



Water Treatment Plant - 1881

Serving The Citizens of  
Chillicothe Since 1881



Water Treatment Plant - Present

**THE CITY OF CHILLICOTHE OHIO**  
Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report  
For 2008

**THE CITY OF CHILLICOTHE OHIO** has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water.

THE CITY OF CHILLICOTHE receives its drinking water from six deep wells located in Yoctangee Park in close proximity to the water treatment facility. The aquifer in which the wells are located is part of the Scioto Buried River Valley Aquifer.

THE CITY OF CHILLICOTHE also has emergency connections with Ross County Water Company & the Chillicothe Correctional Institute. During 2008, the City of Chillicothe did not use any water from these connections.

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, the 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 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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, Cryptosporidium, and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The City of Chillicothe conducted sampling for the following: *bacteria; inorganics; and volatile organics* during 2008. 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, may be more than one year old.

THE CITY OF CHILLICOTHE had no monitoring or reporting violations in 2008.

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the City of Chillicothe's drinking water.

Contaminant(Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detection	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Lead (ppb)	0	15 ppb	<2 ppb	N/A	NO	2007	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppb)	1,300 ppb	1,300 ppb	21 ppb	<10.0 to 51.0 ppb	NO	2007	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4 ppm	4 ppm	1.04ppm	.85 to 1.18 ppm	NO	2008	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	10 ppm	10 ppm	0.20 ppm	N/A	NO	2008	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>							
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	NA	60.0 ppb	7.4 ppb	N/A	NO	2008	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethane [TTHM's] (ppb)	0	80 ppb	28.0 ppb	N/A	NO	2008	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Disinfection Byproducts</b>							
Total Chlorine Residual (ppm)	MRDL 4	MRDL 4	1.21 ppm	1.09 – 1.34 ppm	NO	2008	Water additive used to control microbes

**Following are definitions of some terms contained in this report:**

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 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.

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.

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.

The "<" symbol: A symbol which means less than. A result of <5 means the lowest level that could be detected was 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.

Ohio EPA has completed a study of the City of Chillicothe's source of drinking water, to identify potential contaminant sources and provide guidance on protecting the drinking water source. According to this study, the aquifer that supplies water to the City of Chillicothe has a high susceptibility to contamination. This determination is based on the following:

- lack of protective layer of clay overlying the aquifer;
- shallow depth (less than 20 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer;
- presence of numerous significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area

This does not mean the well field will become contaminated, only that conditions exist that could impact the ground water source. The Chillicothe Utilities Department is taking steps to address these issues. More information about the source water assessment or what consumers can do to help protect the aquifer is available by calling 773-1932 or the Ohio EPA at 1-740-385-8501.

**How do I participate in decisions concerning my water?**

The Chillicothe Water Department is a division of the Chillicothe Utilities Department, directed by Richard Johnson, P.E.,P.S., and is part of the Administration overseen by Mayor Joseph P. Sulzer. Both Mayor Sulzer (774-1185) and Mr. Johnson (773-1932) encourage and welcome comments and input in regard to our water system.

Additionally, regular meetings of the City of Chillicothe Council are held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at which time a public participation session is scheduled and welcomed. Council meetings are advertised and reported in the Chillicothe Gazette, and aired locally on channel 2.