

# Your Drinking Water: The Wellington 2017 Consumer Confidence Report

## Is my water safe?

In 2017, as in years past, your tap water met or exceeded U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) drinking water health standards, with the exception of one parameter, as listed below. The Wellington Water Department vigilantly safeguards the quality of its water supplies, and will continue to do so in the future.

## Do I need 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 infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (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 (800-426-4791).

In 2017, the Wellington PWS was in violation for exceeding the locational running annual average (LRAA) maximum contaminant level (MCL) standard of **0.080 mg/l** as established in the **Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) sect. 3745-81-12 for TTHM**. Our 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter (July – September) LRAA was **0.081 mg/l** at location DS201 (Pitts Rd.). The Running Annual Average (RAA) for 2017 was **0.075 mg/l**. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

## Where does my water come from?

The Wellington Water System draws water from the Wellington Up-ground Reservoir. Our watershed drains into the West Branch of the Black River, and is fed by runoff from the southwest part of Lorain County and parts of Ashland and Huron Counties. The Water Treatment Plant was placed in service in 1996, and includes chemical coagulation, flocculation, disinfection with chlorine, fluoridation, pH adjustment, and incorporates multiple phase filtration, including activated carbon filters.

## License To Operate (LTO) Information:

All community Public Water Systems (PWS) are required to report the status of their LTO in the CCR for that given year. For 2017, the OEPA issued a “Green” LTO to the Village of Wellington PWS. This means that Wellington has a current, unconditional license to operate the water system.

## Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 (800-426-4791)**. 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. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. Pesticides and herbicides may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and residential uses. Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm-water runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

**The Wellington Drinking Water Source Assessment information prepared by the OEPA (can be found online at: <http://wwwapp.epa.ohio.gov/gis/swpa/OH4701511.pdf>).**

For the purposes of source water assessments, all surface waters are considered to be susceptible to contamination. By their nature surface waters are accessible and can be readily contaminated by chemicals and pathogens with relatively short travel times from the source to the intake. Based on the information compiled for this assessment, the Village of Wellington drinking water source protection area is susceptible to agricultural runoff from animal feedlots, oil and gas wells, failing home and commercial septic systems, new housing and commercial development that could increase runoff from roads and parking lots, and numerous roads over the stream.

## Information on Lead in Drinking Water:

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 Wellington 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 thirty 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 <http://www.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 at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## How can I get involved?

Because drinking water is a concern for everyone, it is expected that the community as a whole be involved in the protection and

maintenance of the water supply as a viable resource now and far into the future. We in the water department are charged with the responsibility of providing you with a safe drinking water while preserving the integrity of the environment from which we draw this marvelous resource. The need for communication and cooperation between the water utility and the community is clear and vital as a means of accomplishing this goal. In Wellington, the Village Administrator oversees the business of the utilities departments, of which Water is one. Meetings of the Village Council are conducted twice per month at the Town Hall, and present you with a forum for communicating concern. More information on these meetings is available at **440-647-4626**. (*see contact information below*)

## Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

### Important Drinking Water Definitions:

**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.

**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.

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

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

| Contaminants (Units)  | MCLG               | MCL               | Max Level Found | Range of Detections | Violation | Sample Year | Typical Source of Contaminants                                  |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|-----------|-------------|---|
| <b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>   |                    |                   |                 |                     |           |             |   |
| Turbidity (NTU)   | NA                 | TT<=0.3           | 0.26            | 0.04-0.26           | No        | 2017        | Soil runoff   |
| Turbidity ( % samples meeting standard )  | NA                 | TT                | 100% (1)        | 100% (2)            | No        | 2017        |   |
| <b>Turbidity</b> is a measure of the cloudiness of water and is an indication of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity limit set by the EPA is 0.3 NTU in 95% of the samples/mo., and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time. The Wellington Water Plant <b>highest recorded turbidity result for 2017 was 0.257 NTU</b> and the (1) <b>lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%</b> . In 2017, <b>1748 out of 1748</b> recorded results met or were below the 0.3 NTU standard, for (2) an <b>annual percentage of 100%</b> . <b>There was no Turbidity violation in 2017.</b> |                    |                   |                 |                     |           |             |   |
| <b>Inorganic Contaminants: System Lead and Copper last req'd. in 2015, due again in September, 2018</b>   |                    |                   |                 |                     |           |             |   |
| <b>Lead (ppb):</b>  | 0                  | AL = 15           | 14.0            | <4.0 - 14.0         | No        | 2015        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems.                        |
| None of the twenty samples taken was found to have lead levels in excess of the action level of 15 ppb.   |                    |                   |                 |                     |           |             |   |
| <b>Copper (ppb):</b>  | 1.3                | AL =1300          | 287             | <4 - 287            | No        | 2015        | Corrosion of household plumbing systems.                        |
| None of the twenty samples taken was found to exceed the action level of 1300 ppb.  |                    |                   |                 |                     |           |             |   |
| <b>Flouride (ppm)</b>   | 4                  | 4                 | 1.20            | 0.80 - 1.18         | No        | 2017        | Water additive which promotes strong teeth                      |
| <b>Nitrates (ppm)</b>   | 10.0               | 10.0              | 0.25            | < 0.2 - 0.25        | No        | 2017        | Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from fertilizer use, sewage |
| <b>Barium (ppm)</b>   | 2                  | 2                 | 0.026           | NA                  | No        | 2017        | Erosion of natural deposits, Discharge from drilling waste      |
| <b>Volatile Organic Contaminants (VOCs)</b>   |                    |                   |                 |                     |           |             |   |
| <b>TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes, ppb):</b>  |                    |                   |                 |                     |           |             |   |
| Pitts Rd. only:   | NA                 | Avg. < 80         | RAA: 70.12      | 55.2 – 82.7         | No        | 2017        | By-product of drinking water chlorination                       |
| North Main (system exc. Pitts Rd.):   | NA                 | Avg. < 80         | RAA: 74.93      | 61.4 – 103.4        | No        | 2017        |   |
| <b>Haloacetic Acids (ppb)</b>   | NA                 | Avg. < 60         | RAA: 25.2       | 16.5 - 40.5         | No        | 2017        | By-product of drinking water chlorination.                      |
| <b>Total Chlorine</b>   | <b>MRDLG = 4.0</b> | <b>MRDL = 4.0</b> | 3.1             | 0.80 -2.80          | No        | 2017        | Water additive used to control microbes.                        |

### Units Description:

NA: Not applicable

ND: Not detected

NR: Not reported

ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l) - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l) - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units.

### Other:

MRDLG: Max. Residual Disinfectant Level Goal

MRDL: Max. Residual Disinfectant Level

MNR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

RAA: Running Annual Avg.

### For more information contact:

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