

# **2014 Public Water System Consumer Confidence Report For the City of Galion Water Treatment**

The Galion Water Treatment Plant 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.

The City of Galion receives its drinking water from the Rocky Fork of the Olentangy River, which flows into Amman's Reservoir south of Galion in Morrow County. 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 the source to the intake.

In 2003 the Ohio EPA conducted a Source Water Assessment for the City of Galion. Copies of this report can be obtained at the Galion Water Plant. Based on the information compiled in our source water assessment, the City of Galion Public Water System is considered susceptible to agricultural runoff, industrial / commercial sources, and oil gas production activities and transportation related spills. While the source water for the City of Galion Public Water System is considered susceptible to contamination, historically, the Galion Public Water System has effectively treated this source water to meet drinking water quality standards.

The City of Galion has the ability during a water emergency to draw water from the City of Crestline. In 2014 the City of Galion did not use this resource. This report does not contain information on the water quality received from the City of Crestline but a copy of their consumer confidence report can be obtained by contacting Todd Hoffman at (419) 683 - 2673.

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 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, USEPA 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).

**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. USEPA/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).

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Galion Water Plant conducted sampling for various contaminants during 2013. **{Bacteria; inorganics; synthetic organics; volatile organics}** most of which were not detected in the City of Galion water supply. The Ohio EPA requires us to monitor for some contaminants even though their concentrations do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

**Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the City of Galion's drinking water.**

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detection	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>							
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	TT	0.12 100%	0.05-0.12	No	2014	Soil runoff.
Total Organic Carbon	N/A	TT	1.84	1.24-2.80	No	2014	Naturally present in the environment.
<b>Inorganic</b>							
Nitrates (PPM)	10	10	0.54	<0.10-0.54	No	2014	Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride mg/l	4	4	0.209	N/A	No	2014	Erosion of Natural Deposits.
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants</b>							
Alachlor (ppb)	0	2	0.10	N/A	No	2014	Herbicide runoff
Atrazine (ppb)	3	3	0.16	N/A	No	2014	Herbicide runoff
Simazine	4	4	0.050	N/A	No	2014	Herbicide runoff
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>							
Total Trihalomethane TTHMs (PPB)	N/A	80	61.5	26.5- 98.9	No	2014	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Halo acetic Acids HAA5's (PPB)	N/A	60	18.9	12.9 - 27.0	No	2014	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
<b>Residual Disinfectants MRDLG MRDL</b>							
Total Chlorine (mg/l)	4	4	1.16	0.0.91-1.36	No	2014	Water additive used to control microbes.

## **TURBIDITY**

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 .3 NTU in 95% of the daily samples and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time.

## **T.O.C.**

The value reported under “level found” for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) is the lowest running annual average ratio between the percentages of TOC actually removed. A value of greater than (1) indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements. The value reported under “Range of detection” for TOC is the lowest monthly ratio to the highest monthly ratio.

## **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. The City of Galion Water Treatment 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 you 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.state.oh.us/ddagw/labs.aspx> 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 800-426-4719 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

## **T.T.H.M.’s (D.B.P.’s)**

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 TTHMs and HAA5s.”

Some people who drink water-containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

We have a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system.

### **Definitions of some terms contained within this report.**

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.

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 (ug/L) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of 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.

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.  
Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

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

The "<" symbol: A symbol which means less than. A result of <5 means that the lowest level that could be detected was 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.

The ">" symbol: A symbol which means greater than.

**How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?**

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of Galion City Council, which meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month.

**For more information on your drinking water, contact Galion Water Plant (419) 468-1393.**