The Municipality of Germantown

PWS ID #5701012

Drinking Water Quality Report For 2014

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INTRODUCTION

The Municipality of Germantown Water Department has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included within this report are general health information, water quality test results, how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water, and water system contacts.

Any person wishing to comment on water quality or the operation of the water system is encouraged to do so by attending the Municipal Council meetings that are held the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month beginning at 7:00 p.m. Additional information concerning Council meeting dates can be obtained by contacting the Clerk of Council at 855-7255.

Our water quality meets or exceeds all of the standards that are set forth by the State of Ohio and the United States Environmental Protection Agency. To obtain additional information please contact Jonathan Moore, Director of Public Service, at 855-7255.

WHAT'S THE SOURCE OF YOUR DRINKING WATER?

The Municipality of Germantown Water Department obtains the public drinking water supplies from the Great Miami Valley Aquifer System associated with the Great Miami River Basin. The Municipality currently uses four (4) production wells to draw water from the aquifer for treatment at the water plant.

WHAT ARE SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION TO DRINKING WATER?

The sources of drinking water both tap water and bottled water includes 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, 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).

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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. Those listed below are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water. For a complete list, contact Jonathan Moore, Director of Public Service at 855-7255.

We have a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system.

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the Municipality of Germantown drinking water.

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detection	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
INORGANICS							
Nitrate (mg\l)	10	10	3.93	N/A	No	2014	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (mg\l)	4	4	1.06	.29-1.38	No	2014	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead (ppb) *	0	AL=15	11.1		No	2013	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper (ppb) *	1300	AL=1300	203		No	2013	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Total Chlorine (mg/l)	4	4	.6	.3-1.40	No	2014	Water additive used to control Microbes
SOCs							
Carbofuran (ppb)	40	40	0.7	N/A	No	2013	Leaching of soil fumigant used on rice and alfalfa
Oxamyl (ppb)	200	200	0.6	N/A	No	2013	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on apples, potatoes and tomatoes

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Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detection	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
Picloram (ppb)	500	500	0.1	N/A	No	2013	Herbicide runoff
2,4-D (ppb)	70	70	0.1	N/A	No	2013	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Pentachlorophenol (ppb)	0	1	0.08	N/A	No	2013	Discharge from wood preserving factories
DISINFECTION/ DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS							
Trihalomethanes, Total (ppb)	N/A	80	3.310	2.00-3.310	No	2014	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
UNREGULATED COMPOUNDS							
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)			1.220	0.980-1.220	No	2014	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Bromoform (ppb)			0.60	BDL-0.60	No	2014	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)			1.49	1.10-1.49	No	2014	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

*2 of 20 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the Action Level of 15 ppb.

*0 of 20 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the Action Level of 1300 ppb.

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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 Municipality of Germantown 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 or 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 1-800-426-4791 or at http:www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical and mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminate Level (MCL): 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 pretreatment technology.

Maximum Contaminate 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.

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 (ug/L) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

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

Range: The lowest to the highest values for all samples tested for each containment. If only one sample is tested, or no range is required for this report, then no range is listed for that contaminant in the table.

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.

N/A: Not applicable/available

BDL: Below detectible limit