

# Village of West Unity

## Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

### For 2016

The Village of West Unity has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of your drinking water. Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. West Unity takes pride in our water quality and vigilantly safeguards its water supplies. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, how it compares to EPA and state standards and how to contact us about your water. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

#### SOURCE OF WATER

The Village of West Unity receives source water from the ground. There are three wells, located at the water treatment plant, that supply our water demand. The aquifer in our region is the sole supplier of water to our wells. Two overhead storage tanks store treated water and pressurize our system. The water is treated to ensure its safety and is delivered to you via an extensive underground piping system. More information on our source water is available by contacting the maintenance supervisor at the number listed below.

#### TREATMENT TECHNIQUES

The Village of West Unity treats its drinking water by *filtration and disinfecting*. Iron is removed in the *filtration* process and the water is disinfecting with liquid chlorine. The water is also softened by salt softening. These processes are incorporated for the safety of our consumers. Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms including bacteria, viruses and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. The level of chlorine is monitored daily to ensure the proper dosage is being added.

#### EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

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 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.

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 Village of West Unity 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**Buildings in Ohio built prior to 1998 or that use plumbing material or solder manufactured before 1998 may have materials with greater than 8% lead and are at a higher risk of contributing lead to the drinking water than materials manufactured after 1998. In addition, building built and plumbing material manufactured after 2014 were required to have less than 0.25% lead by weight and have the lowest risk for contributing lead to the drinking water. It should be noted however that, although prohibited, some use of leaded solder or leaded components may have occurred after the prohibitions became effective.**

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. The Food and Drug Administration (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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

#### WARNING FOR VULNERABLE POPULATION

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune system-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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

**2016 DRINKING WATER COMPLIANCE**

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. During 2016, The Village of West Unity conducted sampling for haloacetic acids, five (HAA5), total trihalomethanes (TTHM), monochloroacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid, and total coliform bacteria. 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. In the next section is a list of the different contaminants that were found in West Unity's drinking water. This list of contaminants reflects the most recent findings during the past five years of monitoring.

If a contaminant was not detected in its last monitoring period, it will not be included in this report. This report will only reflect contaminants found in the last monitoring period or up to five years since it were detected.

During a Total Coliform test performed at 118 West Jackson Street on 12-06-2016 the result was positive. The Village was notified of the result on 12-08-2016 and notified consumers to take appropriate actions. The Village took samples as required for the total coliform rule and the ground water rule sampling on 12-09-2016 at the following locations; 200 West Jackson, 118 West Jackson, and 114 West Jackson. All the results came back negative for total coliform. The Village was not in violation as it is allowed one positive result during the month of testing for total coliform.

In 2013 the Village was in violation for inadvertently not taking a sample for total trihalomethanes (TTHM) and haloacetic acids, five (HAA5). The Village was required to take 2 samples in 2013 and only took one. The one sample taken tested below the acceptable limit.

In 2014 the Village was in violation for inadvertently not taking a sample for Nitrate. A sample was taken immediately when the Village was made aware of the situation. The sample taken after the monitoring period was below the acceptable limit.

**TABLE OF DETECTS**

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in The Village of West Unity's drinking water

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
<b>Bacteriological</b>							
Total Coliform	0	1	1	0-1	No	2016	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.95	NA	No	2016	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.0318	NA	No	2016	Discharge of drilling wastes.
<b>Residual Disinfectants</b>							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	4	MRDLG = 4	.95	0.4-1.3	No	2016	Water additives needed to control microbes
<b>Lead and Copper</b>							
Contaminants (units)	Action Level (AL)	Individual Results over the AL	90% of test levels were less than	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical source of Contaminants	
Lead (ppb)	15 ppb	N/A	0	No	2016	Corrosion of household plumbing. Erosion of natural deposits	
	_0_ out of _10_ samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.						
Copper (ppm)	1.3 ppm	NA	.0640	No	2016	Corrosion of household plumbing. Erosion of natural deposits	
	_0_ out of _10_ samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.						

## Susceptibility Analysis

The aquifer that supplies drinking water to the Village of West Unity's well field has a low susceptibility to contamination. This determination was made because of the following reasons:

- A confining layer of glacial till over 60 feet thick is present between the ground surface and the aquifer, offering significant protection from contaminant movement from the ground surface to the aquifer.
- The depth to water in the sand and gravel aquifer is greater than 30 feet below the ground surface: and
- The water quality results do not indicate that contamination has impacted the aquifer.

## EPA TESTING SCHEDULE

The EPA establishes an annual monitoring schedule for each public water system. They regulate the testing of many types of contaminants on a regular basis. The Village of West Unity is regulated to routinely monitor for the following contaminants: Haloacetic Acids (HAA5), Nitrates, Total Chlorine, Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM), and Total Coliform Bacteria.

## CONTACT PERSONS AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Village of West Unity water treatment plant is staffed by Randy Mahlman, Jim Eisel, Matt Axford, and Taylor Wheeler. They can be reached, Monday thru Friday, at (419) 924-2991 during the hours of 6:30am to 3:00pm to answer your questions about this report or your drinking water. Questions can also be directed to our Village Administrator, Josh Fritsch. He can be reached, Monday thru Friday, at (419) 924-2215 during the hours of 7:30am to 4:30pm. Public participation and comments are also encouraged at regular meetings of The West Unity Village Council Meetings which meet the second Thursday of every month, 7:30pm in Village Council Chambers at the West Unity Town Hall.

## Definitions of some terms contained within this report

**Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements

**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. In most cases, the USEPA sets MCLs at one in one million levels. This means that if a person drinks two liters (approximately half a gallon) of water containing a contaminant at the MCL per day for 70 years, the risk for developing some adverse reaction to the substance is one in one million.

**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.

**Parts per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per Liter (µg/L):** units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.5 years, one ounce of dye in 7,812,500 gallons of water or one penny in ten million dollars.

**Parts per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per Liter (mg/L):** units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days, one ounce of seasoning in 62,500 pounds of hamburger or one penny of \$10,000.

**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.

### How does your water compare?

The Village of West Unity water meets and often exceeds the State and Federal standards for quality and safety.

**\*We have a current, unconditional license to operate our water system\***

**See Back of Sheet**