



## CITY OF OBETZ DRINKING WATER CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT FOR 2023

### PLANT

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Obetz prides itself on providing you with quality drinking water, and each year we send you this report so that you can monitor the quality of the water you receive. Once again, our water surpassed the strict regulations of both the United States and Ohio Environmental Protection Agencies (USEPA and OEPA). 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

For the area of Obetz in which you live, the City draws its drinking water from two wells located behind our water treatment plant at 2465 Stegner Road. The City of Obetz also has a back-up connection with the City of Columbus. This report does not contain information on the quality of water received from the City of Columbus; but a copy of their consumer confidence report can be obtained by contacting Marty Ryan at 614.491.5733.

The OEPA completed a study of the City's source of drinking water to identify potential contaminant sources and provide guidance on protecting the drinking water. According to this study, the aquifer (water rich zone) that supplies water to the City has a moderate susceptibility to contamination. This determination is based on the following:

1. Presence of a moderately thick protective layer of clay overlaying the aquifer;
2. No evidence to suggest that ground water has been impacted by any significant levels of chemical contaminants from human activities; and,
3. The presence of potential contaminant sources in the protection area.

This susceptibility means that under currently existing conditions, the likelihood of the aquifer becoming contaminated is moderate. This likelihood can be minimized by implementing appropriate protective measures. For a copy of the source water assessment call 614-491-6770 or visit:

<http://wwwapp.epa.ohio.gov/gis/swpa/0 H 2502212. pdf>

The City of Obetz also has an emergency connection with the City of Columbus meaning that if our water plant ever experiences a problem, we can access City of Columbus water. This emergency connection was not needed in 2022.

#### 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 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, USE PA 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).

## 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 OEPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The City of Obetz conducted sampling for contaminants during 2022. Samples were collected for a total of eight different contaminants most of which were not detected in the City of Obetz water supply. The OEPA 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.

## LEAD EDUCATION

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 Obetz 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 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## LICENSE TO OPERATE (LTO) STATUS INFORMATION

In 2022, we had an unconditional license to operate our water system.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION INFORMATION

Public participation and comments are encouraged at regular meetings of the City of Obetz Council, which meets on the Second, and Fourth Mondays of each month at 6:00 PM in the Council Chambers located at 4175 Alum Creek Drive, Obetz, Ohio. For more information on your drinking water, contact E. Rod Davisson, City Administrator at 614.409.4403.

## 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.

## PFAS TESTING

In 2021, our PWS was sampled as part of the State of Ohio's Drinking Water Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Sampling Initiative. Six PFAS compounds were sampled, and none were detected in our finished drinking water. For more information about PFAS, please visit [pfas.ohio.gov](https://pfas.ohio.gov).

- 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.
- Secondary Maximum Contaminant level (SMCL): A non-enforceable numerical limit set by the USEPA for a contaminant based on aesthetic effects to prevent an undesirable taste, odor, or appearance.
- 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.

- Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- PFAS: Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals applied to many industrial, commercial and consumer products to make them waterproof, stain resistant, or nonstick. PFAS are also used in products like cosmetics, fast food packaging, and a type of firefighting foam called aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) which are used mainly on large spills of flammable liquids, such as jet fuel. PFAS are classified as contaminants of emerging concern, meaning that research into the harm they may cause to human health is still ongoing.

Substances we Detected	Collection Date	Obetz System OH2502212		What's allowed	Goal	Violation	Where did it come from
		Highest Level Found	Range				
Chlorine (ppm)	2023	0.759	0.45-0.9	MRDL = 4	MRDL = 4	No	Disinfectant
Arsenic (ppb)	2023	4.2	0.1-4.2	10	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2023	0.144	0.144-0.144	2	2	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Flouride (ppm)	2023	0.49	0.49-0.49	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	2023	0.23	.226 - .23	10	10	No	Agricultural Fertilizer Run-off
Substances We Detected		Concentration for 90%	# of sites over AL	Action Level	Goal		Where did it come from
Copper (ppm) Jan-Jun	2023	0.281	0 out of 20	1.3	1.3	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb) Jan-Jun	2023	0.6	0 out of 20	15	15	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
0 out of 20 samples were found to have Copper levels in excess of the Coppers action level							
0 out of 20 samples were found to have Lead levels in excess of the Lead action level							
Copper (ppm) July-Dec	2023	0.511	0 out of 20	1.3	1.3	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb) July-Dec	2023	0.4	0 out of 20	15	15	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
0 out of 20 samples were found to have Copper levels in excess of the Coppers action level							
0 out of 20 samples were found to have Lead levels in excess of the Lead action level							