THE PAINESVILLE MUNICIPAL WATER DIVISION

DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2008

In compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act,

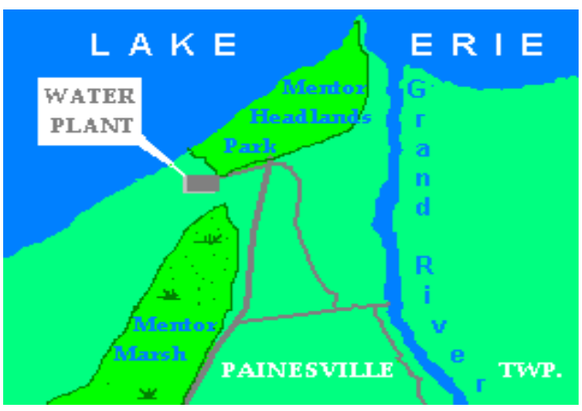
The Painesville Municipal Water Division has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included within this report is general health information, water quality test results, how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water and water system contacts.

What are sources of our water system?

Our system receives its drinking water from Lake Erie, (more specifically the section of Lake Erie directly off Titus Beach, Mentor, Ohio) and Grand River, (see map below). We are adjacent to Mentor Headlands State Park and near Mentor Marsh. Since our source waters are exposed to atmospheric conditions, it is considered to be surface water.

For the purposes of source water assessments. all surface waters are considered to be susceptible to contamination. By their nature surface waters are accessible and can be readily contaminated by chemicals and pathogens, with relatively short travel times from source to intake. Based on information complied by assessment, the Painesville drinking water protection area is susceptible to contamination from municipal wastewater treatment discharges, industrial waste water discharges, air contamination deposition, runoff from residential, agricultural and urban areas, oil and gas production and transportation, and accidental releases and spills from rail and vehicular traffic as well as from commercial shipping operations and recreational boating.

It is important to note that this assessment is based on available data, and therefore may not reflect current conditions in all cases. Water quality, land uses and other activities that are potential sources of contamination, may change with time. Although the source water (Lake Erie) for the Painesville Public Water System was determined to be susceptible to contamination, historically, the water treatment plant has effectively treated this source water to meet drinking water quality standards.



Our interconnections with Fairport, Lake County and Aqua-Ohio were not used during 2008 for a Primary source of our water.
Our water travels through approximately 130 miles of mains, delivering on the average, 3.2 MGD (million gallons daily) of water to nearly 25,000 people. For 2008: water pump-age totaled 1.16 billion gallons, pH averaged 7.3, the hardness was 117mg/l, and the alkalinity was 77mg/l. Cryptosporidium, Giardia, and Coliform (total and E. coli) were tested for and none was detected.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

What are the sources of contamination in the water?

The sources 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:

(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, 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater 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 (1-800-426-4791).*

Who needs 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 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 *Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).*

About your drinking water.

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Painesville Municipal Water Division conducted sampling for bacteria, inorganic, synthetic organic, and volatile organic contaminants during 2008. Samples were collected for a total of over 100 different contaminants. Most contaminants were not detected in the Painesville Municipal Water Division's water supply. 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. Some of our data, though accurate, are more than one year old.

Listed on the next page, is information on those contaminants that were found in the Painesville Municipal Water Division's drinking water.

Who to contact for more info?

Daniel McGannon is the Painesville Water Division Superintendent and is available to answer questions regarding this report during the hours of 8 AM. to 4 PM. at: (440) 392-2975 or (440) 392-9565.

Additional information is available on our web site at www.painesville.com. Another source of information is through the EPA web site at http://www.epa.gov/safewater.

How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comments are encouraged at regular meetings at The City of Painesville Council meetings. Council meetings are normally held on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:30 PM. Council meets at City Hall, 7 Richmond Street, Painesville, Ohio, in courtroom number 1. During the months of July and August, council meets only once per month. Information can be obtained at the City Managers office at 440-392-5800 to find out when councils meets.

Continuing Our Commitment

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January through December 2008. We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best-quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the needs of all our water users while providing community education.

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detection	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
Microbiological Contaminants							
Turbidity (ntu's) *	N/A	TT	0.34	0.03 – 0.34	NO	2008	Soil Runoff
Turbidity (% samples meeting standard)	N/A	TT	100 %	100%	NO	2008	Soil Runoff
Total Coliform	N/A	>1	0	0	NO	2008	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon (TOC)	NA	TT	1.2**	1.0 – 1.8	NO	2008	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants							
Fluoride (ppm)	4.0	4.0	1.0	0.8 – 1.1	NO	2008	Water additive that promotes strong teeth
Nitrate (mg/l)	10	10	1.0	0.4 – 1.0	NO	2008	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, and erosion of natural deposits.
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.02	NA	NO	2008	Discharge of drilling waste, metal refineries, or erosion from natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants (Regulated at the Customers Tap)							
Copper (ppb) (Residential customer's tap only)	1300	AL = 1300	99.5	Less than 5 – 114	NO	2006	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits.
Lead (ppb) (Residential customer's tap only) (Number of sites exceeding AL = 2)***	0	AL = 15	6.0	Less 1.0 – 47.1	NO	2006	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits.
Volatile Organic Contaminants (regulated at the plant)							
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	N/A	N/A	3.3	N/A	N/A	2008	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chloroform (ppb)	N/A	N/A	3.1	N/A	N/A	2008	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	N/A	N/A	1.2	N/A	N/A	2008	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Volatile Organic Contaminants (regulated in Distribution System)							
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1.4	1.0 – 1.6	NO	2008	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	NA	80	28.8	12.3 – 55.1	NO	2008	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	23.4	9.4 – 36.2	NO	2008	By-product of drinking water disinfection

*****Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water and is an indication of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity limit set by the EPA is 0.3 NTU in 95% of the daily samples and shall not exceed 5 NTU at any time. As reported above the Painesville Municipal Water Division's highest recorded turbidity result for 2008 was 0.34 and the lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100.0%.

** The value reported under 'level Found' for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) is the lowest ratio between percentages of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of greater than one indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements.

*******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 as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Definitions of some terms contained within this report.

- Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
- 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 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 a addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. (MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.)
- N/A: not applicable.
- Parts per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per Liter (mg/L) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days.
- Parts per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per Liter (µg/L) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.
- Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

All surface waters in Ohio, including Painesville's source water, have a high susceptibility to contamination. More information is provided in the City of Painesville's Drinking Water Source Assessment Report, which can be obtained by calling (440) 392-9565.

THE CITY OF PAINESVILLE
MUNICIPAL WATER
DIVISION

CITY OF Painesville

2008
WATER QUALITY REPORT

CITY HALL:
7 RICHMOND STREET
PAINESVILLE, OH. 44077

DISTRIBUTION SERVICE
& REPAIR
459 STORRS STREET
PAINESVILLE, OH. 44077

WATER PLANT:
9565 HEADLANDS RD.
MENTOR, OH. 44060

CITY OF PAINESVILLE MUNICIPAL WATER DEPARTMENT
7 RICHMOND STREET, PAINESVILLE, OH. 44077

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