Village of Beach City Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

Prepared June 2009

The Village of Beach City 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.

What is the source of Beach City's drinking water?

Beach City is currently a distribution system that purchases drinking water from the city of Canton. The Canton Water Department obtains 100% of its water from underground wells. Their wells extend hundreds of feet deep into sand and gravel aquifers that were created long ago by glacial activity. These natural aquifers provide Canton with an average of 24 million gallons of water per day. Canton operate three separate well fields that supply water to their water treatment plants.

More information can be obtained by calling the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Backup measures

Should the need ever arise, Canton Water Department has several protective backup systems, that enable them to ensure a dependable flow of drinking water to our system. As previously mentioned, Canton has three separate water treatment plants and well fields. If one plant is taken off-line, the other two plants can make up the difference in water production.

The City also has 27 million gallons of drinking water stored in enclosed reservoirs. This quantity represents about one day's supply of water and is kept in reserve as a precautionary measure. Another backup system is the new 2100 horsepower Caterpillar Diesel generator. This powerful generator can provide enough electrical power to operate Canton's Sugarcreek Plant in the event of a widespread power outage.

Canton also have interconnections with North Canton's Water System which are normally kept in a closed position. In an emergency, however, these valves could be opened and potable water supplied to our system or vice versa depending on the need. All of the redundant and overlapping "backup" systems described above ensure that the Canton Water Department can provide a dependable supply of drinking water to Beach City.

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.

* 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).

* Taste Tip: *If your drinking water has a chlorine taste, try leaving an open pitcher of it in your refrigerator overnight. The chlorine will be reduced by morning and the taste will improve.*

Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Range of Detection	Date of Sample	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	No	27.0	ppb	0	13.9-43.2	7-16-08	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Disinfection Byproducts								
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Range of Detection	Date of Sample	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
HAA [Haloacetic Acids]	No	11	ppb	N/A	9.24-13.4	7-16-08	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Residual Disinfectants								
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	Range of Detection	Date of Sample	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Chlorine	No	0.91	ppb	N/A	0.3 - 0.91	3-18-08	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination

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 persons, 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).

Disinfectant/Disinfection Byproducts:

Under the Stage 2 Disinfectant/Disinfection Byproduct Rule (D/DBPR), Canton was required by USEPA to conduct an evaluation of the distribution system. This is known as an Initial Distribution System Evaluation (IDSE), and is intended to identify locations in the distribution system with elevated disinfection byproduct concentrations. Locations selected for the IDSE may be used for compliance monitoring under Stage 2 D/DBPR, beginning in 2012. Disinfection byproducts are the result of providing continuous disinfection of your drinking water and from when disinfectants combine with organic matter naturally occurring in the source water. Disinfection byproducts are grouped into two categories, Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5). USEPA sets standards for controlling the levels of disinfectants and disinfection byproducts in drinking water, including both THMs and HAAS.

Water quality monitoring:

The EPA requires regular sampling of the water supply to ensure drinking water safety. Each year Canton Water Department conducts over 20,000 tests for more than 100 different substances. The good news is none of the contaminants that were detected exceed EPA established Maximum Contaminant Levels or resulted in a violation of drinking water standards.

Only a very small percentage of the contaminants tested for exist in our water at detectable levels. The following tables identify the contaminants that were detected. Note: 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 the data, though accurate, are more than one year old.

How do the EPA and the FDA fit in?

In order to insure 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.

***UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS					
Contaminant	Level Detected (Avg.)	Unit Measurement	Range of Detection	Date of Sample	Contributing Source
Bromodichloromethane	8.1	ppb	2.76 - 21.7	7-16-08	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Bromoform	1.43	ppb	1.29 – 1.59	7-16-08	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Dibromochloromethane	6.5	ppb	5.08 – 8.33	7-16-08	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chloroform	10.9	ppb	2.76 – 21.7	7-16-08	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

* Note: Unregulated contaminate monitoring helps the EPA to determine where certain contaminates occur and whether it needs to regulate these contaminates.

Inorganic Contaminants								
Contaminant	**Violation Y/N**	**Level Detected**	**Unit Measurement**	**MCLG**	**Range of Detection**	**Date of Sample**	**MCL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Barium	No	0.09	ppm	2.0	0.06 - 0.09	6-19-07	2.0	Discharge from Metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	No	5.0	ppb	100	2.0 - 5.0	6-19-07	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	No	641	ppb	1300	Range: ND - 860 (0 out of 51 samples exceeded the AL.)	2007	AL= 1300	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Fluoride	No	1.06	ppm	4.0	0.80 - 1.36	2008	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth.
Selenium	No	4.0	Ppb	50	ND - 4.0	6-19-2007	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
Lead**	No	5.0	ppb	0	ND -7.0 (0 out of 51 samples exceeded the AL.)	2007	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Lead:

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. Canton Water Department 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 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 or at **http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead**.

Who do I contact for more information?

For more information about your drinking water contact the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791; or contact the Northeast District Office of Ohio EPA at. (330) 425-9171; or contact Beach City Utilities at (330) 756-2011

Definitions of some terms contained within this report.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): *The level of a contaminant that is allowed 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 disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.*

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 days.*

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 about 32 years.*

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

ND: *Contaminate Not Detected.*

Why do I occasionally see discolored water leaving my tap?

Discolored water is usually due to the presence of rust (iron). Rust in drinking water can be caused by corrosion in the water mains that carry the water from the treatment plant to your home. Rust could be present due to corrosion in your home's indoor plumbing including the hot water heater. Rust is typically not dangerous in terms of health but it can stain laundry. Do not wash laundry in rusty water. Problems with discolored water usually clear themselves within a day. If you have a prolonged discolored water problem, please notify us.

Hydrant Flushing:

During the warmer months, you may see village employees flushing fire hydrants. We do this to remove the accumulation of iron sediment in the pipes, thereby reducing discolored water situations over the long term. Essentially hydrant flushing is our way of cleaning our distribution system! Be aware, however, that hydrant flushing may *temporarily* cause both a drop in water pressure and discolored water.

What is hard water?

Canton's water contains the naturally occurring mineral Calcium, which is better known as hardness. Water got nicknamed hard when people found it *hard* to make soap suds or lather from the water. The presence of Calcium in the water is not a health concern but rather somewhat of a nuisance that is very costly to remove on a large scale. Some individuals use a water softener to remove unwanted hardness. Calcium buildup can be removed from spigots and coffee pots using vinegar.

How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comments are encouraged at the Village of Beach City Council meetings. Council meetings are held at the Village Hall which is located at 105 East Main Street, Beach City, Ohio. Contact the Beach City Utility Department at (330) 756-2011 during normal business hours to find out the next scheduled meeting of the Village Council.