



Water

improves the

quality

of your *life.*

Our tap water keeps us lean, healthy and hydrated. It surpasses high standards for quality and safety and it's the environmentally sensitive choice.

Byron Township and

Gaines Charter Township's

2009 Water Quality Report

Esta publicación contiene información importante sobre el agua que usted bebe diariamente. Si no lo entiende, busque a alguien que se lo traduzca o le explique su contenido. Para mas información, llame al (616)530-7389 o visite página electrónica.
www.epa.gov/espanol/

We are pleased to report that your drinking water meets, and often is better than, all state and federal guidelines for safe drinking water.

Included in the details of this Water Quality Report is important information about where your water comes from, what's in it, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We update this report annually and will keep you informed if any problems occur throughout the year.

The City of Wyoming Utilities Department

is nearing completion of a 70 million dollar expansion and upgrade to the Donald K. Shine Water Treatment Plant. These renovations and improvements, which span three years, increase water production capabilities to 120 million gallons of water per day, using more efficient equipment and less hazardous chemicals for disinfection of drinking water.



Byron-Gaines Authority provides safe, reliable drinking water and sewer services 24 hours a day, every day. You shouldn't have to think about it - that's our job.



Tap water is still one of the best bargains around, especially compared with these everyday items:

- 1 Gallon of tap water = 1/10th of one penny
- 1 Gallon of bottled water = \$1.43 - \$8.00
- 1 Gallon of milk = \$2.00 - \$3.24
- 1 Gallon of gasoline = \$2.75 - \$3.75
- 1 Gallon of cafe-lattes = \$35.00 - \$52.00

You rely on clean reliable water every time you turn on the tap. Most households turn on the faucets an average of 70 times each day.



Each time you pay your water bill, you are paying for a lot more than simply water. You get safe, modern water treatment, frequent testing services from treatment plant to your tap, and monitoring and maintenance of a 32 mile long underground infrastructure that delivers water to you and over 140,000 individuals every day.



Our source for drinking water is Lake Michigan. Rain, ground water, rivers, and streams feed into Lake Michigan, dissolving naturally occurring minerals and sometimes picking up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Some of the substances which can make their way into Lake Michigan are: viruses and bacteria from animal, agricultural, and human activities, salts, metals, pesticides and herbicides, as well as by-products of industrial processes, and radioactive contaminants, which occur naturally or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations, called Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) which limit the amount of certain contaminants in your drinking water.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. However, the presence of contaminants in drinking water does not necessarily indicate that the drinking water poses a health risk. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791.

Every day, our staff is working to ensure the water delivered to your home meets all regulatory requirements and your expectations for safety, reliability and quality.

For your protection, your drinking water is continually tested. The tables below show only the substances detected in your water during the calendar year. We are proud to report there were no violations during that time.

Testing is also performed to detect the presence of *Cryptosporidium* and *Giardia*, which are protozoan parasites that occur in natural surface waters such as lakes, rivers and streams. Wyoming's water treatment process provides multiple barriers, including clarification, filtration, and disinfection, to lower the risk of these contaminants in finished tap water. Monitoring of treated water samples yielded a 100% removal rate, proving the effectiveness of the treatment system in microscopic particle removal. For information on microbiological

As authorized by the EPA, the State has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year



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. We are 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>.



Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 persons and infants - can be particularly at risk from infections.

These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791.

2009 Water Quality Report

Drinking water...
what's in it for you?



We add fluoride to your tap water to help build strong, healthy teeth that resist decay. Water fluoridation has been recognized as one of the 10 greatest public health achievements of the 20th century by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Definition Key

- AL** Action Level: the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement, which a water system must follow.
- MCL** Maximum Contaminant Level: the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water; MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- MCLG** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health; MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
- MRDL** Maximum Residual Disinfection Level: 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.
- MRDLG** Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits to the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- NA** Not applicable
- ND** Not Detected
- NTU** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit: measurements of minute suspended particles, used to judge water clarity.
- ppb** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/l)
- ppm** parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
- TT** Treatment Technique: a required process, intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

REGULATED MONITORING AT THE TREATMENT PLANT

SUBSTANCE	UNITS	Level Found	MCL	MCLG	Samples Exceeding MCL	POSSIBLE SOURCES
Fluoride	ppm	1.0	4	4	0	Additive which promotes strong teeth

SUBSTANCE	UNITS	Level Found	MCL	MCLG	Samples Exceeding MCL	POSSIBLE SOURCE
Turbidity	NTU	0.28	TT = 1 NTU	NA	0	Soil runoff and natural sediment

100% of Turbidity sample levels were found to be < 0.3 NTU.

REGULATED MONITORING IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

SUBSTANCE	UNITS	Range	Highest Running Annual Average	MCL	MCLG	Samples Exceeding MCL	POSSIBLE SOURCES
Chlorine Residual	ppm	0.04 - 1.88	0.79	4	MRDLG=4	0	Used to disinfect drinking water
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	15.0 - 63.0	32.0	60	NA	0	Formed when chlorine is added to water
Trihalomethanes	ppb	18.8 - 57.3	42.0	80	NA	0	with naturally occurring organic material

REGULATED MONITORING AT CUSTOMER'S TAP

Compliance is determined using the 90th percentile, where nine out of ten samples must be below the Action Level. This testing was conducted in 2007. Testing resumes in 2010.

SUBSTANCE	UNITS	90th Percentile	AL	MCLG	Samples Exceeding AL	POSSIBLE SOURCES
Copper	ppb	79	1300	1300	0	Corrosion of household plumbing system,
Lead	ppb	2	15	0	0	erosion of natural deposits, micronutrients

UNREGULATED MONITORING

SUBSTANCE	UNITS	REPORTED LEVEL	SOURCE
Hardness	ppm	144	Naturally present due to dissolved calcium and magnesium salt
pH	pH units	7.46	pH is an important measurement of the acidity or alkalinity of water
Chloride	ppm	13	Naturally present in the environment
Sodium	ppm	10	Naturally present in the environment

Results were gathered from tests performed by the City of Wyoming's certified lab, as well as the State of Michigan's Department of Environmental Quality laboratory.



Byron - Gaines Utility Authority

Call Myron Erickson, Wyoming's Lab Services Manager at (616)261-3562 for technical questions about this report or with any water quality questions. You are invited to attend township meetings which are held at the respective township offices: Byron Township on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m. and Gaines Charter Township on the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

Help protect our Source for Drinking Water

You can participate in public hearings related to the protection of our source water by contacting the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) on the web at www.deq.state.mi.us. You may also call (800)662-9278 for a listing of public hearings regarding various environmental issues in your area.

Our water supply has a moderately high susceptibility to contaminants. For a copy of the most current Source Water Assessment of the water system, please call our office at 616-399-6511.

