

The City of Bowling Green draws surface water from the Maumee River during periods when the river supply is of high water quality. The water is then stored in the City's 170 million gallon above-ground reservoir to be used at times when the river water quality is less desirable. The reservoir storage provides a means to supply consistently high quality water to the consumer. The water plant's operators work around the clock, 7 days a week to assure the quality of your drinking water.

Source of Bowling Green's Water



The City of Bowling Green Water Treatment Plant has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included in this report is general health information, water quality test results, how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water, and water system contacts. The City of Bowling Green will notify you immediately if there is any reason for concern about the water.

2012 Water Quality Report



City of Bowling Green



Water Treatment Plant

Water Treatment Plant: 419-878-6986
Director of Utilities: 419-354-6246
Customer Service: 419-354-6258

The City of Bowling Green has a current unconditional license to operate our Water System.

C). Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.

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.

A). Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

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

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.

meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. Your drinking water goes through a continuously monitored, 10-step multi-barrier treatment process, which takes several hours to complete.



Source Water Assessment

The City of Bowling Green public water system uses surface water drawn from an intake on the Maumee River. For the purposes of source water assessments, in Ohio, all surface waters are considered to be susceptible to contamination. By their nature, surface waters are readily accessible and can be contaminated by chemicals and pathogens which may rapidly arrive at the public drinking water intake with little warning or no time to prepare. The City of Bowling Green's drinking water source protection area contains potential contaminant sources such as runoff from agriculture, industrial storm water, gas stations, home construction, feed lots, wastewater treatment discharges, airports, cemeteries, auto repair shops, landfills, above ground storage tanks, railroads, roadways, and oil and gas wells.

The City of Bowling Green's public water system treats the water to meet drinking water quality standards, but no single treatment technique can address all potential contaminants. The potential for quality impacts can be further decreased by implementing measures to protect the Maumee River.

More detailed information is provided in the City of Bowling Green's Drinking Water Source Assessment report, which can be obtained by calling 419-878-6986.

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

Nitrates in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. It's important to remember that the presence of certain contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

D). Organic chemicals contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts 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.

Lead in Drinking Water

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 Bowling Green 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 levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested.

Although there is no detectable lead in our drinking water as it leaves the treatment plant, by the time it reaches your tap, lead levels may increase as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. Additional information is available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline/index.cfm>**

Water Treatment Improvements

Two significant improvements have been completed at the Bowling Green Water Treatment Plant. A second raw water intake and pumping station allows the City to be more selective in the quality of water it pumps from the river into the reservoir through increased pumping capacity.

A new 3 MGD Microfiltration/Low Pressure Reverse Osmosis system removes over 85% of the total organic carbon present in the water. This total organic carbon reduction will reduce the THM and HAA concentrations in the finished water to meet the Stage 2 Disinfectant and Disinfection By-Products Rule.

The following table shows the results of our water-quality analysis. Every regulated contaminant that we detected in the water, even in the most minute traces, is listed here. The table contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health (MCLG), the amount detected, the usual source of such contaminants, and a key to the units of measurement. This table does not show the numerous other contaminants we tested for, and **did not** detect in our water.

2012 Water Quality Data

| Contaminant (Units) | Violation Y/N | Sample Year | MCL | Detected Level | Range of Detections | MCLG | Likely Source of Contamination |
|--|---------------|-------------|----------|----------------|---------------------|-----------|---|
| Microbiological Contaminants | | | | | | | |
| Turbidity (NTU) | No | 2012 | TT=0.3 | 0.21 | .04 – 0.21 | NA | Soil runoff |
| Turbidity (% samples meeting standards) | No | 2012 | TT | 100% | 100 % | NA | |
| Total Organic Carbon (TOC) | No | 2012 | TT | 2.30 | 2.30 – 2.56 | NA | Naturally present in the Environment |
| Inorganic Contaminants | | | | | | | |
| Barium (ppm) | No | 2012 | 2 | 0.0117 | NA | 2 | Discharges from metal refineries, & of drilling wastes; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper (ppm) | No | 2012 | AL=1.3 | 0.129 | NA | 1.3 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems |
| Fluoride (ppm) | No | 2012 | 4 | 1.36 | 0.68 - 1.36 | 4 | Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Lead** (ppb) | No | 2012 | AL=15 | <4 | NA | 0 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems |
| ** No lead sample sites out of 61 sites sampled were above the AL of 15 ppb. | | | | | | | |
| Nitrate (ppm) as Nitrogen | No | 2012 | 10 | 9.88 | 0.58-4.91 | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer use; sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| Volatile Organic Contaminants | | | | | | | |
| (Total Trihalomethanes) | No | 2012 | 80 | 50.4 | 23.3 – 100.0 | 0 | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Bromo-dichloromethane (ppb) | No | 2012 | NR | 5.5 | NA | 0 | EPA regulations require us to monitor for these contaminants while EPA considers setting a limit on them. |
| Bromoform (ppb) | No | 2012 | NR | 1.0 | NA | 0 | |
| Chloroform (ppb) | No | 2012 | NR | 5.1 | NA | 0 | |
| Dibromo-chloromethane (ppb) | No | 2012 | NR | 5.2 | NA | 0 | |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) | No | 2012 | 60 | 22.42 | 10.9 – 42.5 | NA | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Dichloroacetic Acid (ppm) | No | 2012 | NR | 18.0 | 6.6 - 18.0 | NA | |
| Trichloroacetic Acid (ppm) | No | 2012 | NR | 9.5 | 3.0 - 9.5 | NA | |
| Dibromoacetic Acid (ppm) | No | 2012 | NR | 4.3 | 1.9 - 4.3 | NA | |
| Residual Disinfectants | | | | | | | |
| Total Chlorine (ppm) | No | 2012 | MRDL 4.0 | 1.30 | 0.26-2.20 | MRDLG 4.0 | Water additive used to control microbes |

Data presented in this table is from the most recent monitoring done in compliance with regulations.

Key To Table

| | |
|--|--|
| AL=Action Level | ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter |
| MCL= Maximum Contaminant Level | ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter |
| MCLG= Maximum Contaminant Level Goal | TT = Treatment Technique |
| MRDL=Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level | NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units |
| MRDLG=Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal | NR = Not regulated |
| < = A symbol that means less than. | NA = Not Available |

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the 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 1 NTU at any time. As reported above Bowling Green's highest recorded turbidity result for 2012 was 0.21 and 100% of our samples met the turbidity limits.

In 2010, 3 samples were taken from the raw reservoir water supply. Cryptosporidium was detected in one (1) sample. Cryptosporidium is a microbial parasite found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring of source water and/or finished water indicates the presence of these organisms. Current test methods do not enable us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immune-compromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immune-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

Effective treatment for the removal of Cryptosporidium from drinking water includes specific filtration equipment. The City of Bowling Green Water Department presently has treatment facilities that are considered effective by the EPA. The City of Bowling Green will continue to operate the filtration equipment in such a method as to ensure the most effective removal of Cryptosporidium as possible. This includes the continual monitoring of filter effectiveness and continued monitoring of Cryptosporidium.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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 infections. At risk individuals should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791**.

Some people who drink water containing Trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Bowling Green's drinking water contains small amounts of naturally-occurring minerals such as calcium and magnesium. Fluoride is added to protect teeth as required by law.

The value reported in the table under "Detected Level" for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) is the lowest ratio between percentage of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of greater than one indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements. A value of less than one indicates a violation of TOC removal requirements.

The City of Bowling Green encourages public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting drinking water. Board of Public Utilities meetings are held regularly at 5:00 p.m. the second and fourth Mondays of each month at the City Administrative Service Building located at 304 North Church Street in the City Council Chambers. The public is welcome to attend these meetings to ask questions or express concerns as a lobby visitation if desired. Find out more about the City of Bowling Green on the Internet at <http://www.bgohio.org/departments/utilities-department/water-treatment-plant>.

Definitions:

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

IDSE - Initial Distribution System Evaluation is a one-time study conducted by water systems to identify distribution system locations with greater concentrations of trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs).

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

NTU - A unit of measure to determine the concentration of particles in the water that affect clarity.

Parts per Million (ppm) - are units of measure for concentration of contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in approximately 115 days.

Parts per Billion (ppb) - are units of measure for concentration of contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

"<" Symbol - A symbol which means less than. A result of <5 means that the lowest level that could be detected was 5 and that the contaminant in that sample was not detected.