

**The City of Steubenville
Water Department
1565 University Blvd.
Steubenville, Ohio 43952
Phone: (740) 283-6041**

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report 2006

Section 1: Introduction

The City of Steubenville Water Department has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. This report is required as part of the Safe Drinking Water Act Reauthorization of 1996 and is required to be delivered to the consumers by July 1, 2007. Included within this report are general health information, water quality test results, and how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water and water system contacts.

The City of Steubenville water system meets all of the current federal and state standards for public water systems.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO YOUR WATER SYSTEM

The City of Steubenville is continually investing in capital improvement projects to better serve its customers. A capital improvement master plan was developed in 1999. Since then, the City has moved to implement that plan. The overall goal of this program is to enhance system reliability and meet current and future drinking water quality standards.

The Water Department is currently under construction of a new six million gallon a day water treatment plant. This plant will employ state of the art technology and be able to meet and exceed all water quality standards for years to come.

Section 2: What is the source of your drinking water?

The City of Steubenville's public water system uses surface water drawn from the Ohio River. Our raw water pumping station and intakes are located at mile marker 65.3 of the Ohio river. This is in the northern part of the city near Alikanna

Historically, the Steubenville public water system has effectively treated this source water to meet drinking water quality standards. The potential for water quality impacts can be further decreased by implementing measures to protect the Ohio River. More detailed information is provided in the City of Steubenville's Drinking Water Source Assessment report, which can be obtained by calling the City of Steubenville Water Department at (740) 283-6041.

Section 3: What are sources of contamination to drinking water?

The sources of drinking water both tap water and bottled water includes 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, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Section 4: 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 5: About your drinking water.

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The City of Steubenville Water Department conducted sampling for: bacteria; inorganic; radiological; synthetic organic; volatile organic contaminants during 2006. Samples were collected for a total of 50 different contaminants most of which were not detected in the City of Steubenville 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.

The City of Steubenville Water Department did have three monitoring violation in 2006. For details see Section 6 below

Section 6: Explanation of Violations

On November 30, 2006 Steubenville received two monitoring violations for the time period of July 1st through September 30th 2006 for TTHM'S and HAA5 tests were not received on time. On January 10th, 2007 both of the monitoring violations was rescinded and the City was not required to issue a public notice. A second set of samples was set to the lab.

On February 7, 2007 Steubenville received a monitoring violation for failure to adequately remove the levels of Total Organic carbons. This violation occurred between the time period of October 1st and December 31, 2006 Changes in treatment technique has corrected this problem.

Section 7: 2006 Table of Detected Contaminants

Please see the table on the last page.

Section 8: Definitions of some terms contained within this report.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

TOC Language:

The value reported under "Level Found" for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) is the lowest ratio between the percentage of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of greater than one (1) indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal. A value of less than one (1) indicates a violation of the TOC removal requirements.

Non-Detects (ND) – laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level -The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal"(MCLG) is 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.

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

Maximum Residency Daily Limit (MRDL) – Maximum allowed Chlorine residual allowed at the farthest point in the water system. MRDLG is *Maximum Residency Daily Limit Goal*.

Section 9: Turbidity

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water and is an indication of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity limit set by the EPA is 0.3 in 95% of the daily samples and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time. As reported above the City of Steubenville's highest recorded turbidity result for 2006 was **3.20 NTU** and the lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting turbidity limits was **74.40%**.

Section 10: Explanation of Health Risks of chemicals detected

Total Coliform

Bacteria: Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. The City of Steubenville Water Department tested over 250 samples in 2005. No samples tested positive.

Section 11: How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of Steubenville City Council, which meets every Tuesday at 7:30 P.M. at the City Building at 123 S. 3rd St. The Council's Utility Committee meets on an as needed basis. Information on any council meeting may be obtained from the Clerk of Council at (740) 283-6000 extension 2100.

For more information on your drinking water contact the City of Steubenville Water Department at (740) 283-6041, or email us at plamantia@cityofsteubenville.us. We will be happy to answer any water related questions that you may have.