**VILLAGE OF COLUMBUS GROVE**

**Drinking Water Quality Report for 2023**

We’re pleased to present to you this year’s Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

**HEALTH INFORMATION**

**Susceptibility Analysis:** The aquifer that supplies drinking water to the Village of Columbus Grove’s wellfield has a low susceptibility to contamination. This determination was made because of the following reasons:

 1. A 30 to 40 thick confining layer of glacial till is present between the ground surface and the aquifer, offering protection from contaminant movement

 from the ground surface aquifer.

 2. The depth to water in the carbonate aquifer is between 30 to 40 feet below the ground surface (at the bottom of the confining layer); and

 3. The water quality results do not indicate that contamination has impacted the aquifer.

A review of the Village of Columbus Grove’s water quality record currently available in Ohio EPA’s drinking water compliance database did not reveal any evidence of chemical contamination at levels of concern in the aquifer. Please note that this water quality evaluation has some limitations:

 1. The data evaluated is for treated water samples only, as Ohio EPA’s monitoring requirements are for the water being provided to the public, not the

 water before treatment.

 2. Sampling results for coliform bacteria and naturally occurring inorganic compounds (other than arsenic) were not evaluated for this assessment,

 because they are not a reliable indicator of aquifer contamination.

**EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION**

A. 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.

B. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

 1. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock

 operations and wildlife.

 2. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or a result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic

 wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

 3. Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses;

 4. 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;

 5. Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to insure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminates in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminates in bottled water which most provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminates. The presence of contaminates does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminates and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminates 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 the 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 Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

\***Trihalomethane – 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 also have an increased chance of cancer.**

## **ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Columbus Grove Water Department conducted samples for bacteria, radioactive, inorganic, and volatile organic contaminant during 2023. The Ohio EPA requires us to monitor for some contaminates less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminates do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

A source water protection plan is available at the water/sewer office and can be viewed at your request. We’re proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The Ohio EPA has determined that your water is **SAFE** at these levels**.**

The Columbus Grove water system is a ground water system and gets its water from three wells. Two of the wells are located just north of Hall Avenue Park and the third is located just south of Hall Avenue Park. The water is stored at the water tower at the north edge of the village along St. Rt. 65. The Village of Columbus Grove has a source water assessment report available that can be seen at the City Building 113 E. Sycamore St. Columbus Grove, by contacting Jeff Vance, Village Administrator at 419-659-2982, or at <http://wwwapp.epa.ohio.gov/gis/swpa/OH6900112.pdf>.

# **WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE**

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses health risk. 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 change frequently.

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Contaminants (Units) | MCLG | MCL | Level | Range of Detection | Violation | Year Sampled | Typical source of thecontaminant |
| Sampled |  |  | Found |  |  |  |  |
| Volatile Organic Contaminants |
| (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.) |
|  |
| **Haloacetic Acids** |
| (HAA5) (ppb) | NA | 60 | 10.2 | 0-14.4 | No | 2023 | By-product of drinking water chlorination. |
|  |
| **TTHMs (Total)** |
| Trihalomethanes (ppb) | NA | 80 | 31.8 | 26.3-37.3 | No | 2023 | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
|  |
| **Inorganic contaminants** |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Nitrate (ppm) | 10 | 10 | <10 mg/l | NA | No | 2023 | Runoff of fertilizer, leaching from septic tanks, erosion of natural deposits, sewage |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Copper (90% of 10 samples) | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.016 | .10-.39 | No | 2023 | Corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 1.08 | NA | No | 2022 | Erosion of natural deposits, water additive, discharge from fertilizer, aluminum factories |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Barium (ppm) | 2 | 2 | 0.071 | NA | No | 2022 | Discharge of drilling, metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Residual Disinfectant** |
| Total Chlorine (total) | 4 | 4 | .632 | 0.48-1.87 | No | 2023 | Water additive to control microbes |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| **Synthetic Organics** |
| Alachor | 3 | 2 | 0.095 | 0.10 | No | 2023 | Runoff from herbicides |
| Athazine | 3 | 3 | 0.067 | 0.070 | No | 2023 | Runoff from herbicides |
| Simazine | 4 | 4 | 0.048 | 0.050 | No | 2023 | Runoff from herbicides |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| (2 monthly samples per month and are a positive or negative test)  |
|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

**Availability of Monitoring Data for Unregulated Contaminants.**

Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don’t yet have drinking water standard set by the EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help the EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers, you have the right to know that these data are available. The results for these tests are as follows:

Lithium range: 19-20 ug/L

Results: 19.5 ug/L

**LEAD EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION**

\*If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. 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 because of materials used in your home’s plumbing. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Village of Columbus Grove 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 at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://water.eps.gov/safewater/lead>.

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or 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.

Lead in drinking water is not always the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person’s total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed.

If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home water, you may wish to have your water tested. Or 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).

\*The Village is adding caustic soda and orthophosphate to help in the control of lead.

**REVISED TOTAL COLIFORM RULE (RTCR)**

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2016. All water systems were required to comply with the Total Coliform Rule from 1989 to March 31, 2016, and begin compliance with a new rule, the Revised Total Coliform Rule, on April 1, 2016. The new rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of total coliform bacteria, which includes E. coli bacteria. The U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection under the new rule, as it requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. As a result, under the new rule, there is no longer a maximum contaminant level violation for multiple total coliform detections. Instead, the new rule requires water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences to conduct an assessment to determine if any significant deficiencies exist. If found, these must be corrected by the PWS.

Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public be newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter regulation, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.

Copies of the Consumer Confidence Report can be obtained at the Village Water Department (419-659-5441), via email (cgwaterclerk@gmail.com) or online at [www.columbusgrove.org/annual-water-ccr](http://www.columbusgrove.org/annual-water-ccr).

**OTHER INFORMATION**

In 2023, we had an unconditioned license to operate our water system (license #OH6900112).

**HOW DO I PARTICAPTE IN DECISIONS CONCERNING MY DRINKING WATER?**

Public participation and comment are encouraged by attending one of our regularly scheduled Council meetings, held the second and fourth Mondays or each month at 7:30 PM in the Council Chambers in the City Building.

**For more information** on your drinking water contact the Village Administrator at 419-659-2982 during regular working hours.

**DEFINITIONS OF SOME TERMS CONTAINED WITHIN THE REPORT**

**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.

**Maximum Contaminant 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 treatment technology.

**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 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.

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

**Parts per Billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (ug/l)** is a unit of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

**Parts per Million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l)** are units of measure for a concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little more that 11.5 days.

**In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure.**

**Village of Columbus Grove**

**113 E Sycamore Street**

**Columbus Grove, OH 45830**