

Village of Belmont Public Water System
Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report
For {2023}

The ***Village of Belmont Public Water System*** has prepared the following report 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.

The ***Village of Belmont Public Water System*** receives its drinking water from wells located Northeast of town. Water from the wells is treated with chlorine at the well-head. Water is also purchased from Belmont County Sanitary Sewer District. ***Belmont County Sanitary Sewer District*** draws water from wells located near SR 7. This water is treated with both chlorine and fluoride. More information about county water may be obtained by calling 740-695-3144.

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

- *the presence of a thin protective layer of clay overlaying the aquifer.
- *There is no evidence that the water has been impacted by any significant levels of chemical contaminants from human activities; and
- *potential significant contaminant sources exist within the protection areas.

This susceptibility means that under currently existing conditions, the likelihood of the aquifer becoming contaminated is relatively high. This likelihood can be minimized by implementing appropriate protective measures. For more information about source water assessment or what consumers can do to help protect the aquifer is available by contacting Doug Frye at 740-238-1626.

The ***Village of Belmont*** also has an ***Auxiliary*** connection with ***Belmont County***. During ***2023*** we obtained water from this connection to supplement the Villages wells. This report does not contain information on the water quality received from ***Belmont County***, but a copy of their consumer confidence report can be obtained by contacting ***740-695-3144***.
In 2023 we had an unconditioned license to operate our water system."

How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of ***The Village of Belmont's Water Board*** which meets the first Thursday each month at 11:00 A.M. For more information on your drinking water contact ***The Village of Belmont at 740-484-1154***.

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 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).

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).

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The **Village of Belmont** conducted sampling for ***bacteria, inorganic, and disinfection*** contaminants during **2023**. Samples were also collected for lead and copper contamination. Samples were collected for a total of different contaminants most of which were not detected in the **Village of Belmont** 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.

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS TABLE FOR 2023

Contaminant (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Max Level Found	Range of Detections	Violations	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
<i>Residual Disinfectants</i>							
Chlorine (ppm)	4	MRDL = 4	0.6	0.38-1.21	NO	2023	Water additive used to control microbes.
<i>Inorganic Contaminants</i>							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.167	0.167	NO	2020	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	1.0	0.546-0.546	NO	2023	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage;
Nitrate/Nitrite (ppm)	2	2	1.3	1.3	NO	2020	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium (PPM)	2	2	0.075	0.075	NO	2020	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	0	AL = 15	NA	90 th Percentile= 1.55	NO	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits.
	Zero out of 7 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb						
Copper (ppm)	1.3	AL=1.3	NA	90 th percentile= 0.076	NO	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
	Zero out of 7 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.						
<i>Disinfectant Byproducts</i>							
TTHMS (ppb) (Total Trihalomethane)	0	80	18	5.83-29.6	NO	2023	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
HAA5 (ppb) (Halo acetic Acids)	0	60	9	7.93-10.2	NO	2023	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.

Definitions of some terms contained within this report.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- The “<” symbol: A symbol which means less than.

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 Village of Belmont** 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>.

All water systems were required to begin compliance with a new rule, the Revised Total Coliform Rule, on April 1, 2016. The new rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of total coliform bacteria, which includes E. coli bacteria. The U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection under the new rule, as it requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. As a result, under the new rule there is no longer a maximum contaminant level violation for multiple total coliform detections. Instead, the new rule requires water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences to conduct an assessment to determine if any significant deficiencies exist. If found, these must be corrected by the PWS.