Health Information

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 (800-426-4791).

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The City of Conneaut Water Department conducted sampling for bacteria, inorganic, radiological, and volatile organic contaminants during 2016. Samples were collected for a wide-range of different contaminants, most of which, including algal toxins, were not detected in the City of Conneaut Water Supply.

Lead Information

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems. 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. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Conneaut 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 (800-426-4791) or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Violations

The Conneaut Water System had a disinfection violation on January 6, 2016. A public drinking water notice was issued to inform actions to take and possible health effects. Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

For more information contact the Conneaut Water Treatment Plant at 440-593-7437

In 2016, the City of Conneaut maintained an unconditional license to operate our water system.

Conneaut Water Department
294 Main Street
Conneaut, OH 44030

City of Conneaut Water Department

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report 2016

The City of Conneaut Water Department makes it a priority to supply residents with quality drinking water that is both safe and reliable. Water is tested using advanced equipment and sophisticated methods to ensure that it meets state and federal standards for appearance and safety. The City of Conneaut is pleased to report that the water provided by the City's Water Department meets or exceeds established water-quality standards. This report, which is required by the Safe Drinking Water Act, includes source water description, general health information, water quality testing results, and other helpful information.

Water Source

The City of Conneaut Water System uses surface water drawn from one intake in Lake Erie. Surface water by its nature is accessible and can be readily contaminated by chemicals and pathogens, with relatively short travel times from source to intake. Although Conneaut's surface water intake is located offshore in Lake Erie, the proximity of several onshore sources makes the source water more vulnerable to possible contamination. These contamination sources include: leaking underground storage tanks, municipal wastewater treatment discharges, industrial wastewater discharges, 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.

The City of Conneaut Public Water System treats the water to meet drinking water quality standards, but no single treatment technique can address all potential contaminants. The potential for water quality impacts can be further decreased by implementing measures to protect Lake Erie. More detailed information is provided in the City of Conneaut's water system drinking water source assessment report, which can be obtained by calling Richard Neubauer at 440-593-7437.

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:

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 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 storm water 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. Food and Drug Administration (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 (800-426-4791).

Definitions

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement 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 levels 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 Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant that is allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

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

Contaminants Table

The table below is a summary of the water quality characteristics for Conneaut for the year 2016. It shows the levels of detected contaminants and their allowable ranges. For example, turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water and is an indication of the effectiveness of filtration. Conneaut's water must meet turbidity levels of 0.3 NTU or less 95% of the time each month. As shown in the table, Conneaut met this goal 100% of the time in 2016.

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Organic Carbon	N/A	TT	1.00	0.64 - 1.69	NO	2016	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	TT	0.22	0.02 - 0.22	NO	2016	Soil Runoff
Turbidity (% meeting standard of 0.3 NTU)	N/A	TT	100%	100%	NO	2016	
Inorganic Contaminants							
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.7	<0.1 - 0.7	NO	2016	Runoff from fertilizer use, Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.01	0.81 - 1.11	NO	2016	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promostes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.021 (only sample)	N/A	NO	2016	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	0	AL = 15	3.9 (90^{th}%)	N/A	NO	2014	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits
	One out of 31 samples were found to have Lead levels in excess of the Action Level of 15 ppb.						
Copper (ppm)	1.3	AL = 1.3	0.53 (90^{th}%)	N/A	NO	2014	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits
	Two out of 31 samples were found to have Copper levels in excess of the Action Level of 1.3 ppm.						
Volatile Organic Contaminants (VOCs)*							
TTHMs (ppb)	N/A	80	36.1	10.1 - 52.2	NO	2016	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	N/A	60	21.1	<6.0 - 28	NO	2016	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Residual Disinfectants							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL = 4	MRDL = 4	1.76	0.2 – 1.9	NO	2016	Water additive used to control microbes
Unregulated Contaminants (UCs)*							
Bromoform (ppb)	N/A	N/A	0.1 (average)	<0.5 - 0.6	NO	2016	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	N/A	N/A	7.9 (average)	3.6 - 13.2	NO	2016	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chloroform (ppb)	N/A	N/A	14.3 (average)	4.6 - 35.3	NO	2016	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	N/A	N/A	3.4 (average)	1.9 - 5.5	NO	2016	By-product of drinking water chlorination

*****As required, the City of Conneaut sampled quarterly for VOCs and UCs at four distribution system sites. Conneaut tested for many other possible contaminants, but found none other than those listed in the table.

Key

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

ppb: Parts per Billion 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.

ppm: Parts per Million 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.

TTHMs: Trihalomethanes

HAA5: Haloacetic Acids

90%: 90th Percentile

N/A: Not Applicable

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Limit

TT: Treatment Technique

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

AL: Action Level

< symbol: Means results were less than number shown