

Section 1: Title

***City of Mount Vernon* Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report For 2021**

Section 2: Introduction

The **City of Mount Vernon** 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.

Section 3: Source Water Information

The **City of Mount Vernon** receives its drinking water from the **Kokosing River buried valley aquifer**.

The following paragraph was provided to the **City of Mount Vernon** via our Source Water Assessment Report.

“The aquifer that supplies drinking water to the City of Mount Vernon’s wellfield has a high susceptibility to contamination. This determination was made because of the following reasons: < The depth to water in the buried valley aquifer is less than 15 feet from the ground surface; < Zero to 25 feet of clay is present in the vicinity of the wellfield, providing limited protection from contaminants infiltrating from the ground surface to the aquifer; and < Potential significant contaminant sources exist within the protection area. Water quality data collected to meet public water supply requirements provide a direct measurement for the presence of contamination in drinking water. Water quality data were evaluated using the drinking water compliance database and the Ambient ground water monitoring network database available at the Ohio EPA. The available water quality data do not indicate that contamination has impacted the aquifer. Because the compliance sampling requirements are for treated water, the lack of water quality impacts is not a certain indication of the lack of contamination. This determination is limited by the sampling that is performed for the water system. The City of Mount Vernon has identified 46 potential contaminant sources that lie within the determined wellhead/source water protection area for the wellfield, 17 of which lie within the inner management zone, or one-year time-of-travel zone. The sources include a water treatment plant, underground storage tanks, leaking underground storage tanks, a junk yard, roadways and railways. Consequently, the likelihood that the City of Mount Vernon’s source of drinking water could become contaminated is high. Potential contaminant sources should be handled carefully by implementing appropriate protective strategies.”

Copies of the source water assessment report prepared for **The City of Mount Vernon** are available by contacting **Dr. Thomas Marshall, P.E.** at **(740) 393-9558**.

Section 4: What are 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).

Section 5: 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).

Section 6: About your drinking water.

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The **City of Mount Vernon** conducted sampling for **bacteria, nitrate & nitrite, disinfection byproducts, radiologicals, fluoride, inorganics, and synthetic & volatile organic compounds** during **2021**. Samples were collected for a total of **65** different contaminants most of which were not detected in the **City of Mount Vernon** water supply. 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.

Section 7: Monitoring & Reporting Violations & Enforcement Actions

No monitoring or reporting violations, public notice violations, failure to issue public education requirements, or violations of terms of an administrative order, bilateral compliance agreement, findings and orders or a judicial order to report for **2021**.

Section 8: Table of Detected Contaminants

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the **City of Mount Vernon** drinking water.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
Radioactive Contaminants							
ALPHA, Gross (pCi/L)	0.0	15.0	4.65	N/A	No	2021	Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	0.0	5.0	1.18	N/A	No	2021	Erosion of natural deposits.
Inorganic Contaminants							
Chlorite (ppm)	0.8	1.0	0.45	0.29 – 0.45	No	2021	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Flouride (ppm)	4.0	4.0	0.271	N/A	No	2021	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.

Barium (ppm)	2.0	2.0	0.023	N/A	No	2021	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Residual Disinfectants							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	4.0	MRDLG 4.0	1.20	1.11 – 1.20	No	2021	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorine Dioxide (ppm)	MRDL 0.80	MRDLG 0.80	0.26	0.24 – 0.26	No	2021	Water additive used to control microbes.
Lead and Copper							
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	0	0.00	No	2019	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.	
	0 out of 30 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.						
Copper (ppm)	1.3 ppm	0	0.22	No	2019	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.	
	0 out of 30 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.						

Section 9: Turbidity

The **City of Mount Vernon** is not required to monitor for turbidity.

Section 10: Violations

The **City of Mount Vernon** had no violations in **2021**.

Section 11: Nitrate Educational Information

The **City of Mount Vernon** had no nitrate result greater than **5 ppm**.

Section 12: Arsenic Educational Information

The **City of Mount Vernon** had no arsenic result greater than **5 ppb**.

Section 13: Lead Educational 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 City of Mount Vernon** 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>.

Section 14: Cryptosporidium Information.

The **City of Mount Vernon** is not required to monitor for cryptosporidium.

Section 15: Radon

The **City of Mount Vernon** is not required to monitor for radon.

Section 16: Ground Water Rule

The **City of Mount Vernon** has no significant deficiencies from the Ohio EPA.

The **City of Mount Vernon** had no E.coli positive routine samples in **2021**.

The **City of Mount Vernon** had no Total Coliform positive routine samples in **2021**.

Section 17: License to Operate (LTO) Status Information

In **2021**, we had an unconditioned license to operate our water system.

Section 18: Public Notice

The **City of Mount Vernon** issued no public notices in **2021**.

Section 19: Public Participation and Contact Information

How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of **Mount Vernon City Council** that meets the **second and fourth Monday of each month – except June, July, and August where they meet on the fourth Monday**. For more information on your drinking water, contact **Dr. Thomas Marshall, P.E.** at **740 393-9558**.

Section 20: Definitions of some terms contained within 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.
- **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.
- **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.
- **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 (µg/L)** are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** A common measure of radioactivity.