City of Upper Sandusky
Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report
For 2018

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, 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, and disinfection byproducts during 2018. Samples were collected for a total of 58 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, are 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							
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.011	NA	No	2018	Discharge of drilling waste, Discharge from metal refineries, Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppb)	1350	1350	680	<10.0 - 680	No	2018	Corrosion of household plumbing sysytems, Erosion of natural deposits, Leaching from wood perseratives
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.23	1.05 - 1.23	No	2018	Erosion of natural deposits, Water additive which promotes strong teeth, Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead (ppb)	0	15.5	3.2	<2.0 - 3.2	No	2018	Older distribution piping, Services older than 1930's and joint material
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.34	<.10 - .34	No	2018	Runoff from fertilizer use, Leaching from septic tanks, Sewage, Erosion of natural deposits
SYNTHETIC CONTAMINANTS							
Atrazine	3	3	0.21	NA	No	2018	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
DISINFECTION AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS							
CHLORINE (ppm)	4	4	1.63	1.50 - 1.76	No	2018	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHM (ppb)	0	80	56.7	36.0 - 76.8	No	2019	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	0	60	25.8	18.6 - 37.7	No	2018	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	TT	0.12	0.05 - 0.12	No	2018	Soil Runoff
Turbidity (% Meeting Standard)	NA	TT	100% < 0.30	0.05 - 0.12	No	2018	Soil Runoff
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	NA	TT	2.15	1.31 - 2.15	No	2018	Naturally present in the enviroment
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS							
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	0	AL=5	.31(=/-.2)	NA	No	2013	Decay of natural material and man-made deposits

* 100% of lead and copper samples (20 each) were below the action level of 15.5 ppb and 1350 ppb in 2018.

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 2018 was 0.12 NTU and lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%.

Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) Information

All water systems were required to begin compliance with a new rule, the Revised Total Coliform Rule, on April 1, 2016. The new rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of total coliform bacteria, which includes E. coli bacteria. The U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection under the new rule, as it requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. As a result, under the new rule there is no longer a maximum contaminant level violation for multiple total coliform detections. Instead, the new rule requires water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences to conduct an assessment to determine if any significant deficiencies exist. If found, these must be corrected by the PWS.

License to Operate (LTO) Status Information

In 2018, 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 meets 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.
- Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- 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.