



# The Village of Mt. Gilead

## Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report For 2023



### Hydrant Flushing - The Importance of Flushing Water Lines

Residents who notice crews working at fire hydrants and see water running into the street may think that we are ignoring our own philosophy on conserving water. The process of periodically “flushing” fire hydrants is an important preventive maintenance activity. Although it may appear to waste water, this process is part of a routine maintenance program necessary to maintain the integrity of the water system and to continue to deliver the highest quality water possible to our customers.

Flushing the water system on a routine basis removes sediment from lines and keeps the entire distribution system refreshed.

As a result of flushing procedure, residents in the immediate vicinity of the work may experience temporary discoloration of their water. This discoloration consists primarily of harmless silt and precipitation and does not affect the safety of the water. If you experience discoloration in your water after crews have been flushing in your neighborhood, clear the pipes in your home by running all cold water faucets for 15 (fifteen) minutes.

This same philosophy of water line preventive maintenance is one that you should use in your home. Your home’s water heater should be drained and flushed at least once a year to keep it working efficiently and protect the quality of water inside your home. Also, if you go out of town and there is no water use in your home for a week or more, when you return it’s always a good idea to run all your faucets for a minute or so before using the water. This ensures that you don’t use any stagnant water that may have developed in your home’s pipes while you were away.

### Backflow Prevention Requirements

The backflow prevention assemblies are required to be tested at installation and every 12 months thereafter to make sure the assemblies are in proper working condition. It is the *customers/property owner’s* responsibility to install (as per Village of Mt. Gilead specifications) and have backflow assemblies tested by a qualified tester. The type of assembly will depend on the degree of hazard your service connection exposes our public water system. Our required Testing and Maintenance forms may be obtained at our Water Treatment Plant Office. For more information please contact Kit St. Clair, Water Technician at 419-569-2537; office no. 419-946-4861 if you have any questions.

**Removing or relocating an existing backflow prevention assembly without the approval of the Village of Mt. Gilead could/will result in the loss of your water service.** (OAC 3745-95, and Ordinance 1352)

Complete regulations can be found on the Ohio EPA website at:

<http://www.epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/rules.aspx>

Chapter 3745-95: Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control.

### NOTICE TO ALL CUSTOMERS OF THE MT. GILEAD VILLAGE PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM

This notice is mailed to our customers in accordance with provisions of the Ohio Revised Code Section 4933.19 TAMPERING WITH WATER METERS OR WATER SERVICE EQUIPMENT AND THE THEFT OF WATER ARE CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES AND MAY RESULT IN PENALTIES TO OFFENDERS. A PERSON FOUND BENEFITING FROM TAMPERING OR AN UNAUTHORIZED SERVICE CONNECTION IS PRESUMED TO HAVE COMMITTED THE VIOLATION AND WILL BE PROSECUTED.

- It is a crime to tamper with or by-pass a water meter, conduit or attachment or a utility.
- It is also a crime to reconnect a water meter conduit, or attachment of a utility that has been disconnected by the utility.
- It is a crime to knowingly consume any water, which has not been correctly registered because a meter, conduit, or attachment of a utility has been tampered with, or by-passed, or knowingly use service that has been disconnected by a utility and reconnected without the utility’s consent.
- A felony or misdemeanor conviction for a theft offense can result from a violation of these laws. The person so convicted is subject to the imposition of criminal sanctions including imprisonment and payment of fines and will also be required to make restitution for the costs of repairs, replacement of the meters, conduit or attachments damaged and for the value of the illegally consumed water.

The **Mt. Gilead Village Public Water System** (also referred to as Mt. Gilead Village PWS) 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 contacts. The Employees of the Water Department are proud of our commitment to provide quality water service. We have a current, unconditional 2023 Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) license to operate and maintain our PWS. Our PWS license is OH5900712. Copies of this report are available at the: Clerk/Treasurer’s Office at 72. W. High Street, the Water Treatment Plant, 352 E. Union Street, or by calling (419) 946-4861. This report is also on the Village of Mt. Gilead’s website at [www.mtgilead.net](http://www.mtgilead.net).

The aquifer that supplies drinking water to the Mt. Gilead Village PWS is known as the Johnstown Complex. Susceptibility Analysis Report prepared by the OEPA April 2012. This assessment indicates that Mt. Gilead’s source of drinking water has a moderate susceptibility to contamination because:

- The depth to water in the sand and gravel aquifer is more than 20 feet below the ground surface;
- A layer of glacier till (clay) approximately 50 feet thick is present between the ground surface and the aquifer, providing some protection from contaminant movement from the ground surface to the aquifer; and
- Potential significant contaminant sources exist with the protection area.

This susceptibility analysis is subject to revision if new potential contaminant sources are sited within the protection area, or if water sampling indicates contamination by a manmade contamination source. This does not mean that this well field will become contaminated; only that conditions are such that groundwater could be impacted by potential contaminate sources. Future contamination may be avoided by implementing protection measures. More information is available by calling Kit St. Clair, Water Technician with the Village of Mt. Gilead Water Department at 419-569-2537.

The Village of Mt. Gilead’s water source is from five (5) wells located in the north central portion of town, on village-owned property just east of State Route 61 (N. Main Street), with an access drive at 352 E. Union Street (US Route 42). All of the wells are considered ground water sources with required treatment process prior to being used for drinking. Currently the water treatment plant is designed as an iron removal and ion exchange plant, and has the capacity to treat 1,000,000 gallons per day. The Mt. Gilead Village PWS also has an Emergency/Backup connection with the Del-Co Water Co. Inc. During the year of 2023 we did not use water. This report does not contain information on the water quality received from Del-Co Water Co. Inc., but a copy of their consumer confidence report can be obtained by contacting Del-Co Water Co. Inc. at 419-253-6003.

### What are the sources of contamination to drinking water?

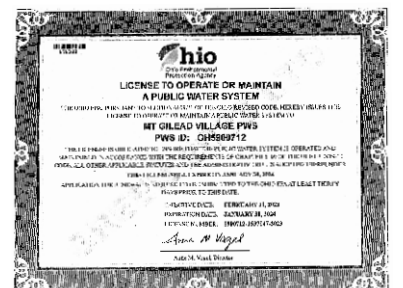
The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals in a din some cases, radioactive material, and pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal or 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 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 PWS. 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 call the **Environmental Protection Agency’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)**.

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 Mt. Gilead Village PWS 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 thirty (30) seconds to two (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 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>**.



**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)**.

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

**About your drinking water.**

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Mt. Gilead Village PWS conducted sampling for bacteria, inorganic; radiological; synthetic organic; volatile organic during 2023. Samples were collected for several different contaminants most of which were not detected in the Mt. Gilead Village PWS. The OEPA 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.

**Listed below is information on those unregulated and detected contaminants that were found in the Village of Mt. Gilead drinking water.**

CONTAMINANTS (UNITS)	MCLG	MCL	LEVEL FOUND	RANGE OF DETECTION	VIOLA-TIONS	SAMPLE YEAR	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
<b>INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS</b>							
BARIUM (ppm)	2	2	0.0256	N/A	NO	2021	DISCHARGE OF DRILLING WASTES; DISCHARGE FROM METAL REFINERIES; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
NITRATE (mg/L)	10 mg/L	10 mg/L	0.56	N/A	NO	2023	RUNOFF OF FERTILIZER USE; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
FLUORIDE (mg/L)	4 mg/L	4 mg/L	0.88	N/A	NO	2021	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS; WATER ADDITIVE WHICH PROMOTES STRONG TEETH; DISCHARGE FROM FERTILIZER AND ALUMINUM FACTORIES.
ARSENIC (ppb)	0	10	4.58	3.3 - 5	NO	2023	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS; RUNOFF FROM ORCHARD, GLASS & ELECTRONIC
<b>DISINFECTANT AND DISINFECTANT BY-PRODUCTS</b>							
TOTAL CHLORINE (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1.61	0.9 - 2.12	NO	2023	WATER ADDITIVE USED TO CONTROL MICROBES.
HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) (ppb)	N/A	60	6.3	6.1 - 6.5	NO	2023	BY-PRODUCT OF DRINKING WATER CHLORINATION
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHM) (ppb)	N/A	80	29.25	15.3 - 43.2	NO	2023	BY-PRODUCT OF DRINKING WATER CHLORINATION

<b>2023 LEAD &amp; COPPER</b>							
CONTAMINANTS (UNITS)	ACTION LEVEL	MCLG (maximum contaminant level goal)	INDIVIDUAL RESULTS OVER THE AL	90% OF TEST LEVELS WERE LESS THAN	VIOLATIONS	YEAR SAMPLED	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS
	<b>AL</b>		None				
LEAD (ppb)	15ppb	0ppb	1	8.04	NONE	2023	CORROSION OF HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING SYSTEMS; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS.
	<b>1 out of 20 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15ppb</b>						
COPPER (ppm)	1.3ppm	1.3ppm	0	559.7	NONE	2023	CORROSION OF HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING SYSTEMS; EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS.
	<b>0 out of 20 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.</b>						

<b>RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS</b>							
GROSS ALPHA	0	15	6.5	N/A	NO	2018	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
COMBINED RADIUM	0	5	1.6	N/A	NO	2018	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS

**Mandatory Definitions**

**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.

**MCL: Maximum contaminant level.** The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**ppm or mg/L: Parts per million or milligrams per liter.** Units of measurer for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days.

**ppb or ug/L: Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter.** Units of measurer for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

**pCi/L:** Picocuries per liter: A common measure of radioactivity.

**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.

**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.

**AL: Action level.** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**N/A:** Not applicable.

**90th%:** To determine the 90th% you list the entire sample results from the last round of sampling, in order from lowest to highest. If you had ten samples, the ninth highest sample would be the 90th%.

**SMCL: Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level.** These are not a health hazard, but deal with the appearance of the water.

**Tests run at Mt. Gilead WTP Laboratory 2023**

TEST (UNIT)	MCLG	SMCL	HIGHEST LEVEL FOUND	AVG	RANGE mg/L	YEAR
IRON (mg/L)	N/A	0.3	1.62	0.04	1.62 - 0	2023
MANGANESE (mg/L)	N/A	0.05	0.15	0.02	0.15 - 0	2023
HARDNESS (mg/l)	N/A	N/A	720	164	720 - 60	2023
pH (units)	N/A	7.00-10.5	8.03	7.86	8.03 - 7.67	2023
SODIUM (mg/L)	N/A	N/A	491	197	491 - 145	2023
CHLORINE, free (mg/L)	N/A	N/A	2.2	1.93	2.20 - 0.63	2023
ALKALINITY, total (mg/L)	N/A	N/A	330	311	330 - 291	2023
ALKALINITY, stability (mg/L)	N/A	N/A	338	304	338 - 261	2023
PHOSPHATE as TOTAL P (mg/L)	N/A	N/A	1	0.77	1.0 - 0.49	2023

**How Can I Get Involved?**

We encourage public participation and comments at the Village of Mt. Gilead Council meetings. The meetings are the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chamber located at the Municipal Building, 72 West High Street, Mt. Gilead. More information is available by calling Kit St.Clair, Water Technician with the Village of Mt. Gilead Water Department at 419-569-2537.