

Village of Minster Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report for 2011



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Quality Drinking Water—Our #1 Priority

The Village of Minster is pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies

Members of your Village Council and staff of the Water Treatment Plant have been very active in maintaining this high quality and safe drinking water, as well as planning for future growth and demands on the current system. As we move toward realizing the changes necessary to meet these needs, be assured that highest quality standards will be maintained in providing you with water. Keep in mind our number one priority is quality drinking water that meets or exceeds federal and state standards.

Rest assured, last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Ohio EPA drinking water health standards. Minster has a current, unconditional license to operate its water system. In addition, Minster vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

Public participation and comments are encouraged at regular meetings of the Minster Village Council which meets the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers located at 5 W. Fourth Street.

Please feel free to contact any member of the Water Treatment Plant for more information or to discuss this report at 419-628-2850 or email dhaehn@minsteroh.com.



Source Water Information

The Village of Minster receives its drinking water from five bed-rock wells tapped into the Taeyes River Valley. The Village of Minster also has an emergency connection with the Village of New Bremen. During 2011 we used zero gallons from this connection over 365 days. On average this connection is used zero days each year. This report does not contain water quality information for water received from the Village of New Bremen but a copy of their consumer confidence report can be obtained by contacting the New Bremen Utility Office at (419)629-2827 .

Source Water Assessment and its Availability

The aquifer that supplies drinking water to the Village of Minster has a low susceptibility to contamination based on the aquifer's sensitivity to contamination, the number and types of potential contaminant sources within the protection area, and the known ground water quality of the aquifer.

The Village of Minster draws water from a carbonate aquifer with a depth to water greater than 40 feet below the ground surface. A 90 to 100 foot thick confining layer of glacial till is present between the ground surface and the aquifer, offering significant protection from contaminant movement. The wells are cased to a depth of more than 90 feet below the ground surface.

The Village of Minster's water quality record currently available in Ohio EPA's drinking water compliance database. Please note that this water quality evaluation has some limitations:

- The data evaluated is for treated water samples only, as Ohio EPA's quality requirements are for the water being provided to the public, not the water before treatment.
- Sampling results for coliform bacteria and naturally-occurring inorganics (other than arsenic) were not evaluated for this assessment, because they are not a reliable indicator of aquifer contamination. Positive coliform samples are also associated with operation and maintenance problems in the water system's distribution network and may not indicate aquifer contamination.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking 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: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses; 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and 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 that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Additional Information for Lead

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. Village of Minster 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Do I need 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 infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Water Quality Data

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. 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 vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	NA	80	20.19	NA		2011	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	<6	NA		2011	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	1.43	0.54	1.63	2011	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants								
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	<0.1	NA		2011	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# of Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Lead—action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0	2010	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Copper—action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.0889	2010	1	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
In an effort to insure the safest water possible the State has required us to monitor some contaminants not required by Federal regulation. Of those contaminants only the ones listed below were found in your water.								
Contaminants			State MCL	Your Water	Violation	Explanation and Comment		
Chloroform			NA	0.63 ug/L	No			
Bromodichloromethane			NA	0.54 ug/L	No			

Unit Descriptions

Term	Definition	Term	Definition
ppm	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)	NA	not applicable
ppb	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)	ND	Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.		

Important Drinking Water Definitions

Term	Definition	Term	Definition
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.	MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.	AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MRDLG	Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The level of a 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.	MRDL	Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	Monitored Not Regulated	MPL	State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level
Variances & Exemptions	State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.		