

HEALTH and SAFETY INFORMATION

Drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

The sources of both tap and bottled drinking water include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials, and can also pick up substances resulting from animal or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife
- *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring, or result from urban storm water runoff and residential uses
- *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, septic systems, and urban or agricultural runoff (i.e., pesticides and herbicides)
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791

Based on the results of the 2003 testing (see table at right), all of these contaminants were below the level of concern in your water. To ensure that tap water is safe, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration is in the process of establishing limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Information for People with Special Health Concerns

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons 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 providers. Federal guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are also available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 800.426.4791.

DEFINITIONS

Parts per million (ppm) and parts per billion (ppb) - One ppm can be equated to four teaspoons of salt in a standard 24-foot backyard pool. One ppb is one teaspoon of salt in an Olympic-sized pool.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The MCLG is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs provide for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in the drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible, using the best available treatment technology. MCLs are set at very stringent levels by the State and Federal governments. To understand the possible health effects, a person would have to drink about two liters (quarts) of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the associated health effect.

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.

Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other required actions a water system must follow.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (ntu) - measures clarity.

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

e.n.d. - erosion of natural deposits.

nd - not detectable at testing limit.

na - not applicable.

YCUA WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS FOR 2003

Your drinking water is continuously monitored above and beyond Federal and State laws. The table below lists all of the contaminants detected in your drinking water during calendar year 2003. Some results are from previous years, because the State allows monitoring for certain contaminants less than once per year, as their concentrations are not expected to change year to year. Lead, Copper and Bacteriological monitoring is performed by each individual community and is presented as the last entry below (there were no bacteriological detects during 2003.) All other results are for the entire YCUA service area. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate a health risk. This table does not show the hundreds of other contaminants tested for, but not found in your drinking water. **The test results confirm that your drinking water meets or surpasses all Federal and State requirements, and that ALL DETECTED CONTAMINANTS ARE BELOW ALLOWED LEVELS.**

Regulated Inorganic Parameters (annual monitoring at the plant taps)

contaminant	test date	unit	avg	low	high	MCLG	MCL	likely sources
Fluoride	2003	ppm	1.1	na	na	4	4	water additive to promote strong teeth; e.n.d.; discharge from fertilizer/aluminum factories
Nitrate	2003	ppm	0.4	na	na	10	10	runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; e.n.d.

Disinfectant Residuals and Disinfection By-Products (sampled in the distribution system)

Total Trihalomethanes	2003	ppb	16.2	6.2	27.3	na	80	by-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids	2003	ppb	12.4	2.0	25.0	na	60	by-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine Residual	2003	ppm	0.67	0.54	0.78	MRDGL 4	MRDL 4	water additive used to control microbes

Regulated Microbiological Parameters (monitored every 4 hours at the plant taps)

Turbidity	2003	ntu	0.27	na	na	na	TT	soil runoff
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Turbidity measures the cloudiness of water. The rules state that turbidity must never exceed 1.0 NTU, and must not exceed 0.3 NTU in more than 95% of daily samples in any single month. 100% of our samples were below 0.3 NTU.

Total Organic Carbon Removal

Total Organic Carbon (TOC): The TOC removal ratio is calculated as the ratio between the actual TOC removal and the TOC removal requirements. The TOC was measured each month and because the level was low, there is no requirement for TOC removal. The major source of TOC in drinking water is the erosion of natural deposits.

Unregulated Parameters (Unregulated parameters are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA determine where certain contaminants occur and whether there is need to regulate those contaminants.)

Sodium: Sodium is a naturally occurring parameter, but was not detected in our drinking water.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR): During 2003, DWSD conducted monitoring for the UCMR. None of the contaminants were detected. If you would like a copy of the results, please contact DWSD at 313.267.3626 or www.dwsd.org.

Individual Community Copper and Lead Testing (sampled at individual taps)

contaminant	test date	unit	90th	# samples over AL	MCLG	MCL	likely sources
Charter Township of Ypsilanti, City of Ypsilanti, Southwest Canton Charter Township							
Lead	2002	ppb	11	1	0	AL=15	e.n.d.; corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	2002	ppm	0.26	0	1.3	AL=1.3	e.n.d.; corrosion of household plumbing
Superior Charter Township							
Lead	2002	ppb	1.5	0	0	AL=15	e.n.d.; corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	2002	ppm	0.022	0	1.3	AL=1.3	e.n.d.; corrosion of household plumbing
Pittsfield Charter Township							
Lead	2002	ppb	0	0	0	AL=15	e.n.d.; corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	2002	ppm	0.10	0	1.3	AL=1.3	e.n.d.; corrosion of household plumbing
Augusta Charter Township							
Lead	2002	ppb	2.5	0	0	AL=15	e.n.d.; corrosion of household plumbing
Copper	2002	ppm	0.635	0	1.3	AL=1.3	e.n.d.; corrosion of household plumbing

Lead and Copper compliance is based on the 90th percentile, where 9 out of 10 samples must be below the Action Level (AL).

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT YCUA

YCUA staff works around the clock to provide you with a reliable supply of water. If you have questions about the YCUA water system, please contact Jim Bellers, Director of Services, at jbellers@ycua.org or at 734.484.4600 extension 310.

Additional information about YCUA is available on our web site at www.ycua.org. This report is also published on our web site and additional copies of this report may be obtained by calling YCUA Customer Service at 734.484.4600.

If you wish to learn more about the plants that treat our water or obtain information regarding Detroit Board of Water Commissioner meetings, please visit www.dwsd.org or call DWSD's Water Quality Division at 313.267.3626.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

(clip and save for future reference)

YCUA:

734.484.4600 / www.ycua.org

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline:

800.426.4791

EPA Web Site:

www.epa.gov/safewater

QUESTIONS? COMMENTS?

If you have questions specific to your community's water distribution system, please contact the following individuals, or attend your local board meeting:

Augusta Charter Township: John Linville, Utilities Manager, 734.487.5627, 800.884.2860, or 734.817.2326 (pager). The Township Board meets monthly at the Township Hall, 8021 Talladay Road. Dates and times are posted on cable channel 12 or call 734.461.6117.

Pittsfield Charter Township: Michael Luptowski, Utilities Director: 734.822.2110; Utilities Customer Service: 734.822.3105; Water and Sewer Field Office and 24-hour Emergency Line: 734.822.2110. The Township Board meets on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 7:30 pm at the Administration Building, 6201 W. Michigan Avenue. For more information call: 734.822.3120.

Superior Charter Township: Rick Church, Utilities Director, 734.480.5500. The Township Board meets on the first and third Mondays of the month at 7:30 pm at the Township Hall, 3040 North Prospect Road.

Charter Township of Ypsilanti, City of Ypsilanti, and Southwest Canton Charter Township: Jim Bellers, Director of Services, 734.484.4600 extension 310. YCUA's Board meets the fourth Tuesday of the month at 3:00 pm at the YCUA Administration Building located at the corner of State and McGregor Roads.

Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority

Environmental Leaders



www.ycua.org

Dedicated to Providing Top Quality, Cost Effective, and Environmentally Safe Water and Wastewater Services

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION ENCLOSED:
2003 WATER QUALITY REPORT