City of Upper Sandusky
Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report
For 2025

The City of Upper Sandusky 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, and how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water and water system contacts.

Source Water Information

The City of Upper Sandusky receives its drinking water from the Sandusky River. The water is pumped from the Sandusky River to Upper Sandusky Reservoir #2 for storage.

Susceptibility Analysis

For the purposes of source water assessments, all surface waters are considered to be susceptible to contamination. By their nature surface waters are accessible and can be readily contaminated by chemicals and pathogens, with relatively short travel times from source to the intake. Based on the information compiled for this assessment, the City of Upper Sandusky drinking water source protection area is susceptible to agricultural runoff (fields and feedlots), commercial and industrial sources, leaking underground and above ground storage tanks, home construction runoff, and quarry activities. It is important to note that this assessment is based on available data and therefore may not reflect current conditions in all cases. Water quality, land uses and other activities that are potential sources of contamination may change with time. While the source water for the City of Upper Sandusky Public Water System is considered susceptible to contamination, historically, the City of Upper Sandusky Public Water System has effectively treated this source water to meet drinking water quality standards.

Copies of the source water assessment report prepared for the City of Upper Sandusky are available by contacting the Upper Sandusky Water Treatment Plant at (419) 294 – 2416.

What Are the 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).

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).

About Your Drinking Water

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The City of Upper Sandusky conducted sampling for bacteria, inorganic, synthetic organic, volatile organic, disinfection byproducts, lead, and copper during 2025. Samples were collected for several different contaminants, most of which were not detected in the City of Upper Sandusky water supply. 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, is more than one year old.

Table of Detected Contaminants

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the City of Upper Sandusky drinking water.

CONTAMINANTS (UNITS)	MCLG	MCL	LEVEL FOUND	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	VIOLATION	SAMPLE YEAR	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS
INORGANICS CONTAMINANTS							
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.11	<0.01 - .12	No	2025	Corrosion of household plumbing sysytems, Erosion of natural deposits, Leaching from wood perseratives
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.19	0.84 - 1.19	No	2025	Erosion of natural deposits, Water additive which promotes strong teeth, Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead (ppb)	0	15	<2.0	<2.0 - 2.1	No	2025	Older distribution piping, Services older than 1930's and joint material
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.34	<0.10 - .34	No	2025	Runoff from fertilizer use, Leaching from septic tanks, Sewage, Erosion of natural deposits
DISINFECTION AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS							
CHLORINE (ppm)	4	4	1.52	1.23 - 1.79	No	2025	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHM (ppb)	N/A	80	57.03	38.9 - 79.7	No	2025	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	N/A	60	25.28	8.7 - 24.5	No	2025	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	TT	0.11	0.03 - 0.11	No	2025	Soil Runoff
Turbidity (% Meeting Standard)	N/A	TT	100% < 0.30	0.03 - 0.11	No	2025	Soil Runoff
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	N/A	TT	2.20	1.24 - 2.20	No	2025	Naturally present in the enviroment

* 100% of lead and copper samples (20 each) were below the action level of 15 ppb (lead) and 1.3 ppm (copper) in 2025.

Turbidity

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 Upper Sandusky highest recorded turbidity result for 2025 was 0.11 NTU and lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%.

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 Upper Sandusky 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 800-426-4791or 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:
https://www.uppersanduskyoh.com/sites/default/files/2024-10/upper_sandusky_service_line_inventory_10.16.2024.pdf

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

As part of the federal 2024 PFAS drinking water rule, Public Water Systems were required to monitor finished drinking water for PFAS by April 26, 2027. We completed this monitoring by participating in the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 (UCMR 5) program, which monitored multiple contaminants, including the six regulated PFAS: PFOA, PFOS, HFPO-DA, PFBS, PFHxS, and PFNA. All results were non-detections.

License to Operate (LTO) Status Information

In 2025, the City of Upper Sandusky had an unconditioned license to operate our water system.

Public Participation and Contact Information

How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comments are encouraged at regular meetings of the City of Upper Sandusky Service Committee which meet on the first and third Mondays of each month at 5:30 PM. For more information on your drinking water contact Aaron Schoenberger at (419) 294 – 2416.

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.

- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** A measurement of the clarity of water. It is used to assess water quality by indicating the cloudiness of the water, which can be an indicator of the presence of contaminants.
- **Less Than "<" 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.
- **Not Applicable (N/A) –** Abbreviation meaning that this does not apply to our report.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.