

# ***Village of Flushing***

## ***2022 Drinking Water Consumer Report***

The **Flushing Water Department** 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. We have a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system.

The **Village of Flushing** purchases its drinking water from ***the Belmont County Water and Sewer District***. Its water supply originates from the Ohio River, north of Bellaire. The water is secured from a well that is supplied by an aquifer in the region. Water is then pumped to the County Treatment Plant located on SpringHill RD, just off SR 214, Northwest of Bellaire. The Village of Flushing receives its water from SR 149 from the southern end of the Village near Schuler Park. A meter pit at this location indicates that the Village averages 87,000 GPD. Water is sent through the town with the excess being stored in the water tower.

The water being treated at the Belmont County Treatment plant, is treated to EPA requirements.

### ***What are the 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).

### ***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 overlying the aquifer; (B) Shallow Depth (less than 20 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer; (C) The identification of VOC contaminated soils within the one year time 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 and Sewer District at 740-695-3144.

**About your drinking water.**

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Flushing Water Department conducted sampling for {bacteria; inorganic; radiological; synthetic organic; volatile organic} during 2021. We collected 12 MicroBiological Samples, with all 12 of them being safe. 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.

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the **Village of Flushing** drinking water:

**TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS**

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>							
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	1 per month	0	ND -1	NO	2022	Naturally Present in Environment
<b>Disinfectant By-Products</b>							
Haloacetic Acid 5 (ppb)	N/A	60	12.8	6.19-20	NO	2022	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalo-methanes (ppb)	N/A	80	43.3	28.7-54	NO	2022	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.028	.028-.028	NO	2020	The likely source of contamination is discharge from drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Cadmium (ppb)	5	5	1.03	1.03-1.03	NO	2020	The likely source of contamination is corrosion of galvanized pipes; discharge for metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; runoff from waste batteries and paints.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.2	.70-.1.46	NO	1/1/2022 To 6/16/2022	The likely source of contamination is erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	.679	.679-.679	NO	2022	The likely source of contamination is runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Residual Disinfectants</b>							
Chlorine	<u>MRDLG</u> =4	<u>MRDL</u> =4	1.13	.60-1.31	NO	2022	Water additive used to control microbes.

Contaminants (units)	Action Level (AL)	Individual results over the AL	90% of test levels were less than	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
Lead (ppb)	15 ppb	none	<1	NO	2022	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	1.3 ppm	none	.0578	NO	2022	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits.

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 Flushing** 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>.

#### Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) Information

*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.*

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

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of **Flushing Council** which meets **the second Thursday of every month at 6:00 pm**. For more information on your drinking water contact **Administrator, Brian Clark at 740-968-4559**.

#### 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.

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 ( $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) 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. 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.