

# **VILLAGE of SEBRING**

## **Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report**

### **For 2015**

The Village of Sebring 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.

#### **What's the Source of Your Drinking Water:**

The Village of Sebring Water Treatment Plant is located on Knox School Road, 1.2 miles south of Route 62. We pump the water exclusively from the Mahoning River with a verbal agreement with the City of Alliance to release water from Westville Lake if drought conditions occur. In 2015, the water plant production was at 33% of its design capacity. The average amount of water pumped to the consumer was 649,950 gallons a day. The Village of Sebring's water source protection area contains a moderate number of potential contaminant sources, which include agricultural run-off, private septic systems, oil and gas wells, and road crossings.

Surface waters are by their nature susceptible to contamination, and there are numerous potential contaminant sources, including agricultural runoff, oil/gas wells, inadequate septic systems, leaking underground storage tanks, and road and rail crossings. As a result, the surface water supplied to these plants is considered to have a high susceptibility to contamination.

The plant is operated by the staff consisting of Donis Alpeter, Ohio Class III state water license; Ed Householder, Ohio Class I state water license; Kris Harshman, Ohio Class II state water license; and Jeremy Gossiaux, Ohio Class I state water license. The Village of Sebring has been pumping water out of the Mahoning River since 1904.

#### **What Are the Sources of Contamination to Drinking Water?**

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

Contaminants that may be present in source water may include: (A) Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatments, septic tanks, 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 gas and production and mining activities.

In order to ensure the tap water is safe to drink, EPA 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 must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottle 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).

#### **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).

#### **License to Operate (LTO) Status Information:**

In 2015 we had an unconditioned license to operate our water system.

**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 Sebring 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>.

**About Your Drinking Water:**

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Village of Sebring conducted sampling for {bacteria, inorganic, radiological, synthetic and volatile organic} contaminants. Samples were collected for a total of 88 different contaminants most of which were not detected in the Village of Sebring Water Supply. The Ohio EPA requires us to monitor for some contaminants less than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative of the water quality, is more than a year old.

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

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Range of Detections	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contaminants
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>							
Turbidity NTU	NO	0.28	0.30 TT	N/A	0.05 - 0.28	2015	Soil Runoff
Turbidity (% samples meeting standard) NTU	NO	100%	95%	N/A	N/A	2015	Soil Runoff
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Copper ppm	NO	0.375 90%	AL = 1.3	1.3	NA	2015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
	1 out of 40 samples was found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm						
Lead ppb	YES	21 90%	AL = 15	0	NA	2015	Corrosion of household plumbing systems or service lines; erosion of natural deposits
	7 out of 40 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb						
Fluoride ppm	NO	0.81	4	4	0.81 - 1.29	2015	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (As Nitrogen) ppm	NO	1.78	10	10	0.189 - 1.78	2015	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Barium ppb	NO	37.9	2000	2000	37.9	2015	Discharge of drilling waste; discharge of metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium ppb	NO	1.14	100	100	1.14	2015	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Range of Detections	Date of Sample	Typical Source of Contaminants
<b>Inorganic Contaminants (Cont.)</b>							
Nickel ppb	NO	1.21	N/A	N/A	1.21	2015	leaching from metals in contact with drinking-water, such as pipes and fittings. Nickel may also be present in some groundwaters as a consequence of dissolution from nickel ore-bearing rocks.
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
Alpha pCi/L	NO	3.58	15	0	3.58	2015	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 pCi/L	NO	1.31	5	0	1.31	2015	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>							
Bromodichloromethane ppb	NO	7.51	N/A	N/A	7.51	2015	By product of drinking water chlorination
Chloroform ppb	NO	21.5	N/A	N/A	21.5	2015	By product of drinking water chlorination
Dibromochloromethane ppb	NO	2.86	N/A	N/A	2.86	2015	By product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids ppb	NO	28.55 RAA	60	N/A	7.17 - 34.9	2015	By product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes ppb	NO	65.05 RAA	80	N/A	41.7 - 94.5	2015	By product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Residue Disinfectant</b>							
Total Chlorine ppm	NO	0.81 RAA	4	4	0.3 – 1.7	2015	Water additive to control Microbes

<b>Total Organic Carbon (TOC)</b>							
MCL	Minimum Ratio of % removal to required % removal	Level Found	Range of Monthly ratios	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants	
TT	18% removed 40% required removal	1.73	0.46 – 3.00	YES	2015	Naturally present in the environment.	

### Definitions of Some Terms Contained in 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 of contaminant 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, 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.

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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

(RAA): Running Annual Average.

Turbidity 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 daily samples and shall not exceed 1.0 NTU at any time. As reported below, the Sebring Water Treatment Plants highest recorded turbidity result for 2015 was 0.29 NTU and 100% of all our turbidity samples have met the Turbidity Limitations of 0.30 NTU.

## Violations

### **Lead and Copper:**

The Village of Sebring Water Department exceeded the action level for lead in the June – September 2015 Annual Monitoring Period.

*Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.*

### **Failure to Submit LCR Form 5105 on Time and Failure to Collect Lead Samples from Appropriate Taps:**

Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rule 3745-81-90(A)(1) requires a report with the results of the tap water samples (EPA form 5105) to be submitted to the Ohio EPA within the first ten days following the end of the monitoring period. The Village of Sebring did not submit form 5105 until December 11, 2015, in violation of OAC Rule 3745-81-90(A)(1). The form was also found to be incomplete, lacking completed addresses of sample sites, tap types and tap locations. The Village was also in violation of OAC Rule 3745-81-86(A)(3) for not selecting sampling sites meeting tier 1 sampling location requirements. The Village of Sebring's final version of form 5105 was received January 21, 2016.

### **Failure to Submit Consumer Notice:**

OAC Rule 3745-81-85(D)(2) requires consumer notices be issued as soon as practical, but no later than thirty days after the system learns of the tap monitoring results. The Village of Sebring failed to deliver the consumer notices within 30 days, in violation of OAC Rule 3745-81-85(D)(2).

### **Failure to Submit Lead Consumer Notice:**

OAC Rule 3745-81-85(B)(2) requires public education be issued within sixty days after the end of the monitoring period in which the exceedance occurred. The Village of Sebring failed to issue the public education by November 29, 2015 in accordance with the rule.

The Village of Sebring Public Water System is taking the following actions to advise customers of the situation and rectify the problem as required by the Ohio EPA Director's Final Findings and Orders dated February 19, 2016:

- Providing consumers the results of lead testing in their homes that were tested.
- Conducting quarterly public education to inform residents about the risk of lead and how to reduce their exposure.
- Complete a Corrosion Control Study to minimize lead leaching from residential pipes and plumbing.
- Offer and pay for additional water testing for lead to any and all Sebring system consumers who request it.
- Provide bottled water or NSF certified point of use lead filtration devices that are approved and certified for lead removal for any homes of Sebring system consumers that exceed the action levels now or in the future.
- Work with the County and State Health Departments to provide and pay for health screenings and lead testing to all Sebring system consumers who request it.
- Completing short and long term PWS treatment assessments as directed by the Ohio EPA.

If you have any questions with regards to the Village of Sebring's lead and copper monitoring, please contact Donis Alpeter (330) 821-7020

**Turbidity Violation:**

**DRINKING WATER NOTICE**

**Monitoring requirements were not met for Village of Sebring**

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. In accordance with Ohio Administrative Code 3745-81-74 (B)(2), if there is a failure in the continuous filter turbidity monitoring equipment, the public water system shall conduct grab sampling every 4 hours in lieu of continuous monitoring until the continuous turbidity monitoring equipment is repaired and placed back online. The computer equipment recording our individual filter turbidity monitoring equipment readings at our water treatment plant went off-line during the month of June 2015. Between June 6, 2015 and June 25, 2015, we failed to collect individual filter turbidity readings every four hours and from June 20, 2015 to November 19, 2015 we failed to repair the equipment in violation of OAC 3745-81-74 (B)(2).

Lastly, the Village of Sebring failed to accurately complete the Addendum for Individual Filter Turbidity Results for the months of June 2015 through October 2015, in violation of OAC Rule 3745-81-75(A).

**What Should I Do?**

- There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective action.
- This notice is to inform you that we did not record individual filter turbidity readings or repair the recording equipment within 14 days in violation of rule 3745-81-74 (B)(2) of the Ohio Administrative Code.
- Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

**What is being done?**

Upon being notified of this violation, the Sebring Village PWS was directed to record the IFE turbidity data every four (4) hours as required. The water supply will take steps to ensure that adequate monitoring will be performed in the future.

On November 19, 2015, the hardware and software issues affecting the IFE turbidity meter communication/data relay and recording functions were repaired.

**For more information on your drinking water contact:**

Donis Alpeter (330) 821-7020  
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[www.sebringohio.net](http://www.sebringohio.net)  
Village of Sebring  
135 E. Ohio Ave.  
Sebring, OH 44672

**How Do I Participate in Decisions Concerning My Drinking Water?**

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular council meetings of the Village of Sebring. Meetings are held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:00 PM at the Village Hall.