

# 2023 Drinking Water Consumer Report

The Village of New Athens has prepared this report on the quality of drinking water as part of the safe drinking water act reauthorization of 1996. "We have a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system." The following information will provide water quality test results about the water system.

The New Athens Water system receives its potable water from the Belmont County Water & Sewer District - District 3. Belmont County Water & Sewer District - District 3 water supply is located North of Bellaire, Ohio, from a well that is supplied by the aquifer in the region.

## WHAT ARE SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION TO DRINKING WATER?

The sources of drinking water both tap water and bottled water includes river, 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 materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in 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 of 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 chemicals contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes the petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic system; (E) radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or can be a result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations established limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same amount of protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some 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).

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. For more information about the source water assessment or to view a copy contact Garth Edwards at 740-968-6181 or attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on 2nd Monday each month @6:30 p.m. at the 162 Main Street. (Council Room).

## **Source Water Susceptibility Report (BCWSD)**

An Assessment that was conducted by the Ohio EPA places the well aquifer at a HIGH susceptibility rating due to the following: (A) Presence of a relatively permeable layer of silty clay overlaying the aquifer: (B) Shallow depth (less than 20 feet below ground surface ) of the aquifer: (C) The identification of VOC contamination soils within the one year travel: (D) Presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area: (E) The presence of manmade contaminants in treated water. To obtain a copy of the report or for more information contact, Kelly Porter, Director, Belmont County Water & Sewer District at 740-695-3144.

## **Who needs to take special precautions?**

“ 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 New Athens Water System 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.”

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2020. All water systems were required to comply with the Total Coliform Rule from 1989 to March 31, 2016, and 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.

**The Village of New Athens did not have any positive samples for the year 2023.**

Definitions for terms and abbreviations used in the report are as follows:

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

**Maximum Contaminant Level** - The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is 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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal** - The “Goal”(MCLG) is 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.

**Parts per million (ppm)** - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter** - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest residual disinfectant level allowed.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of residual disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

**Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L):** Are units of measure of a contaminant.

**Total Trihalomethanes** - TTHM'S

**Halocetic Acids** - HAA

**Less Than** = <

The Belmont County Sanitary Sewer District and or the Village of New Athens have monitored the following contaminants in 2023, see table below:

Contaminants (units)	MRDL	MRDLG	Level Found	Range of Detection`s	Sample Year	Violations	Typical Source of Contamination
Total Chlorine (ppm)	=4	=4	1.09	.95-1.09	2023	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Contaminants (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detection`s	Sample Year	Violations	Typical Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.20	0.70-1.46	2022	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
Radium 228 (pCi/l)	0	5.0	0.668	N/A	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2.0	2.0	0.028	N/A	2020	No	Discharge of drilling water Discharge from metal refineries Erosion of natural deposits
Cadium (ppb)	5.0	5.0	1.03	N/A	2020	No	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; Runoff from waste batteries & paints
Contaminants (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detection`s	Sample Year	Violations	Typical Source of Contamination
Trihalomethanes (ppb)	N/A	80	33.6	32.1-33.6	2023	No	By product of drinking water chlorination.
HaloAcetic Acid 5	N/A	60	11.9	10.8-11.9	2023	No	By product of drinking water chlorination
Contaminants (units)	Action Level (AL)	Individual Results over the	90% of test levels were less than	Sample Year	Violations	Typical Source of Contamination	
Lead (ppb)	15 ppb	none	<1.97	2023	No	Corrosive of household plumbing preservatives.	
System: Erosion of natural deposits leaching from wood							
Zero out of 10 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.							
Copper (ppm)	1.3 ppm	none	.161	2023	No	Corrosive of household plumbing System: Erosion of natural Deposits	
Zero out of 10 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.							

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Belmont County Sanitary Sewer District conducted samplings for bacteria, inorganic radiological, synthetic organic, and volatile organic contaminants during 2023.

The Ohio EPA requires monitoring for a few contaminants less than once a year because they do not change frequently. Other regulated contaminants that the district tested with no violations being found are as follows: antimony, arsenic, beryllium nickel, thallium, lead, alachlor, atrazine, metribuzin, simazine, metolachlor and copper.

Contaminants (units)	MRDL	MRDLG	Level Found	Range of Detection`s	Sample Year	Violations	Typical Source of
Chloroform (ppb)	N/A	N/A	8.51	7.46-8.51	2023	No	
Bromodichloro- Methane (ppb)	N/A	N/A	9.91	9.91-10.2	2023	No	
Dibromochloro Methane(ppb)	N/A	N/A	11.2	10.8-11.2	2023	No	

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. In 2019 the Belmont County Water & Sewer District and the Village of New Athens participated in the fourth round of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 4 ). For a copy of the results please call the Village of New Athens at 740-968-6181

Public Water Systems are required to disclose Violations and Significant Deficiencies found during Sanitary Surveys in the Consumer Confidence Report. The following violations , and New Athens' responses to rectify the violations are hereby disclosed:

#### Resolved Violations

Failed to have a Certified Operator of Record for Jan, Feb 2022- Garth Edwards was hired on March 3,2022 to serve as Operator of Record. This Violation is resolved.

No proper screen on water storage tank overflow- A 24 mesh Stainless steel screen was installed. Violation resolved Nov 9,2022.

No records available for Microbiological and Turbidity Analysis- Ohio EPA received records for review on Nov 9, 2022 This Violation is resolved.

Failed to maintain an Operation and Maintenance Log Book- Garth Edwards provided log book for review. This Violation was resolved Nov 9 2022.

No Total Coliform Sample Siting Plan for distribution system- A completed written Sample Siting Plan for Community Water Systems was provided for Ohio EPA review on Nov 9,2022. Violation is resolved.

No Operation and Maintenance records- New Athens provided O&M records for review, with templates to continue use at the PWS on Nov 9 2022. This violation is resolved.

Outstanding Violations- Dates of Scheduled Completion shown

Failure to prepare and maintain a written Contingency Plan- New Athens PWS has completed a Contingency Plan, as required by March 31, 2023. This violation is resolved.

No Asset Management Program- An AMP following EPA template was completed by March 31, 2023. This violation is resolved.

No Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control Program- An Ordinance adopting said program was passed by New Athens Village Council on March 13, 2023. This violation is resolved.

No documentation of Water Storage Tank Inspection- An interior tank inspection was performed by Pittsburg Tank on March 28,2023. This violation is resolved.

Unable to calculate % of water loss- Ohio Software Service (provider for village billing software) was contacted and provided a Consumption Report, which shows gallons of metered water sold. This subtracted from the Master Meter readings showed a Water loss of 14.7% for 2022. Percentage of water loss is submitted annually as part of the tracking metrics,as required. This violation is resolved.