



The Village of Baltimore Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report For 2008

Introduction:

The Village of Baltimore 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.

Source Water Information:

The Village of Baltimore receives its drinking water from three wells that pump from a sand and gravel aquifer located at the Water Treatment Plant at 302 North Street.

What are sources of contamination to drinking water?

The sources of tap and bottled drinking 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. Water can also 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, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The 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 (EPA) 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 Village of Baltimore conducted sampling for bacteria; inorganic; and synthetic organic. Samples were collected for over 18 different contaminants, most of which were not detected in the Village of Baltimore'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 below is information on those contaminants that were found in the Village of Baltimore's drinking water.

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
Bacteriological							
Total Coliform	0	> 1 Positive Monthly	0	0-1	No	2008	Naturally present in the environment.
Inorganic Contaminants							
Inorganic Antimony, Barium, Beryllium, Cadmium, Chromium, Cyanide, Fluoride, Mercury, Nickel, Selenium, and Thallium	Misc	Mi.sc	Below MCL'S	Misc.	No	2008	Erosion of natural deposits;
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper	1.3	AL=1.3	.236	N/A	No	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	0	AL=15	< 5	N/A	No	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic	0	10 ug/l	<3.0 ug/l	N/A	No	2008	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	10	10	.85	.10-.40	No	2008	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides							
Atrazine	3.0	3.0 ug/l	<.10	< .10	No	2008	Runoff from herbicide used on row

							crops.
Alachlor	2.0	2.0 ug/l	<.20	< .10	No	2008	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.
Simazine	4.0	4.0 ug/l	<.40	< .10	No	2008	Herbicide runoff
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	0	80	39.0	33.5	No	2008	By-Product of Drinking Water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	N/A	60	17.2	9.9	No	2008	By-Product of Drinking Water chlorination.
Residual Disinfectants							
Total Chlorine	MRDL=4 MG/L	MRDLG= 4MG/L	0.82	.53-1.15	NO	2008	Water additive used to control microbes.

Nitrate:

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Arsenic:

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Lead and Copper:

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 Baltimore 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

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 you 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Trihalomethanes:

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.

How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of the Village Council which meets the 2nd and 4th Mondays of each month at 8PM in the Town Hall.

For more information on your drinking water contact our office at 740-862-8550.

We at the Baltimore Water Department work around the clock to provide safe water at every tap. We ask that all of our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future.

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 ($\mu\text{g/L}$) 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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest residual disinfectant level allowed.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of residual disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

Village of Baltimore Water Department