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.

Source of Bowling Green’s Water

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 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. The City also uses Reverse Osmosis Membrane Treatment for a portion of your drinking water.

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.

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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.

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.

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 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.

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.

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. Nitrates 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.

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.