Water Treatment Plant - 1881

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Water Treatment Plant - Present

THE CITY OF CHILLICOTHE OHIO

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report
For 2012

THE CITY OF CHILLICOTHE OHIO has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water.

THE CITY OF CHILLICOTHE receives its drinking water from six deep wells located in Yoctangee Park in close proximity to the water treatment facility. The aquifer in which the wells are located is part of the Scioto Buried River Valley Aquifer. We have a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system.

THE CITY OF CHILLICOTHE also has emergency connections with Ross County Water Company & the Chillicothe Correctional Institute. During 2012, the City of Chillicothe did not use any water from these connections.

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, the EPA 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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, Cryptosporidium, and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The City of Chillicothe conducted sampling for the following: ***bacteria, inorganics, volatile organics, and residual disinfectants*** during 2012. 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. Therefore, some of our data though accurate, may be more than one year old.

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the City of Chillicothe's drinking water.

Contaminant(Units)	**MCLG**	**MCL**	Level Found	Range of Detection	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Lead (ppb)	0	AL=15	<2.0 ppb	2.1 to 6.4 ppb	NO	2010	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits.
	Zero out of 39 samples was found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb						
Copper (ppb)	1,300 ppb	1,300 ppb	31 ppb	12 to 47 ppb	NO	2010	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits.
	Zero out of 39 samples was found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1300 ppb						
Barium	2,000 ppb	2,000 ppb	20 ppb	N/A	NO	2010	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4 ppm	4 ppm	1. 11ppm	.89 to 1.24 ppm	NO	2012	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	10 ppm	10 ppm	0.19 ppm	N/A	NO	2012	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Chloroform	N/A	N/A	9.7 ppb	N/A	NO	2012	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	NA	60 ppb	5.1 ppb	N/A	NO	2012	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethane [TTHM's] (ppb)	N/A	80 ppb	31.2 ppb	N/A	NO	2012	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Residual Disinfectants							
Total Chlorine Residual (ppm)	MRDL 4	MRDL 4	1.12 ppm	1.00 to 1.19 ppm	NO	2012	Water additive used to control microbes

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 Chillicothe 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 http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Ohio EPA has completed a study of the City of Chillicothe's source of drinking water, to identify potential contaminant sources and provide guidance on protecting the drinking water source. According to this study, the aquifer that supplies water to the City of Chillicothe has a high susceptibility to contamination. This determination is based on the following:

- lack of protective layer of clay overlying the aquifer;
- shallow depth (less than 20 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer;
- presence of numerous significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area

This does not mean the well field will become contaminated, only that conditions exist that could impact the ground water source. The Chillicothe Utilities Department is taking steps to address these issues. More information about the source water assessment or what consumers can do to help protect the aquifer is available by calling 773-1932 or the Ohio EPA at 1-740-385-8501.

How do I participate in decisions concerning my water?

The Chillicothe Water Department is a division of the Chillicothe Utilities Department, directed by Richard Johnson, P.E.,P.S., and is part of the Administration overseen by Mayor Jack A. Everson. Both Mayor Everson (774-1185) and Mr. Johnson (773-1932) encourage and welcome comments and input in regard to our water system.

Additionally, regular meetings of the City of Chillicothe Council are held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at which time a public participation session is scheduled and welcomed. Council meetings are advertised and reported in the Chillicothe Gazette, and aired locally on channel 2.

Following are definitions of some terms contained in this report:

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 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.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest residual disinfectant level allowed.

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

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.

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