

## We've Come a Long Way

nce again, we are proud to present our annual water quality report covering the period between January 1 and December 31, 2021. In a matter of only a few decades, drinking water has become exponentially safer and more reliable than at any other point in human history. Our exceptional staff continues to work hard every day—at all hours—to deliver the highest-quality drinking water without interruption. Although the challenges ahead are many, we feel that by relentlessly investing in customer outreach and education, new treatment technologies, system upgrades, and training, the payoff will be reliable, high-quality tap water delivered to you and your family.

### **Source Water Assessment**

The state performed an assessment of our source water in 2003. It was determined that the aquifer supplying drinking water to Byesville has a

high susceptibility to contamination, although there is no evidence to suggest that groundwater has been impacted by any significant levels of chemical contaminants from human activities. This conclusion is based on the presence of only a thin protective layer of clay overlying the aquifer

and the presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area. Please contact the Water Superintendent at (740) 685-0800 if you would like more information about the Source Water Assessment Plan.



## **Community Participation**

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 221 East Main Street, Byesville.

### **Important Health Information**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or water. epa.gov/drink/hotline.

## **Lead in Home Plumbing**

When the well is dry, we know the worth of water.

—Benjamin Franklin

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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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 two 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. A list of laboratories certified in the State of Ohio to test for lead may be found at epa.ohio.gov/ddagw or by calling (614) 644-2752. 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 epa.gov/safewater/lead.

### Where Does My Water Come From?

The Village of Byesville Water receives its drinking water from underground mine aquifers. It also has an emergency connection with the City of Cambridge. This connection was not utilized in 2021. This report does not contain information about the water received from the City of Cambridge, but a copy of its Consumer

a copy of its Consumer Confidence Report can be obtained by calling (740) 439-2130.

QUESTIONS? For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Kendal Weisend, Water Department Superintendent, at (740) 685-2816.

## **Substances That Could Be in Water**

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that 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 these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;

Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

# BY THE NUMBERS



The number of Americans who receive water from a public water system.

300 MILLION

1 MILLION

The number of miles of drinking water distribution mains in the U.S.

The number of gallons of water produced daily by public water systems in the U.S.

34
BILLION

135

The amount of money spent annually on maintaining the public water infrastructure in the U.S.

The number of active public water systems in the U.S.

151

199
THOUSAND

The number of highly trained and licensed water professionals serving in the U.S.

The age in years of the world's oldest water, found in a mine at a depth of nearly two miles.

2 BILLION

### **Water Conservation Tips**

You can play a role in conserving water and saving yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

#### **Test Results**

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule. Also, the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we show only those substances that were detected in our water. (A complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request.) Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less often than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

Note that we have a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES							· ·		
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE		
Barium (ppm)	2021	2	2	0.026	0.026-0.026	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits		
Chlorine (ppm)	2021	[4]	[4]	1.38	0.32-2.44	No	Water additive used to control microbes		
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs]-Stage 1 (ppb)	2021	60	NA	22.75	4.48-33.6	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection		
Nitrate (ppm)	2021	10	10	0.22	<0.1-0.22	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits		
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes]-Stage 1 (ppb)	2021	80	NA	30.43	16.4–45.4	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection		
Turbidity¹ (NTU)	2021	TT	NA	0.5	0.03-0.5	No	Soil runoff		
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2021	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	100	NA	No	Soil runoff		
Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community.									
SUBSTANCE YEAR AMOUNT DETECTED (UNIT OF MEASURE) SAMPLED AL MCLG (90TH %ILE)	RANGE			/IOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE				

(UNIT OF MEASURE)	SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	(90TH %ILE)	HIGH	AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2021	1.3	1.3	0.439	0.0108-1.39	1/20	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2021	15	0	ND	ND-5.78	0/20	No	Lead service lines; Corrosion of household plumbing systems, including fittings and fixtures;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

### **Definitions**

**90th** %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

**AL** (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a 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.

NA: Not applicable.

Erosion of natural deposits

**ND** (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**ppb** (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

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