

# Your Drinking Water: The Wellington 2015 Consumer Confidence Report

## **Is my water safe?**

In 2015, as in years past, your tap water met or exceeded U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) drinking water health standards. The Wellington Water Department vigilantly safeguards the quality of its water supplies, and will continue to do so in the future.

## **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 Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## **Where does my water come from?**

The Wellington Water System draws water from the Wellington Upground Reservoir. Our watershed drains into the West Branch of the Black River, and is fed by runoff from the southwest part of Lorain County and parts of Ashland and Huron Counties. The Water Treatment Plant was placed in service in 1996, and includes chemical coagulation, flocculation, disinfection with chlorine, fluoridation, pH adjustment, and incorporates multiple phase filtration, including activated carbon filters.

## **License To Operate (LTO) Information:**

All community Public Water Systems (PWS) are required to report the status of their LTO in the CCR for that given year. For 2015, the OEPA issued a "Green" LTO to the Village of Wellington PWS. This means that Wellington has a current, unconditional license to operate the water system.

## **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 **Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**. 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. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. Pesticides and herbicides 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, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm-water runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants 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 that must provide the same protection for public health.

## **Information on Lead in Drinking Water:**

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. The Village of Wellington 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 thirty seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking, and draw this water from the cold water tap only. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. A list of laboratories certified in the State of Ohio to test for lead may be found at <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/ddagw>, or by calling 614-644-2752. 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 800-426-4791, or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## **How can I get involved?**

Because drinking water is a concern for everyone, it is expected that the community as a whole be involved in the protection and maintenance of the water supply as a viable resource now and far into the future. We in the Water Department are charged with the responsibility of providing you with a safe drinking water while preserving the integrity of the environment from which we draw this marvelous resource. The need for communication and cooperation between the water utility and the community is clear and vital as a means of accomplishing this goal. In Wellington, the Village Administrator oversees the business of the utilities departments, of which Water is one. Meetings of the Village Council are conducted twice per month at the Town Hall, and present you with a forum for communicating concern. More information on these meetings is available at 647-4626.

## **Water Quality Data Table**

The table below lists all of 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 a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the 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.

## Important Drinking Water Definitions:

**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.

**RAA:** Running Annual Average: The average value of 4 QRAA's (Quarterly Running Annual Averages). Violations are based on exceeding the MCL in any of the quarterly averages.

Contaminants (Units)	Max			Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
	MCLG	MCL	Level Found				
<b>Microbiological Contaminants:</b>							
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	TT<=0.5	0.24	0.04 - 0.26	No	2015	Soil runoff.
Turbidity ( % samples meeting standard )	NA	TT	100%	100%	No	2015	

**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 0.5 NTU in 95% of the daily samples and shall not exceed 5 NTU at any time. As reported above, the Wellington Water Plant highest recorded turbidity result for 2015 was 0.26 NTU and the lowest percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%.

## Inorganic Contaminants:

<b>Lead</b> (ppb)	0	AL = 15	13.0	<2.0 - 13.0	No	2015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
None of the twenty samples taken was found to have lead levels in excess of the action level of 15 ppb.							
<b>Copper</b> (ppb)	1.3	AL=1300	40.0	<10 - 40.0	No	2015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
None of the twenty samples taken was found to exceed the action level of 1300 ppb.							
<b>Flouride</b> (ppm)	4	4	1.19	0.80 - 1.19	No	2015	Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
<b>Barium</b> (ppb)	2000	2000	23	NA	No	2015	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Nitrates</b> (ppm)	10.0	10.0	0.26	< 0.2 - 0.26	No	2015	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from fertilizer use, sewage.

## Volatile Organic Contaminants (VOCs):

<b>TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb):</b>							
Pitts Rd. <b>Only:</b>	NA	Avg. < 80	RAA: 65.25	49.8 - 104.2	No	2015	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
North Main (system exc. Pitts Rd.):	NA	Avg. <80	RAA: 60.65	50.2 - 81.3	No	2015	
<b>HAA5s (Haloacetic Acids) (ppb):</b>							
Pitts Rd. <b>Only:</b>	NA	Avg. < 60	RAA: 16.5	12.7 - 22.7	No	2015	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
North Main St.: (system exc. Pitts Rd.):	NA	Avg. < 60	RAA: 17.4	10.0 - 32.4	No	2015	

## Radiological Contaminants:

<b>Radium: ( pCi/l)</b>	NA	5.0	1.6 +/- 0.5	1.0	No	2015	Erosion of natural deposits.
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## Units Description:

NA: Not applicable

ND: Not detected

NR: Not reported

MNR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units.

pCi/l : picoCuries per liter

## For more information contact:

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