City of Tallmadge Utilities Bureau

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2007

This report is provided to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included is an explanation of where our water comes from, general health information, water quality test results, as well as tips on how to interpret the data.

We're proud to share the results with you. Please read them carefully.

Water Source

Surface water is taken from the Upper Cuyahoga River via three impounding reservoirs: Wendell R. LaDue and East branch, both located in Geauga County. These reservoirs supplement Lake Rockwell, located in Franklin Township, Portage County, 2.5 miles north of Kent, Ohio. Akron's water is taken from Lake Rockwell, treated at the nearby water supply plant, then pumped 11 miles to Akron, through three force mains to equalizing reservoirs. Tallmadge has the water pumped through two force mains to our pump station at 29 Northeast Avenue, and then distributed to over 7,000 customers.

What are sources of contamination to drinking water?

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.

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 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;
- 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems;
- 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 limits 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.

Required Additional Health Information

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).

How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water:

Public participation and comments are encouraged at committee meetings of the City Council, which meets the Monday prior to the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month, as posted in the Tallmadge Express or on the worldwide web at www.tallmadge-ohio.org.

How to Read These Tables

This report is based upon tests conducted in the year 2007 by Akron Public Utilities Bureau, as well as the monthly bacteria and disinfection by-product samples for 2007, conducted by the City of Tallmadge. Terms used in the Water Quality Table and in other parts of this report are defined here.

Definitions of terms contained within this report:

Maximum Contaminant Level or 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 Contaminant Level Goal or 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.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must 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 health risk. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

Range: The range of all values for samples of each contaminant.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Detected Level: The average level detected of these levels could be the highest single level average of values depending on the contaminant.

Parts Per Million (ppm): units of measure for disinfectant level allowed concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in approximately 11.5 days

Parts per Billion (ppb): units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years

Not Under Ohio EPA Regulation But of General Interest

Contaminant	**Detected Level**	**Range**
Alkalinity	77 mg/L	34 – 108 mg/L
Hardness (metric units)	117 mg/L	52 – 152 mg/L
Hardness English units)	6.8 grains per gallon	3.0 to 8.9 grains per gallon
pH	7.34 units	7.01– 7.80 units
Orthophosphate	0.889 mg/L	0.489 – 1.550 mg/L
Total Organic Carbon	2.55 mg/L	1.82 – 3.25 mg/L

For more information, call City of Tallmadge Water/Sewer Department at (330) 633-0851. This report is also available on the World Wide Web at www.tallmadge-ohio.org

PWS #OH7704703

We're proud to share the results with you. Please read them carefully.

2007 Water Quality Table

	Year Sampled	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Typical Source Of Contaminant	Violation
Inorganic Contaminants:							
Barium (ppm)	2007	n/a	2	0.45	N/A	Discharge of drilling wastes; metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Chlorite (ppm), avg of 3 samples in distribution system	2007	0.8	1.0	0.733	0.219 to 0.733	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO
Fluoride (ppm)	2007	4	4	1.06	0.07 to 1.26	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	NO
Nitrate (ppm)	2007	10	10	0.71	0.47 to 0.71	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Organic Carbon (compliance ratio)	2007	N/A	TT	2.550	1.82 to 3.25	Naturally present in the environment	NO
Turbidity (NTU)	2007	N/A	TT	0.222	0.042 to 0.222	Soil Runoff	NO
Turbidity (% meeting standard)	2007	N/A	TT	100%	100%	Soil Runoff	NO
Volatile Organic Chemicals (tested by Tallmadge)							
HAA5 (ppb)	2007	N/A	60	41.66	26-67.6	By-product of drinking water disinfection	NO
TTHM (ppb)	2007	N/A	80	51.65	16.44-107.6	By-product of drinking water disinfection	NO
****IDSE Standard Monitoring (tested by Tallmadge) Stage II Disinfectant Byproduct**							
TTHM	2007	N/A	N/A	64.94	18.06-64.94	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO
HAA5	2007	N/A	N/A	52.7	24.0-52.7	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO
Residual Disinfectants							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	2007	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	1.21	1.28 to 1.32	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO
Chlorine Dioxide (ug/l)	2007	MRDLG=800	MRDL=800	530	0 to 530	Water additive used to control microbes	NO
Unregulated Contaminants							
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2007	N/A	N/A	5.5	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO
Chloroform (ppb)	2007	N/A	N/A	7.9	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	2007	N/A	N/A	2.2	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination	NO
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides							
Atrazine (ppb)	2007	3	3	0.37	Less than 0.3 to 0.37	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops	NO
Radioactive Contaminants							
Alpha emitters (picocuries per liter)	2004	0	15	1.4	NA	Erosion of natural deposits	NO
Beta/photon emitters (picocuries per liter)	2004	0	Action Level=50	3.8	N/A	Decay of natural and man-made Deposits	NO

** Under the Stage 2 Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts Rule (D/DBPR), our public water system was required by USEPA to conduct an evaluation of our distribution system. This is knows as an Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE), and is intended to identify locations In our distribution system with elevated disinfection byproduct concentrations. The locations selected for the IDSE may be used for compliance monitoring under Stage 2 DBPR, beginning in 2012. Disinfection byproducts are the result of providing continuous disinfection of your drinking water and form when disinfectants combine with organic matter naturally occurring in the source water. Disinfection byproducts are grouped into two categories, Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5). USEPA sets standards for controlling the levels of disinfectants and disinfectant byproducts in drinking water, including both THMs and HAAs.