



# 2023 Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

Hard copies of this report are available at the Village of Ashley Water Department,

Request can be made by calling 740.747.2889 ext. 2.

VILLAGE OF ASHLEY WATER DEPARTMENT  
DRINKING WATER CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT  
FOR 2023

## INTRODUCTION

The Village of Ashley has prepared, our annual water quality report covering the period between January 1 to December 31, 2023, 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 Ashley receives its drinking water from the DelCo Water Company, Delaware, Ohio. The main sources of Del-Co water are the Alum Creek Reservoir, Olentangy River, and the Knox County Well field. The Alum Creek Reservoir and Olentangy River are surface water supplies. The Knox County well field is a well water supply in North Western Knox County. The Village of Ashley water supply meets all State and Federal EPA and Health Department rules and regulations.

## 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: (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 run-off and residential uses; (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum productions, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, 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 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 healthcare 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).

## CONTAMINATION FROM CROSS CONNECTIONS

Cross-connections that could contaminate drinking water distribution lines are a major concern. A cross-connection is formed at any point where a drinking water line connects to equipment (boilers), systems containing chemicals (air conditioning systems, fire-sprinkling systems, irrigation systems) or water sources of questionable quality. Cross-connection contamination can occur when the pressure in the equipment or system is greater than the pressure inside the drinking water line (back pressure). Contamination can also occur when the pressure in the drinking water line drops due to fairly routine occurrences (main break, heavy water demand) causing contaminants to be sucked out from the equipment and into the drinking water line (backsiphonage).

Outside water taps and garden hoses tend to be the most common sources of cross-connection contamination at home. The garden hose creates a hazard when submerged in a swimming pool or when attached to a chemical sprayer for weed killing. Garden hoses that are left lying on the ground may be contaminated by fertilizers cesspools or garden chemicals. Improperly installed valves in your toilet could also be a source of cross-connection contamination.

Community water supplies are continuously jeopardized by cross-connections unless appropriate valves, known as backflow prevention devices are installed and maintained. We have surveyed all industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities in the service area to make sure that all potential cross-connections are identified and eliminated or protected by backflow preventer. We also require backflow preventers to be tested annually to provide maximum protection. For more information, visit the website of the American Backflow Prevention Association for a discussion on current issues at [www.abpa.org](http://www.abpa.org).

## HOW DO I PARTICIPATE IN DECISIONS CONCERNING MY DRINKING WATER?

Public participation and comments are encouraged at regular meetings of the Board of Public Affairs which meets on the third Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at 3 N. Harrison St., in Ashley, Ohio.

For more information on your drinking water, contact John Hines 740-747-2889.

### Source Water Assessment

The Del-Co Water Company's primary sources of water are the Olentangy River and the Alum Creek Reservoir. These surface water sources supply water to three of the system's four water treatment plants: the Olentangy Plant, the Ralph E. Scott (Alum Creek) Plant, and the Timothy F. McNamara (Old State) Plant. Surface water is by its nature susceptible to contamination, and there are numerous potential containment sources, including agricultural runoff, oil/gas wells. Inadequate septic systems, leaking underground storage tanks, and road and rail bridge crossings. As a result, the surface water supplied to these plants is considered to have a high susceptibility to contamination.

Del-Co also obtains groundwater from its well field in Knox County, which is treated by the Thomas E. Steward Plant. In October of 2001, the Ohio EPA approved Del-Co's Wellhead/Drinking Water Source Protection Plan for this well field. The source water here is also considered to have a relatively high susceptibility to contamination due to the lack of a significant confining layer above the sand and gravel aquifer, and the presence of numerous potential contamination sources within the protection area. Historically, the Del-Co public water system has effectively treated its source waters to meet drinking water quality standards. By implementing measures to protect the Olentangy River, Alum Creek Reservoir, and the local aquifer, the potential for water quality impacts can be further decreased.

More information on Del-Co water Company's Drink water Source Assessment reports may be obtained by calling Damon Dye at 740.548.4037

## ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Village of Ashley conducted sampling for bacteria, inorganic, radiological, synthetic organic and volatile organic contaminants during 2023. 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, is more than one year old. We have a current, unconditioned license to operate our water systems.

### REGULATED SUBSTANCES

Substance (unit of measure)	Year Sampled	MCL (mrdl)	MCLG (mrdlg)	Amount Detected	Range Low-High	Violation	Typical Source
Atrazine (ppb)	2023	3	3	0.41	0.25-0.46	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Barium (ppm)	2023	2	2	0.013	NA	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2023	[4]	[4]	1.53	1.32-1.89	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	4	4	1.08	0.80-1.26	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive to promote strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids HAA (ppb)	2023	60	NA	7.5	7.3-7.5	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2023	10	10	1.14	0.37-1.14	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Simazine (ppb)	2023	0	0	ND		No	Herbicide runoff
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	2023	80	NA	18.4	17.9-18.4	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon (TOC) <sup>1</sup> (removal ratio)	2023	TT	NA	1.32	1.08-2.12	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity <sup>2</sup> (NTU)	2023	TT	NA	0.25	ND – 0.25	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent)	2023	TT	NA	100	NA	No	Soil runoff

The value reported under Amount Detected for TOC is the lowest ratio between percentage of TOC actually removed to percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of greater than one indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements. A value of less than one indicates a violation of the TOC removal requirements.

### TAP WATER SAMPLES WERE COLLECTED FROM SAMPLE SITES THROUGHOUT THE COMMUNITY

Substance (unit of measure)	Year Sampled	Action Level	MCLG	Amount Detected (90% of Tests were less than or equal to)	Sites Above AL/Total Sites	Violation	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	2023	1.3	1.3	0.18	0/10	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2023	15	0	<2.0	0/10	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

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. Delco Water 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 at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

## DEFINITIONS OF SOME TERMS CONTAINED WITHIN THIS REPORT

**Maximum Containment Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Containment Level (MCL):** The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's 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 (mg/L)** are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

**Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment of 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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's 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 evidences that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**The 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.

**NA:** Non applicable

**ND:** Not detected, indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**NTU:** (Nephelometric Turbidity units) measurement of the clarity or turbidity of the water.

**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 0.3 NTU in 95% of the samples analyzed each month and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time. As reported above, the {Water System Name's} highest recorded turbidity result for {year} was {highest recorded turbidity} NTU and lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was {lowest monthly % samples meeting turbidity limit}.

<sup>3</sup>This contaminant was sampled under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) List 2 requirements.

<sup>4</sup>Under the Stage 2 Disinfectants/Disinfection By-products Rule (D/DBPR), our public water system was required by the U.S. EPA to conduct an evaluation of our distribution system. This is known as an Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE) and is intended to identify locations in our distribution system that have elevated disinfection by-product concentrations. Beginning in 2012, the locations selected for the IDSE may be used for compliance monitoring under Stage 2 DBPR. Disinfection by-products are the result of continuous disinfection of your drinking water and form when disinfectants combine with organic matter that naturally occurs in the source water. Disinfection by-products are grouped into two categories, Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5). The U.S. EPA sets standards for controlling the levels of disinfectants and disinfectant by-products in drinking water, including both TTHMs and HAA5s.