

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 contaminant, 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791

DEFINITIONS OF SOME TERMS CONTAINED WITHIN THIS REPORT

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level) -- The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal) -- The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level) -- The highest residual disinfectant level allowed.

ppm (Parts Per Million) or mg/l (Milligrams per liter) -- Units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days.

ppb (Parts Per Billion) or ug/l (Micrograms per liter) -- Units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

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

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.

pCi/L -- picocuries per liter is a measurement for radioactivity.

BDL -- below detection level

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the CITY OF WAPAKONETA Drinking Water

<u>Lead & Copper</u>	Unit	MCLG	Action Level	90% of Test Levels Were Less Than	Range Detected	Violation Yes/No	Year Sampled	Potential Source of Contamination
Lead	ppb	0	15	2.90	<2 – 42	No	2019	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
1 out 30 samples were found to have lead in excess of the lead AL of 15 ppb								
Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.23	<.01 - .53	No	2019	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
0 out 30 samples were found to have copper in excess of the lead AL of 1.3 ppm								
<u>Inorganic Contaminants</u>	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Avg Level Detected	Range Detected	Violation Yes/No	Year Sampled	Potential Source of Contamination
Arsenic	ppb	10	10	3.05	NA	No	2017	Erosion of rocks & minerals
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	1.19	1.01-1.28	No	2019	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.007	NA	No	2017	Exist in nature only in ores

<u>Volatile Organic Contaminants</u>	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Avg Level Detected	Range Detected	Violation Yes/No	Year Sampled	Potential Source of Contamination
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes)	ppb	0	80	38.3	27.3 ~ 82.8	No	2019	By-Product of Chlorination
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids)	ppb	0	60	9.25	5.70 ~ 20.7	No	2019	By-Product of Chlorination

<u>Unregulated Contaminants (UCMR)</u>			
Contaminants (Units)	Sample Year	Average Level Found	Range of Detections
Total Organic Carbon (ppb)	2019	1400	1400
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	2019	2.71	0.95 – 9.50
Haloacetic Acids (HAA9) (ppb)	2019	16.5	10.3 – 31.0

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking and whether future regulation is warranted. In 2019, the City of Wapakoneta participated in the fourth round of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4). For a copy of the results please call Brent Hamel, Supt. at 419-738-7439

<u>Radioactive Contaminants</u>	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Avg Level Detected	Result	Violation Yes/No	Year Sampled	Potential Source of Contamination
Gross Alpha	pCi/L	0	15	NA	0.63	No	2017	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	pCi/L	0	5	NA	0.84	No	2017	Erosion of natural deposits

<u>Residual Disinfection</u>	Unit	MRDLG	MRDL	Avg Level Detected	Range Detected	Violation Yes/No	Year Sampled	Potential Source of Contamination
Total Chlorine	ppm	4	4	0.95	0.72 ~ 1.04	No	2019	Water additive used to control microbes

<u>Optional Section</u>	Unit	Average for year	Range Detected	No. of Samples	Year Sampled	Source
Sodium	ppm	215	137 ~ 237	52	2019	Ion-Exchange Softening
Hardness	ppm	132	116 ~ 400	365	2019	Dissolved Naturally Occurring Minerals