THE CITY OF
TALLMADGE
HISTORY MOVING FORWARD

CITY OF TALLMADGE WATER & SEWER DEPARTMENT

DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

2020

David G. Kline, Mayor
The City of Tallmadge

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Safe Water is our Priority

National Primary Drinking Water Regulation Compliance

The City of Tallmadge has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water, provided by the City of Akron. Water provided by the Akron Public Utilities Bureau and the City of Tallmadge meets the current United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) regulatory requirements by a wide margin.

Water Source

Three impounding reservoirs take surface water from the Upper Cuyahoga River. Water is stored and released from Wendell R. LaDue Reservoir and East Branch Reservoir, both in Geauga County. These reservoirs supplement Lake Rockwell, located in Franklin Township, Portage County, 2.5 miles north of Kent, Ohio. Water from Lake Rockwell is treated at the nearby water supply plant, pumped 11 miles to Akron through three force mains into equalizing reservoirs and distributed to more than 95,000 households. Because 21 percent of the system is at higher elevations, eight districts are supplied by additional pump stations and tanks.

Source Water Contamination

An assessment of The City of Akron source water susceptibility to contamination was completed by Ohio in 2003, and determined that The City of Akron source water has a moderate susceptibility. The report is available upon request. Since the EPA's assessment in 2003, Akron has taken further actions to strengthen the protection of its source water. Potential sources of contamination include agricultural runoff, failing on-site wastewater treatment systems (septic systems), municipal wastewater treatment discharges, and non-point sources. In addition, the source water is susceptible to contamination through derailments, motor vehicle accidents, or spills at sites where the corridor zone is crossed by roads and rail lines, or at fuel storage and vehicle service areas located adjacent to the corridor zone.

Please note that this assessment is based on data available and may not reflect current conditions. Water quality, land uses, and other potential sources of contamination may change over time. Should you need to find your Source Water Assessment Information, contact Ohio EPA.

For further information regarding Akron's source water assessment, please contact Akron Water Supply at 330-678-0077, 1570 Ravenna Road, Kent, OH 44240-6111

Required Health Information

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 animal or human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

1. **Microbial contaminants,** such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
2. **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.
3. **Pesticides and herbicides,** which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
4. **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.
5. **Radioactive contaminants,** which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 one NTU at any time. The Akron Water Supply's highest recorded turbidity result for 2018 was 0.12 NTU and the lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limit resulted in 100% compliance.

KNOW YOUR WATER

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.

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 federal 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, persons 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/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers, 46 North Avenue and on our website at tallmadge-ohio.org

THREE REASONS YOU CAN COUNT ON THE AKRON WATER SUPPLY BUREAU FOR FRESH, CLEAN WATER

1

Watershed Protection

Our experts routinely inspect the water source to help ensure the water supply is clean and safe.

2

Water Treatment

Our certified operating professionals provide an ample supply of high-quality drinking water while striving to exceed all regulatory requirements.

3

24/7 System Maintenance

A skilled team is available days, nights, weekends, and holidays to maintain the water mains and reservoirs so you have water when you need it.

How to Read These Tables

This report is based upon tests conducted in the year 2020 by Akron Public Utilities Bureau. The City of Tallmadge also conducted monthly bacteria, disinfection by-product, and unregulated contaminant monitoring samples for 2020. Terms used in the Water Quality Table and in other parts of this report are defined here.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements 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 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 Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest residual disinfectant level 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 residual 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.

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

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Unit): The units of measurement for turbidity in water as determined by the degree light is scattered at right angles when compared to a standard reference solution.

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

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.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): A common measure of radioactivity.

Contact Time (CT) means the mathematical product of a "residual disinfectant concentration" (C), which is determined before or at the first customer, and the corresponding "disinfectant contact time" (T).

Microcystins: Liver toxins produced by a number of cyanobacteria. Total microcystins are the sum of all the variants/congeners (forms) of the cyanotoxin microcystin.

Cyanobacteria: Photosynthesizing bacteria, also called blue-green algae, which naturally occur in marine and freshwater ecosystems, and may produce cyanotoxins, which at sufficiently high concentrations can pose a risk to public health.

Cyanotoxin: Toxin produced by cyanobacteria. These toxins include liver toxins, nerve toxins, and skin toxins. Also sometimes referred to as "algal toxin".

Detected Level: The average level detected of a contaminant for comparison against the acceptance levels for each parameter. These levels could be the highest single measurement or an average of values, depending on the contaminant.

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

Not Under Ohio EPA Regulation But of General Interest

	Average Detected Level	Range
Alkalinity	78 mg/L	52-100mg/L
Hardness (metric units)	106 mg/L	68-140 mg/L
Hardness (English units)	6 grains per gallon	4 - 8 grains per gallon
pH	7.3 units	7.0-7.9 units
Magnesium	8.48 mg/L	NA, one test in 2020
Manganese	0.012 mg/L	0.010-0.028 mg/L
Calcium	38 mg/L	NA, one test in 2020
Sodium	201 mg/L	NA, one test is 2020
Total solids	223 mg/L	NA, one test in 2020
Temperature (metric units)	13.7° C	2.4-27.0° C
Temperature (English units)	57°F	36-81°F
Total Organic Carbon	2.62 mg/L	1.99—3.25 mg/L

City of Akron Public Water System Test Results

How to read the Water Quality Data Table: EPA establishes the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The table shows the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to regulatory limits. Substances that were tested for, but not detected, are not included in this table. Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the City of Akron drinking water.

	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
Bacteriological Contaminants							
Turbidity (NTU)	N/A	TT	0.12	0.03-0.12	NO	2020	Soil Runoff
Turbidity (% meeting standard)	N/A	TT	100%	100% - 100%	NO	2020	Soil Runoff
Total Organic Carbon (compliance ratio)	N/A	TT	1.48	1.22-1.96	NO	2020	Naturally present in the environment

The value reported under "Level Found" for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) compliance is the lowest running annual average ratio between percentage of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of greater than one (1) indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements. A value of less than one (1) indicates a violation of the TOC removal requirements. The value reported under the "Range" for TOC is the lowest monthly ratio to the highest monthly ratio.

Radioactive Contaminants							
Alpha emitters (picocuries per liter)	0	15	3.6	NA	NO	2016	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium-226/228(picocuries per liter)	0	5 combined	2.0	NA	NO	2016	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium (ppm)	2	2	<0.010	NA	NO	2020	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorite (ppm), avg. of 3 samples in the distribution system	0.8	1.0			NO	2020	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.05	0.71-1.21	NO	2020	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.39	0.04-0.39	NO	2020	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	NA	NA	6.68	6.68-6.68	NO	2020	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chloroform (ppb)	NA	NA	12.6	12.6-12.6	NO	2020	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	NA	NA	0.78	0.78-0.78	NO	2020	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Residual Disinfectants							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0			NO	2020	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide (µg/l)	MRDLG = 800	MRDL = 800	70	20-70	NO	2020	Water additive used to control microbes

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The City of Akron Water Supply Bureau conducted sampling for bacteria, algal toxins, inorganic, synthetic organic contaminants, and volatile organic contaminants in 2020. The City of Tallmadge also conducted monthly bacteria, disinfection by-product, and unregulated contaminant monitoring samples for 2020. Samples were tested for 96 different contaminants, most of which were not detected in the Akron 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.

The complete listing of "2019 All Water Tests" performed on Akron drinking water is available at akronohio.gov/cms/Water/CCR or call 330-678-0077.

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 Akron Water Supply Bureau 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 1-800-426-4791 or at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

For more information, call the City of Tallmadge Water & Sewer Department at 330-633-0851. This report is also available on our website at tallmadge-ohio.org/ccr

Public Water System License #OH7704703

City of Tallmadge Public Water System Test Results

	MCLG	PQL	Average Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Year Sampled
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 4						
Manganese (ppb) (entry point)	NA	0.40	12.3	9.8-14.8	NO	2019
HAA5 distribution system (March)	NA	0.20	21.82	17.3-26.54	NO	2019
HAA6BR distribution system (March)	NA	0.30	8.67	7.56-10.2	NO	2019
HAA9 distribution system (March)	NA	0.20	29.82	24.49-35.6	NO	2019
HAA5 distribution system (June)	NA	0.20	67.64	54.88-80.58	NO	2019
HAA6BR distribution system (June)	NA	0.30	16.63	16.08-17.38	NO	2019
HAA5 distribution system (June)	NA	0.20	82.81	69.38-96.48	NO	2019

About Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 4
Our utility is committed to protecting public health and meets or surpasses all state and federal health standards for tap water, To help advance the science of drinking water, the rule was effective in the Federal Register on January 19, 2017 and we collected data for the EPA in 2019. Collecting information about the occurrence of these compounds in water supplies is the first step in the EPA's efforts to determine whether they should be regulated. The presence of a compound does not necessarily equate to a health risk; the concentration of a compound is a far more important factor in determining whether there are health implications. We will closely monitor both the concentrations of these compounds and the EPA's health studies and will keep you informed of any developments. Should the EPA ultimately determine that regulation is warranted, we will take whatever steps are necessary to protect the health of our customers. Detected results are listed above. For a copy of all results, please call 330-633-0851.

	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
Volatile Organic Chemicals							
Haloacetic Acids HAA5 (ppb)	N/A	60 running annual avg.	23.48	14.8-29.7	NO	2020	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes TTHMs (ppb)	N/A	80 running annual avg.	69.70	23.9-94.8	NO	2020	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Residual Disinfectants							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4.0	1.7	1.23-2.27	NO	2020	Water additive used to control microbes

	Action Level	Individual Results over the AL	90% of test levels were less than	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
Lead and Copper						
Copper (ppm), customers' taps	1.3 ppm	0	0.2526	NO	2020	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
	Zero out of 30 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper Action Level of 1.3 ppm					
Lead (ppb), routine compliance, at consumers' taps	15 ppb	1	0	NO	2020	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
	One out of 30 samples was found to have lead levels in excess of the Action Level of 15 ppb					

The City of Tallmadge has a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system.

For more information, call the City of Tallmadge Water & Sewer Department at 330-633-0851. This report is also available on our website at tallmadge-ohio.org/ccr