



## CITY OF OBETZ

### DRINKING WATER CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT FOR 2024

#### 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 Jordan Doll 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 the 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.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations which limit the number 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 some small amounts of 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 people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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 2024. 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 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.

## Monitoring & Reporting Violation

Obetz Village was cited in violation for failure to collect entry point water quality parameters causing them to be outside of the 14-day frequency requirement. On July 26, 2024, Obetz Village called to notify that samples were pulled and updated their May Monthly Operating Report (MOR) with the missing WQP data collected on May 30, 2024. The updated MOR shows that all WQP data has been collected on time. Since this missing data was submitted to Ohio EPA after the 10 days following the month in which the results were received, entry point water quality parameter data was reported late for the January – June 2024 monitoring period. Obetz Village is now only in violation of OAC Rule 3745-81-90 (A)(1) for failure to report required water quality parameter sampling to Ohio EPA within ten days following the end of the month in which the system received the sample results. As stated above, entry point WQP data was submitted late. WQP monitoring in the distribution system was also reported late. It was collected in the distribution system during May 2024, but was not reported to Ohio EPA until July 24, 2024. Water quality parameter data was not submitted to Ohio EPA within 10 days' NOTICE OF VIOLATION – ACTION REQUIRED following the end of the month in which sample results were received. Therefore, the entry point and distribution WQP data was reported late for the January – June 2024 monitoring period.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail

Obetz village Failed to [Develop and/or Make Public] an Initial Service Line Inventory

Our water system recently violated a drinking water requirement. As our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did (are doing) to correct this situation.

We were required to develop and make publicly available an initial inventory of service lines connected to our distribution system by October 16, 2024. Our system failed to submit this initial inventory of service lines to Ohio EPA by October 16, 2024. Our Inventory has since been submitted on November 20, 2024, and was approved by Ohio EPA on January 27, 2025. The inventory must identify the service line materials as lead galvanized requiring replacement (GRR), lead-status unknown/unknown, or non-lead. Identifying and ultimately removing lead and GRR service lines is an important way to protect public health. The inventory is available for your viewing at <https://obetz.oh.us/education/>

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

Listed below are some steps you can take to reduce your exposure to lead:

- Learn what your service line material is. Contact us at [phone number and/or email address] or a licensed plumber to determine if the pipe that connects your home to the water main (called a service line) is made from lead, galvanized, or other materials. [For systems replacing lead service lines consider the following text: "To find out about what we are doing to replace lead service lines, please visit [website] or contact us at [phone number and/or email address.]" Protect Your Tap: A quick check for lead is the EPA's online step by step guide to learn how to find lead pipes in your home ([www.epa.gov/pyt](http://www.epa.gov/pyt)).
- Learn about construction in your neighborhood. Unless your service line is not made of lead or galvanized you should be aware of any nearby construction or maintenance work that could disturb the line. Ground tremors from construction may suddenly cause more lead to be released from lead or galvanized service lines in the area.

- Use your filter properly. Using a filter can reduce lead in drinking water. If you use a filter, make sure you use a filter certified to remove lead. Read the directions to learn how to properly install and use your cartridge and when to replace it. Using the cartridge after it has expired can make it less effective at removing lead. Do not run hot water through the filter.
- Clean your aerator. Regularly remove and clean your faucet's screen (also known as an aerator). Sediment, debris, and lead particles can collect in your aerator. If lead particles are caught in the aerator, lead can get into your water.
- Use cold water. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Remember, boiling water does not remove lead from water.
- Run your water. The more time water has been sitting in pipes, the more lead it may contain. Before drinking, flush your home's pipes by running the tap, taking a shower, doing laundry, or doing a load of dishes. The amount of time to run the water will depend on whether your home has a lead service line or not, and the length of the lead service line. Residents should contact their water utility for recommendations about flushing times in their community.
- Have your water tested. Contact your water utility to have your water tested and to learn more about the lead levels in your drinking water.

Service line inventories are the foundation from which water systems take action to address a significant source of lead in drinking water. Establishing an inventory of service line materials and identifying the location of lead and GRR service lines is a key step in getting them replaced and protecting public health. Typically, lead enters water supplies by leaching from lead pipes, brass faucets, plumbing with leaded solder, and other plumbing components containing lead. In homes with lead pipes that connect the home to the water main, also known as lead service lines, these pipes are typically the most significant source of lead in the water. Lead pipes are more likely to be found in older cities and homes built before 1986. Service lines made of galvanized iron or steel that are (or were previously) downstream of lead service lines are classified as galvanized requiring replacement (GRR) because galvanized service lines that are or ever were downstream from an LSL can adsorb lead and contribute to lead in drinking water. Identifying and ultimately removing lead and GRR service lines is an important way to protect public health.

## **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>.

### **Lead Service Line Inventory**

Per the Lead and Copper Rules, Public Water Systems were required to develop and maintain a Service Line Inventory. A service line is the underground pipe that supplies your home or building with water. To view the Service Line Inventory, which lists the material type(s) for your location, you can visit <https://obetz.oh.us/education/>. If you are a resident in "Unknown" status, please call 614-491-1080 to schedule an appointment to verify service line material.

## **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 meet 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.

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 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 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)	2024	0.6775	.43-.89	MRDL = 4	MRDL = 4	No	Disinfectant
Arsenic (ppb)	2024	4	0-4	10	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	2024	23.6	12.3-23.6	80	No Goal	No	By-products of disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acid (ppb)	2024	6.2	2.9-6.2	60	No Goal	No	By-products of disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2024	0.264	.26-.264	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	2024	0.934	0 out of 20	1.3 ppm	1.3	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb) Jan-Jun	2024	0.5	0 out of 20	15 ppb	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	2024	0.079	0 out of 20	1.3 ppm	1.3	No	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb) July-Dec	2024	0.4	0 out of 20	15 ppb	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							