

Public Water System Consumer Confidence Report Template



Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Drinking and Ground Waters

Section 1: _____ {Water System Name}

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

For _____ {year}

Section 2: Introduction

{The following paragraph is not required and may be substituted with preferred wording.}

The _____ {Water System Name} 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.

{It is recommended that information concerning improvements to treatment or distribution that have been made in the past year, information of future improvements or public service information be added.}

Section 3: Source Water Information.

The _____ {Water System Name} receives its drinking water from _____

_____ {Name and location of source water}.

{Include the following if an Auxiliary or emergency public water system interconnection is available, see instructions for limitations on the use of this paragraph.}

The _____ {Water System Name} also has an {Auxiliary / Emergency / Back-up} connection with the _____ {Suppling Water System Name}. During _____ {year} we used _____ gallons from this connection over _____ days. On average this connection is used for approximately _____ days each year. This report does not contain information on the water quality received from the _____ {Suppling Water System Name} but a copy of their consumer confidence report can be obtained by contacting _____ at () _____

{Provide Source Water Assessment (SWAP) information if available from Ohio EPA. See Instruction Guide for required elements.}

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 Strom 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 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 _____ **{Water System Name}** conducted sampling for **{bacteria; inorganic; radiological; synthetic organic; volatile organic}** contaminant sampling during _____ **{year}**. Samples were collected for a total of _____ **{Number of different contaminants for which samples were collected}** different contaminants most of which were not detected in the _____ **{Water System Name}** 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.

Section 7: {Include the following if there were any monitoring or reporting violations}

During the month of _____ **{month}**, _____ **{year}**, _____ **{Water System Name}** failed to **{monitor or report}** _____
{Describe any monitoring or reporting violations and indicate steps to prevent future violations}.

{Include the following if there were any lead or copper corrosion control violations}

The _____ **{Water System Name}** {is / was} in violation for failure to complete the proper lead and copper corrosion control **{study / recommendation / plan approval / treatment installation}** by _____ **{Due Date}** as required by the Ohio EPA for the **{lead and/or copper}** action level exceedance as indicated by our _____ **{monitoring period of exceedance}** sample results. The _____ **{Water System Name}** **{has taken / will take}** the following steps to return to compliance: _____

{Describe steps to return to compliance and to prevent future violations}.

{If there was an enforcement action taken in the reporting year, include the terms of the agreement, action, or findings and orders. Also include what you have done or will do to address these terms}.

Section 8:

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the _____ **{Water System Name}** drinking water.

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
Bacteriological							
Radioactive Contaminants							
Inorganic Contaminants							
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides							
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Residual Disinfectants							

{Include the following if Beta was detected.} EPA considers 50 pCi/l to be the level of concern for beta particles.

Section 9: {Include the following if required to monitor for 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 daily samples and shall not exceed 5 NTU at any time. As reported above the _____ **{Water System Name}** highest recorded turbidity result for _____ **{year}** was _____ **{Highest recorded turbidity}** NTU and lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was _____ **{Lowest monthly % samples meeting turbidity limit}**.

Section 10: {Include the following if a MCL, TT, filtration or disinfection (CT) violation or action level exceedance occurred.}

The _____ {Water System Name} had a {MCL, treatment technique, filtration or disinfection (CT) violation or action level exceedance} during the month(s) of _____ {month(s)}, _____ {year}. {Obtain mandatory language from the CCR Template Instruction Guide Appendix B and add it here} _____ {Water System Name} is/has taking(en) the following steps to correct this violation and prevent future violations from occurring:

Section 11: {Include this paragraph if the nitrate level is greater than 5.0 ppm but less than 10 ppm}

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate 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.

Section 12: {Include the next paragraph if the arsenic level is greater than 5 ppb and up to and including 10 ppb.}

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems
{Include the health effects language for arsenic contained in Appendix B of the Instruction Guide in place of the above paragraph, if the level detected is greater than 10 ppb.}

Section 13: {Although not required to be included until CCR 2009, the following paragraph is encouraged to be included.}

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. [NAME OF WATER SYSTEM] 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>.

{If the number of lead samples over 15 ppb is greater than the total number of lead samples divided by 20 and the action level of 15 ppb was not exceeded in the 90% sample, include the following paragraph.}

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in you home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Section 14: {Include the next paragraph if the TTHM's level detected is greater than 80 ppb}

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Section 15: Cryptosporidium Information.

{Include the following if Cryptosporidium was detected either in the finished or raw water.}

_____ **{Water System Name}** monitored for Cryptosporidium in the **{source water and/or treated water}** during _____ **{year}**. Cryptosporidium was detected in _____ **{# of raw water samples found to contain Cryptosporidium}** of _____ **{Total # of raw water samples collected for Cryptosporidium}** collected from the source water and in _____ **{# of finished water samples found to contain Cryptosporidium}** of _____ **{Total # of finished water samples collected for Cryptosporidium}** collected from the treated water. 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 indicate 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.

{Include the following if adequate filtration equipment is not installed or is not operational or if Cryptosporidium was detected in the finished water.}

The _____ **{Water System Name}** intends to take the following actions to ensure adequate treatment for Cryptosporidium: _____

Section 16: {Include the following if radon was detected in the finished water.}

_____ **{Water System Name}** monitored for radon in the finished water during _____ **{year}**. A total of _____ **{# of samples collected}** were collected and the average radon level was _____ **pCi/L {Average of all finished water radon sample results}** with a detection range of _____ **{detected range of radon samples}**. **{OR}** One sample was collected and the radon level was _____ **pCi/L {Radon sample result}**. Radon is a radioactive gas that occurs naturally in some ground water. It may pose a health risk when the gas is released from water into air, as occurs during showering, bathing, or washing dishes and clothes. Radon gas released from drinking water is a relatively small part of the total radon in air. Major sources of radon gas are soil and cigarettes. Inhalation of radon gas has been linked to lung cancer, however, the effects of radon ingested in drinking water are not yet clear. If you are concerned about radon in your home, tests are available to determine the total exposure level. For additional information on how to have your home tested, call 1-800-SOS RADON.

{It is recommended that the water system include any additional monitoring information that has not been reported above. Information on levels detected and any possible health risk are recommended.}

Section 17: How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of _____
{Governing body} which meets _____

{Meeting schedule for the next year.}

For more information on your drinking water contact _____ **{Water system contact person}** at (_____) _____ - _____. **{Phone Number}**

Section 18: 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.

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 ($\mu\text{g/L}$) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

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.

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 (MRDL): The highest residual disinfectant level allowed.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of residual disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

{The following definitions are only required if used in the report.}

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.

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.

IDSE: Initial Distribution System Evaluation

{Include definitions for any term used in the report that is not considered "every-day language"}.