



City of Bedford WATER QUALITY REPORT 2015

Dear Water Customer,

As part of the Safe Drinking Water Act we are required to provide a yearly Consumer Confidence Report, which details a summary of the water quality in Bedford. The information contained in this report will be issued on a yearly basis to all residents who reside within the Bedford water service area. Since Bedford purchases all of its water from the City of Cleveland Division of Water, we will also have a limited number of Cleveland Water Consumer Confidence Reports in our water office. The information provided in these reports will comply with all requirements of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

WATER SOURCE

The City of Bedford purchases its water from the City of Cleveland. This water is treated, so consequently, Bedford adds no chemicals or oxidants to the water. The source of the water is Lake Erie, a surface water source. Lake Erie is the southernmost of the Great Lakes. Lake Erie holds about 130 trillion gallons of water and has a surface area of 9,910 square miles. Lake Erie is part of the Great Lakes watershed. Ninety-five percent of the water entering Lake Erie comes from the upstream Great Lakes-Superior, Michigan and Huron as well as all of the rivers and streams that flow into these Lakes. The remaining 5% comes from rain and snow in the Lake Erie drainage basin which includes the various streams and rivers that flow into Lake Erie.

BEDFORD DIVISION OF WATER

The City of Bedford purchases all of its water from Cleveland on a wholesale basis and resells it to all customers in its service area. The City of Bedford currently has an unconditioned license to operate our water system. The water purchased from Cleveland is measured by 16 master meters located at various boundary points in Bedford. There are approximately 5,000 water service accounts in the Bedford service area. Water is distributed to those accounts through about 50 miles of water mains that are maintained by the City of Bedford. Because Bedford has its own Water Department, it must adhere to all E.P.A. regulations, submit monthly reports to the E.P.A., and have the E.P.A inspect all operations on a regular basis.

INQUIRIES

For inquiries concerning information in this report, contact Terry Devlin, Bedford Superintendent of Water, at 440-735-6588.

Is your home adding lead into your drinking water?

Elevated lead levels may pose serious health risks for children and pregnant women. Lead in drinking water is mainly from service lines that connect your home to the water main and home plumbing. While the City of Bedford is responsible for delivering high quality water, we are not responsible for your home's plumbing materials or faucet fixtures. Older homes, typically pre-1950, may use lead service lines and lead pipes. Pre-1988 homes may use lead-based solder, often used to join copper pipes. Did you know...

- Faucet aerators that are not cleaned regularly may also increase lead exposure.
- Some lead may dissolve into water when water sits in your pipes overnight or when it is unused during the day. As a precaution, let the cold tap water run until you feel a change in water temperature to make sure you're getting water from the main on the street. Usually 30 seconds to 2 minutes.
- Always use cold water for cooking and drinking since hot water dissolves lead more quickly than cold water.

If you want to have your tap water tested for lead levels, go to www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw/Documents/chemlabs.pdf to locate an Ohio EPA-certified laboratory. The Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 1-800-426-4791, or its website, www.epa.gov/safewater/lead is another valuable resource for additional information.

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

The source 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:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salt and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm 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 agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the results of oil and gas production and activities.

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in the water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which shall provide the same protection for public health.

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 disorder, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminate are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Definitions

- 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.
- 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.
- Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system shall follow.
- 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.

Detected Contaminants

Key

- AL = Action Level
- MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
- MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
- NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- Mg/L = milligrams per liter, or parts per million
- µg/L = micrograms per liter, or parts per billion
- TT = Treatment Technique
- MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
- MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
- N/A = Not applicable
- ND = Not detected

Inorganic Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Typical Source in Drinking Water
Fluoride (mg/L)	4	4	1.0	0.7 - 1.4	Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
Nitrate [as Nitrogen] (mg/L)	10	10	1.07	0.1 - 1.07	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfectant	MRDLG	MRDL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Typical Source in Drinking Water
Chlorine (mg/L)	4	4	1.0	0.9 - 1.1	Water additive used to control microbes.
Microbiological Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Typical Source in Drinking Water	
Turbidity (NTU)**	N/A	TT=1	.02 - .17	Soil Runoff	
		TT=95% of sample must be less than or = 0.3 NTU	100%		

* The values reported for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) are the ratio between the percent of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of 1 or greater under "Level Found" indicates compliance with TOC removal requirements.

** A measure of the cloudiness of the water that serves as a good indicator of the effectiveness of the water treatment process.

Unregulated Contaminants – Monitoring Required

Contaminant	Level Found	Range of Detections	Typical Source in Drinking Water
Chloroform (µg/L)	12.8	5.4 – 30.8	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Bromodichloromethane (µg/L)	7.9	4.8 – 12.5	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Dibromochloromethane (µg/L)	3.7	2.7 – 5.0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

BEDFORD WATER

Lead & Copper Results from 2012	MCLG	AL	Level Found	# of sites above the AL	Typical Source in Drinking Water
Copper (mg/L)	0	1350	43.0	0 out of 30 sites	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (µg/L)	0	15	2.9	0 out of 30 sites	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Organic Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Typical Source in Drinking Water
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (µg/L)	N/A	80	24.8	12.9 – 48.3	By- product of drinking water chlorination
HAA [Haloacetic Acids] (µg/L)	N/A	60	11.8	8.5 – 21.4	By- product of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon*	N/A	TT	1.1	1.0 - 1.7	Naturally present in the environment

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this Water Quality Report directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this report in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

**IS OUR DRINKING WATER SYSTEM SAFE?
ABSOLUTELY**