City of Port Clinton Consumer Confidence Report 2024

Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Division of Drinking and Ground Waters

www.epa.ohio.gov/ddagw

Section 1: Title

City of Port Clinton
Drinking Water Consumer Confidence
Report For 2024

Section 2: Introduction

The City of Port Clinton has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included within this report is general health information, water quality test results, how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water and water system contacts.

Section 3: Source Water Information

The City of Port Clinton receives its drinking water from a submerged intake in Lake Erie. The Ottawa County Regional Water Plant supplies and provides extensive treatment of the surface water for the City of Port Clinton.

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) performed an assessment of our source water in 2003. For the purposes of source water assessments, all Ohio surface waters are considered to be highly susceptible to contamination. By their nature, surface waters are readily accessible and can be contaminated by chemicals and pathogens within relatively short travel times from source to intake. Please contact Dan Bond at the Ottawa County Regional Water Plant @ 419-734-7312 if you would like more information about the assessment.

Protecting Lake Erie, the source of our water, from contaminates is vital to the safety of the drinking water. Everyone plays an important role in identifying and reporting potential contaminants that may be polluting Lake Erie or its tributary rivers and streams. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency is the governing body that is responsible for guarding the lake. If you see pollution in the Lake or suspected source of pollution, please call the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency hotline at 1-800-282-9378.

Section 4: 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, 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 Federal Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Section 5: 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 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. EPA/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).

Section 6: About your drinking water

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Ottawa County Regional Water Plant conducted sampling for bacteria; inorganic; radiological; synthetic organic; volatile organic during 2024. 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. Some of our data, though accurate, are more than one year old.

Section 7: Monitoring & Reporting Violations & Enforcement Actions

In July of 2023, the City of Port Clinton received a letter of violation of their Asset Management Plan. In June of 2024, the Ohio EPA received the City of Port Clinton's up to date copies of waterline inventory and the service meter inventory. Therefore, this violation has been resolved.

Section 8: Table of Detected Contaminants {A Table of Detected Contaminants is Mandatory}

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the **{Water System Name}** drinking water. A blank Excel template for the Table of Detected Contaminants can be found online at https://epa.ohio.gov/static/Portals/28/documents/ccr/Generic-template-style-table.xlsx

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant (units)	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation?	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
Disinfectant and Disinfectant By-Products							
Total Trihalomethane TTHM (ppb)	N/A	80	42.8	40.4-42.8	NO	2024	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids Haa5 (ppb)	N/A	60	21.1	18.0-21.1	NO	2024	By-product of water disinfection
Microbiological Contaminants							
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	TT	0.19	0.01-0.19	NO	2024	Soil runoff
Turbidity (% samples meeting standard)	N/A	TT	100%	100%	NO	2024	Soil runoff
Residual Disinfectants							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	2.3	2.1-2.3	NO	2024	Water additive to control microbes

Inorganic Contaminants (Ottawa County Regional Water testing)							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.14	0.88-1.14	NO	2024	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.021	N/A	NO	2024	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	2.91	<.02-2.91	NO	2024	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead and Copper							
Contaminant (units)	**Action Level (AL)**	**MCLG**	**Individual Results over the AL**	**90TH Percentile Value**	**Violation**	**Year Sampled**	**Typical Source of Contaminants**
Lead (ppb)	15	0	0	0	NO	2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
	__0 out of _20_ samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.						
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	N/A	.105 ppm	NO	2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
	_0_ out of _20_ samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the lead action level of 1.3 ppm.						

*Include the following if Beta was detected: EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5)				
Method ID	**Entry Point**	**Analyte Name**	**Collection Date**	**Reported Value (ug/L)**
EPA 553	EP001	PFBS	2/13/2024	<0.003
EPA 553	EP001	PFHpA	2/13/2024	<0.003
EPA 553	EP001	PFHxS	2/13/2024	<0.003
EPA 553	EP001	PFNA	2/13/2024	<0.004
EPA 553	EP001	PFOS	2/13/2024	<0.004
EPA 553	EP001	PFOA	2/13/2024	<0.004
EPA 553	EP001	PFDA	2/13/2024	<0.003
EPA 553	EP001	PDFoA	2/13/2024	<0.003
EPA 553	EP001	PFHxA	2/13/2024	<0.003
EPA 553	EP001	PFUnA	2/13/2024	<0.002
EPA 553	EP001	11 Cl-PF3OUdS	2/13/2024	<0.005
EPA 553	EP001	9Cl-PF3ONS	2/13/2024	<0.002
EPA 553	EP001	ADONA	2/13/2024	<0.003
EPA 553	EP001	HFPO-DA	2/13/2024	<0.005
EPA 553	EP001	PFBA	2/13/2024	<0.005
EPA 553	EP001	6:2 FTS	2/13/2024	<0.005
EPA 553	EP001	4:2 FTS	2/13/2024	<0.003
EPA 553	EP001	8:2 FTS	2/13/2024	<0.005
EPA 553	EP001	PFMPA	2/13/2024	<0.004
EPA 553	EP001	PFPeA	2/13/2024	<0.003
EPA 553	EP001	PFMBA	2/13/2024	<0.003
EPA 553	EP001	PFEESA	2/13/2024	<0.003
EPA 553	EP001	NFDH	2/13/2024	<0.002
EPA 553	EP001	PFPeS	2/13/2024	<0.004
EPA 553	EP001	PFHpS	2/13/2024	<0.003

The Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) was published on December 27, 2021. UCMR 5 requires sample collection for 30 chemical contaminants between 2023 and 2025 using analytical methods developed by the EPA and consensus organizations. All UCMR 5 results for the City of Port Clinton were below the minimum reporting level (MRL) for each contaminant that was sampled for.

Section 9: Turbidity Information

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 samples analyzed each month and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time. As reported above, the City of Port Clinton's highest recorded turbidity result for 2024 was 0.19 NTU and lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%.

Section 13: Lead Educational Information

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 Port Clinton 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 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

"Per the Lead and Copper Rules, Public Water Systems were required to develop and maintain a Service Line Inventory. A service line is the underground pipe that supplies your home or building with water. To view the Service Line Inventory, which lists the material type(s) for your location, you can visit (Insert a link to the website or physical address where the inventory is publicly accessible to be viewed)."

Section 14: Cryptosporidium Information

Ottawa County Regional Water monitored for Cryptosporidium in the source water (Lake Erie) during 2017/2018. Cryptosporidium was detected in two raw water samples of the 19 raw water samples collected. Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen 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 indicated 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, immuno-compromised people are at greater risk of developing a life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

Section 18: License to Operate (LTO) Status Information

In 2024 we had an unconditioned license to operate our water system.

Section 20: Public Participation and Contact Information

How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?
Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of Port Clinton City Council which meets on every 2nd and 4th Tuesday of the month at 6:00 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall located at 1868 E. Perry St. For more information on your drinking water contact City Hall at 419-734-5522 ext. 246

Section 21: Definitions of some terms contained within this report.

- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** 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 Contaminant Level (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.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (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.

- **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.

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

- **N/A**: Not applicable

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

- **Contact Time (CT)** means the mathematical product of a "residual disinfectant concentration" (C), which is determined before or at the first customer, and the corresponding "disinfectant contact time" (T).

- **Microcystins:** Liver toxins produced by a number of cyanobacteria. Total microcystins are the sum of all the variants/congeners (forms) of the cyanotoxin microcystin.

- **Cyanobacteria:** Photosynthesizing bacteria, also called blue-green algae, which naturally occur in marine and freshwater ecosystems, and may produce cyanotoxins, which at sufficiently high concentrations can pose a risk to public health.

- **Cyanotoxin:** Toxin produced by cyanobacteria. These toxins include liver toxins, nerve toxins, and skin toxins. Also sometimes referred to as "algal toxin".

- **Level 1 Assessment** is a study of the water system to identify the potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

- **Level 2 Assessment** is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

- **PFAS:** Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals applied to many industrial, commercial and consumer products to make them waterproof, stain resistant, or nonstick. PFAS are also used in products like cosmetics, fast food packaging, and a type of firefighting foam called aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) which are used mainly on large spills of flammable liquids, such as jet fuel. PFAS are classified as contaminants of emerging concern, meaning that research into the harm they may cause to human health is still ongoing.

- **Master Meter (MM):** A master meter is one that connects a wholesale public water system to consecutive public water system(s). This type of meter monitors the amount of water being sent to the consecutive system(s) and can also be used to determine the quality of water being delivered to the consecutive system(s).

- **Parts per Million (ppm)** or **Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)** are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days.

- **Parts per Billion (ppb)** or **Micrograms per Liter (µg/L)** are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

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

- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** A common measure of radioactivity.