

Village of Fort Recovery CCR 2012

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

The Village of Fort Recovery is a community public water system serving 1430 people. The system operates two wells (one located in the community park and the other on the west side of the village limits) that pump approximately 130,000 gallons of water per day from a carbonate aquifer (water-rich zone). Water drawn is alternated every month between the two wells and pumped to the treatment plant where it is treated for hardness and disinfected. The treated water is then pumped through the distribution system to you the consumer and to the Village's elevated storage tank. Under normal usage, the elevated tank holds a 48 hour water supply.

Source water assessment and its availability

On January 13, 2003, an inventory of potential contaminant sources located within the drinking water source protection area was conducted by the Ohio EPA with the assistance of the Village of Fort Recovery personnel. Thirty types of potential sources of contamination were identified within and surrounding the protection area. These facilities or activities are listed as a potential contaminant source if it has the potential to release a contaminant, based on the kinds and amounts of chemicals typically associated with that type of facility or activity. This assessment indicated that the Village of Fort Recovery's source of drinking water has a low susceptibility to contamination due to:

- presence of a thick protective layer of clay overlying the aquifer
- significant depth (over 55 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer
- no evidence to suggest that ground water has been impacted by any significant levels of chemical contaminants from human activities
- no apparent potential contaminant sources in the protection area
- This susceptibility analysis is subject to revision if new potential contaminant sources are sited within the protection area, or if water sampling indicates contamination by a manmade contaminant source.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; 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; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural livestock water runoff, and residential uses; 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; and 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of the Fort Recovery Village Council located at the village hall which meets the first and third Monday of every month at 7:30pm.

For additional information on your drinking water contact Ryan Thien, Village of Fort Recovery Utilities Superintendent, 316 Water St, PO Box 340, Fort Recovery Ohio 45846, 419-375-2555, rwater@fortrecovery.org

Description of Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated in a "treatment train" (a series of processes applied in a sequence) that includes coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. Coagulation removes dirt and other particles suspended in the source water by adding chemicals (coagulants) to form tiny sticky particles called "floc," which attract the dirt particles. Flocculation (the formation of larger flocs from smaller flocs) is achieved using gentle, constant mixing. The heavy particles settle naturally out of the water in a sedimentation basin. The clear water then moves to the filtration process where the water passes through sand, gravel, charcoal or other filters that remove even smaller particles. A small amount of chlorine or other disinfection method is used to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water before water is stored and distributed to homes and businesses in the community.

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

Additional Information for Lead

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. Fort Recovery Village Public 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>.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

		MCLG	MCL,						
		or	TT, or	Year	Range	Sample			Typical Source
Contaminants	MRDLG	MRDL	Water	Low	High	Date	Violation		
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products									
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)									
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	0.4	NA	NA	2012	No	Water additive used to control microbes	
Inorganic Contaminants									
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.61	NA	NA	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
			Year	Sample	# Samples	Exceeds			
		MCLG	AL	Water	Date	Exceeding	AL	Typical Source	
Inorganic Contaminants									
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0	2012	0	2012	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.247	2012	0	2012	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Unit Descriptions									
Term		Definition							
ppm		ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)							
ppb		ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)							
NA		NA: not applicable							
ND		ND: Not detected							
NR		NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.							
Important Drinking Water Definitions									
Term		Definition							
MCLG		MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.							
MCL		MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.							
TT		TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.							
AL		AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.							
Variances and Exemptions		Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.							
MRDLG		MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a 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.							
MRDL		MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.							
MNR		MNR: Monitored Not Regulated							
MPL		MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level							
For more information please contact:									
Ryan Thiten, Water Superintendent 201 S Main St Fort Recovery, OH 45846 Phone: 419-375-2555 Fax: 419-375-4709 frwater@fortrecovery.org									
"The Village of Fort Recovery is an equal opportunity provider and employer."									