appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium. This information is available by calling the **EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791**.

ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER:

The EPA requires public water systems to perform routine testing to ensure the safety and quality of their drinking water. The City of Aurora conducts routine bacteria sampling monthly, taking a total of 238 samples in 2016. All sampling completed for the year proved negative for coliform bacteria. Daily chlorine residual samples are conducted to ensure that the water distribution system is maintaining an acceptable level to control bacteria. In 2016 the city performed 1,713 samples. All sampling met the Ohio EPA standards.

DEFINITIONS:

PPB: Parts Per Billion
PPM: Parts Per Million

TTHM: Total Trihalomethanes
ND: Not Detected

HAA5: Total Haloacetic Acids

MCL: Maximum contaminant level - "The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's 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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety."

AL: Action level - "The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow."

ASBESTOS LEVEL:

The City of Aurora tested for Asbestos in drinking water in 2013. There were no detectable levels found in the samples.

LEAD AWARENESS:

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 Aurora 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 at 800-426-4791 and <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home will be higher than at other homes in the community, as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested by a laboratory at your expense. Flush your tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791**.

LEAD AND COPPER ACTION LEVEL:

In 2015, samples were collected in July and tested on the Cleveland system.

CLEVELAND - July

Lead and Copper	Collection Date	Range Detected	90 th Percentile	# of Samples Over AL	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	SOURCES OF CONTAMINANTS	VIOLATION
Copper	July 2015	.04 – .5 mg/L	0.33	0 of 30	1.3	1.35/mg/L	Plumbing/service lines	NO
Lead	July 2015	<.002 – .005 mg/L	.002	0 of 30	0	.0155/mg/L	Plumbing/service lines	NO

LEAD AND COPPER ACTION LEVEL:

In 2016, samples were collected in April and August and tested on the Portage system.

PORTAGE - April

Lead and Copper	Collection Date	Range Detected	90 th Percentile	# of Samples Over AL	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	SOURCES OF CONTAMINANTS	VIOLATION
Copper	April 2016	.03 – 0.2 mg/L	0.17	0 of 10	1.3	1.35/mg/L	Plumbing/service lines	NO
Lead	April 2016	<.002 – .018 mg/L	<.002	1 of 10	0	.0155/mg/L	Plumbing/service lines	NO

PORTAGE - August

Lead and Copper	Collection Date	Range Detected	90 th Percentile	# of Samples Over AL	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	SOURCES OF CONTAMINANTS	VIOLATION
Copper	August 2016	.05 - .22 mg/L	.22	0 of 10	1.3	1.35/mg/L	Plumbing/service lines	NO
Lead	August 2016	<.002 mg/L	<.002	0 of 10	0	.0155/mg/L	Plumbing/service lines	NO

2016 TREATED WATER QUALITY ♦ CLEVELAND - PORTAGE

SUBSTANCE / YEAR	UNIT	WHAT'S ALLOWED (MCL)	WHAT'S THE GOAL (MCLG)	CLEVELAND WATER SOURCE		PORTAGE WATER SOURCE		SOURCES OF CONTAMINANTS	VIOLATION
				LEVEL FOUND	RANGE	LEVEL FOUND	RANGE		
FLUORIDE	PPM	4	4	1.0	0.8 – 1.3	1.06	0.88-1.14	Water additive which promotes strong teeth	NO
NITRATE	PPM	10	10	.95	<0.1 – .95	N/A	N/A	Fertilizer runoff, leaching from septic	NO
BARIUM	PPM	2	2	N/A	N/A	0.033	N/A	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries	NO
TOTAL CHLORINE	PPM	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	.98	0.9 – 1.1	1.37	0.90-1.40	Water additive to control microbes	NO
TURBIDITY 100% of samples were below the TT value of 0.3	NTU	0.3	TT	0.09	0.02 - 0.09	N/A	N/A	Soil runoff	NO
BROMODICHLOROMETHANE	PPB	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	13.3	N/A	Byproduct of water chlorination	NO
BROMOFORM	PPB	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	8.4	N/A	Byproduct of water chlorination	NO
CHLOROFORM	PPB	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.7	N/A	Byproduct of water chlorination	NO
DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE	PPB	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	19.4	N/A	Byproduct of water chlorination	NO
GROSS ALPHA		15	0	N/A	N/A	6.38	N/A	Decay of natural deposits	NO
RADIUM		0	5	N/A	N/A	0.04	N/A	Decay of natural deposits	NO
Total Organic Carbon		N/A	TT	1.18	1.1-1.51	N/A	N/A	Naturally present in environment	NO
TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA		< 5%	0	0.54%	0% - 0.54%	N/A	N/A	Naturally present in environment	NO

Listed above are the analyses for which contaminants were detected. Not listed are the other contaminants for which we test that were not detected.

2016 City of Aurora Treated Water Quality - PORTAGE

SUBSTANCE / YEAR	UNIT	MCL	EPA MCLG'S	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE	SOURCES OF CONTAMINANTS	VIOLATION
TRICHALOMETHANE TTHM TOTAL	PPB	80 PPB	80 ARA	37.2	N/A	Byproduct of chlorination	NO
HALOACETIC ACID TOTAL	PPB	60 PPB	60 ARA	9.5	N/A		NO

2016 City of Aurora Treated Water Quality - CLEVELAND

SUBSTANCE / YEAR	UNIT	MCL	EPA MCLG'S	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE	SOURCES OF CONTAMINANTS	VIOLATION
TRICHALOMETHANE TTHM TOTAL	PPB	80 PPB	80 ARA	48.975	17.6 – 58.4	Byproduct of chlorination	NO
HALOACETIC ACID TOTAL	PPB	60 PPB	60 ARA	15.8	8.6 – 20.0		NO

Unregulated Contaminants – Substances for which EPA requires monitoring to determine where certain substances occur and where it needs to regulate those substances.

Contaminant	Cleveland Unregulated Contaminants		Aurora Unregulated Contaminants
	Level Found	Range of Detections	Range of Detections (2014)
CHLORATE	60.0	22.0 – 120.0	44.5 – 148
CHROMIUM – (ug/L)	0.10	0.03 – 0.20	.181 – .40
MOLYBDENUM (ug/L)	1.3	1.0 – 1.5	.77 – 1.4
STRONTIUM (ug/L)	168.5	150 – 210	97.2 – 169
TESTOSTERONE (ug/L)	0.00016	ND – 0.00016	NA
VANADIUM (ug/L)	0.4	ND – 0.7	.131 – 0.30

There are several key ways that area residents and businesses can help protect Lake Erie.

- ◆ Remove trash and debris from sewers and storm sewers.
- ◆ Dispose of household wastes such as fertilizers, pesticides, paints, paint thinners and motor oil properly.
- ◆ Prevent soil erosion by planting trees, grass or shrubs along streams and rivers.
- ◆ Support local watershed groups as well as other organizations dedicated to protecting the environment.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE IN DECISIONS CONCERNING MY DRINKING WATER?

If you are interested in learning more about the water department and water quality contact the Utilities Department / Customer Service at 330-995-9109. Inquiries about public participation and policy decisions can be made by calling the Utilities Department at 330-995-9109.

NEED TO KNOW MORE?

Additional information concerning the extensive quality testing done by **Portage County Water Resources** may be obtained by calling **330-297-3685**.