**Village of Bowerston**
Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report
Report For **2024**

The Village of Bowerston 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.

**Where does my water come from?**

The Village of Bowerston receives its drinking water from three ground water wells located near the Bowerston Village Park. The water treatment plant is also located near the park close to the well field. Chlorination and treatment of the well water take place at the plant facility. The treatment consists of iron, manganese, and odor removal. The treated water is housed in three 100,000 gallon storage tanks located throughout the distribution system.

**Source water assessment and its availability:**

The Ohio EPA completed a study of the Village of Bowerston's drinking water source to identify potential sources of contamination and to provide guidance on protecting the drinking water supply. According to the study, the aquifer, or water rich-zone supplies water to the consumers has a moderate susceptibility to contamination. This susceptibility rating is due to a relatively thin protective layer of clay/shale overlying the aquifer and the presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area. Copies of the source water assessment report prepared for the Village of Bowerston are available by contacting Bowerston Village Hall located at 205 Water Alley in Bowerston by calling (740)269-1546 for an appointment.

**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, 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).

**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 EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Village of Bowerston conducted sampling for bacteria, copper, lead, synthetic organic compounds, volatile organic compounds, and inorganic compounds during 2024. Samples were collected for a total of 45 different contaminants most of which were not detected in the Village of Bowerston 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.

## Table of Detected Contaminants

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the Village of Bowerston drinking water.

**TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS**

| Contaminant (units) | MCLG or MRDLG | MCL or MRDL | Level Found | Range of Detections | Violation? | Year Sampled | Typical Source of Contaminants |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Radioactive Contaminants** | | | | | | | |
| Alpha Emitters (pCi/l) | 0 | 15 | 3.15 | | no | 2021 | Natural Deposits |
| Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L) | 0 | 5 | .599 | | no | 2021 | Natural Deposits |
| **Inorganic Contaminants** | | | | | | | |
| Barium (mg/l) | 2.0 | 2.0 | 0.278 | | no | 2024 | Natural Deposits |
| **Synthetic Organic Contaminants, including Pesticides and Herbicides** | | | | | | | |
| None Detected | | | | | | | |
| **Volatile Organic Contaminants** | | | | | | | |
| Bromodichloromethane (mg/l) | 0 | 0.080 | .00168 | | no | 2024 | disinfection |
| Dibromochloromethane (mg/l) | 0 | 0.080 | 0.00177 | | no | 2024 | disinfection |
| Chloroform (mg/l) | 0 | 0.080 | 0.00101 | | no | 2024 | disinfection |
| **Residual Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts** | | | | | | | |
| Chlorine (mg/l average) | 1.0 | 4.0 | 1.40 | | no | 2024 | disinfection |
| **Lead and Copper** | | | | | | | |
| **Contaminant (units)** | **Action Level (AL)** | **MCLG** | **Individual Results over the AL** | **90TH Percentile Value** | **Violation?** | **Year Sampled** | **Typical Source of Contaminants** |
| Lead (ppb) | 15 | 0 | 0 | 2.895 | no | 2024 | plumbing |
| | _0_ out of _5_ samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb. | | | | | | |
| Copper (ppm) | 1.3 | 0 | 0 | 0.2285 | no | 2024 | plumbing |
| | _0_ out of _5_ samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the lead action level of 1.3 ppm. | | | | | | |

*Include the following if Beta was detected: EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

### Lead Educational Information

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 Bowerston 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. The Village of Bowerston has zero lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown service lines in the distribution system. This was confirmed by reviewing mapping and construction data, potholing and visually inspecting distribution lines, customer visual line inspections and customer plumbing surveys. 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 view this by visiting https://villageofbowerston.org online or by visiting Bowerston Village Hall located at 205 Water Alley in Bowerston by calling (740)269-1546 for an appointment.

## Significant Deficiencies

We were informed by the Ohio EPA of a significant deficiency, the deficiency was that flood waters surround the water plant during times of flooding in low areas. This had been identified on March 22, 2022. We were directed to correct the deficiency within thirty days, but we failed to do so. We have implemented a plan to relocate the water treatment plant to a higher location with no impact from flooding. This plan is currently under engineer design and has much of the funding required in processing. This plan is scheduled to be executed as soon as all design and funding is finalized as prescribed by the Ohio EPA.

### License to Operate (LTO) Status Information

In 2024 we had an unconditioned license to operate our water system.

## Public Participation and Contact Information

**How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?**
Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of the Village of Bowerston which meets the third Tuesday of every month at 6:00 PM at Bowerston Village Hall. For more information on your drinking water contact Jeremiah Warner at (740)269-9252.

## Definitions of some terms contained within this report.

**{Mandatory Definitions}**

- **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.

- **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.

**Definitions Required if term is used within the CCR. {Required if used within CCR}**

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

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

- **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".

- **Level 1 Assessment** is a study of the water system to identify the potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

- **Level 2 Assessment** is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

- **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.

- **Master Meter (MM):** A master meter is one that connects a wholesale public water system to consecutive public water system(s). This type of meter monitors the amount of water being sent to the consecutive system(s) and can also be used to determine the quality of water being delivered to the consecutive system(s).

- **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.