

# Village of Lithopolis Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report for 2008

## **Introduction**

The Village of Lithopolis has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included with 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**

The Village of Lithopolis receives its drinking water from three wells. The wells are located at the water plant at 5664 Elder Road. In 2002, Ohio EPA completed a study of the Village of Lithopolis' 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 has a high susceptibility to contamination. This determination is based on the following:

1. The presence of a relatively thin protective layer of clay overlying the aquifer;
2. The shallow depth (less than 15 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer;
3. The presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area.

There is currently no evidence to suggest that the Village's ground water has been impacted by any significant levels of chemical contaminants from human activities.

However, this susceptibility means that under currently existing conditions, the likelihood of the aquifer becoming contaminated is relatively high. OEPA has determined that this likelihood can be minimized by implementing appropriate protective measures. To minimize this risk, the Village of Lithopolis continues to participate in the Fairfield County Regional Drinking Water Source Protection Plan.

More information about the source water assessment, the Fairfield County Regional Drinking Water Source Protection Plan, or what consumers can do to help protect the aquifer is available by calling the Village office, or by contacting the Ohio EPA at 614-644-2752 or by accessing Ohio EPA's Source Water Protection Web page at <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw/pdu/swap.html>.

## **What are sources of contamination to drinking water?**

The sources of drinking water both tap 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 sources of 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 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 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. In addition, FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which also 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## Lead Education 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 Lithopolis is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in residential 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## 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, 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 provider. 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 Hot Line (1-800-426-4791).

## About your drinking water

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Village of Lithopolis conducted sampling for bacteria, iron, hardness, manganese, sodium, nitrate, nitrite, haloacetic acids, synthetic organic contaminants, organic contaminants, inorganic contaminants, volatile organic contaminants, and total trihalomethanes during 2008. Samples were collected for a total of 50 different contaminants, most of which were not detected in the Village's water supply. The Ohio EPA requires the Village to monitor for 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.

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were detected in the Village of Lithopolis' drinking water.

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
<b><i>Volatile Organic Chemicals</i></b>							
Chloroform	N/A	N/A	3.3 ug/l	N/A	No	2008	Byproduct of Drinking water chlorination.
Bromodichloromethane	N/A	N/A	2.9 ug/l	N/A	No	2008	Byproduct of Drinking water chlorination.
Dibromochloromethane	0	N/A	1.8 ug/l	N/A	No	2008	Byproduct of Drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethane (TTHMs)	N/A	80 ug/l	8.0 ug/l	N/A	No	2008	Byproduct of Drinking water chlorination.
Dichloroacetic acid	N/A	N/A	1.5 ug/l	N/A	No	2008	Byproduct of Drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5]	N/A	60 ug/l	1.5 ug/l	N/A	No	2008	Byproduct of Drinking water chlorination.
Total Chlorine	4.0 mg/l	MRDL =4	1.05	0.75-1.05	No	2008	Water additive used to control microbes.
<b><i>Radioactive Contaminants</i></b>							
Radium		5 pci/l	1pci/l	N/A	No	2008	Erosion of natural deposits
Alpha, total		15 pci/l	3pci/l	N/A	No	2008	Erosion of natural deposits

<b><i>Inorganic Contaminants</i></b>							
Lead (ppb)*	N/A	AL=15	6.7	N/A	No	2006	Corrosion of Plumbing
Copper (ppm)*	N/A	AL=1.3	0.186	N/A	No	2006	Corrosion of Plumbing
*Zero out of ten samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm. *Zero out of ten samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.							
<b><i>Synthetic Organics</i></b>							
Simazine	N/A	4.0 ug/l	< 0.40 ug/l	N/A	No	2008	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Atrazine	N/A	3.0 ug/l	< 0.20 ug/l	N/A	No	2008	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops

## How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of the Lithopolis Village Council which meets the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 7:30 o'clock P.M. in the Municipal Building, located at 5 E. Columbus Street.

## Definitions of 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 that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**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 (ug/L):** Are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

**ACTION LEVEL (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**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.

**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.

**PICOCURRIES PER LITER (pCi/L):** A common measure of radioactivity.