

The Village of Homer is very pleased to provide you with its Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is from three (3) wells, two are primary water supply wells located on the east side of Homer Lake. The other well is an emergency standby only, and is located just south of the Homer D.P.W. garage. We draw our water from a Parma formation in the Marshall Sandstone, and the depths of our wells range from 52 to 152 feet. The Village of Homer is considered a limited treatment facility utilizing phosphate for Iron removal and corrosion control as well as Chlorine for disinfection.

The State of Michigan performed an assessment of our source water in 2004 to determine the susceptibility or the relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a six-tiered scale from “very-low” to “high” based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry and contaminant sources. The susceptibility of The Village of Homer for the two wells is “low” and for our emergency stand-by well is “moderately high”. A copy of the full report can be obtained by contacting Jerry Stonebraker, Village Manager, at the Village of Homer office, 130 East Main, or by calling 517-568-4321.

The Village of Homer has a Cross Connection Ordinance in place to prevent contamination of the water supply. The Village of Homer is contracting with Backflow Solutions to develop a Wellhead Protection Plan and a ten-year well delineation where the potential sources of contamination within the delineated areas will be defined.

I am pleased to report that our drinking water meets Federal and State requirements. Last year, as in the years past, the Village of Homer is proud to report that our system has never violated a maximum contamination level or any other water quality standard. This report is intended to show our water quality and what it means.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact The Village Office at 130 E. Main Street, Homer or PO Box 155, Homer, MI 49245 or call (517) 568-4321. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled council meetings. They are held on the first Monday of every month at 130 E. Main Street in the Village of Homer Municipal Building Council Chambers.

The Village of Homer routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The attached table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants.

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:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mf/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.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Action Level – The concentration of a contaminant with, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. The MCL is set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – The “Goal” (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG allows for a margin of safety.

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 a 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.

Not Applicable (N/A) – No information available.

90th percentile – 90 percent of samples taken are under the level

It’s important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

**Additional information is available from the
Environmental Protection Agency’s
Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).**

What does all this mean?

As you can see by the table, the Village water system had no violations. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. We’re proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharge, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial process and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

MCL.s are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two (2) liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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 infections. 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions.

The Village of Homer works around the clock to provide the best quality of water possible to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

DETECTED CONTAMINANTS TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation N/Y	Maximum Level Detected	Range	DATE if not in 2014	Unit Measurement	MCL	MCLG	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Radioactive Contaminants								
Combined Radium	No	2.58	.72+-2.58	2013	PCi/l	5.0	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Alpha emitters	No	.9	1.7 +- .07	9/07/10	PCi/l	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants								
Arsenic ***	No	.003	.002-.010	2014	ppm	.010*	.01*	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	No	.26	.01-2	2014	ppm	.2	.2	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	No	ND	0-.001	2014	ppm	.05	.05	Erosion of natural deposits
Trihalomethanes	No	ND	ND	2014	ppm	.080	.080	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids	No	ND	ND	2013	ppm	.060	.060	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	No	.16	.1-4.0	2014	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Contaminants**								
Sodium	No	35		2013	ppm	N/A	N/A	N/A
Contaminant Subject to AL								
CONTAMINANT SUBJECT TO AL	ACTION LEVEL	90 th PERCENTILE	RANGE	DATE	NUMBER OF SAMPLES ABOVE AL	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT		
Copper (ppm)	1.3	.05	N/D - .79	2012	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits		
Lead (ppb)	.015	.001	N/D -.003	2014	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives		

Other Detected Contaminants					Other water areas of interest			
Chloride	N/A	Avg=62		2014	ppm	N/A	N/A	N/A
Hardness	N/A	Avg=319		2014	ppm	N/A	N/A	N/A
Iron	N/A	Avg=.75		2014	ppm	N/A	N/A	N/A
Nitrate	N/A	N/D		2014	ppm	10	N/A	N/A
Nitrite	N/A	N/D		2014	ppm	1	N/A	N/A

Chlorine Residual Compliance												
Chlorine or Chloramines	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Bacteriological sample site #1	.19	.31	.27	.29	.35	.29	.15	.27	.31	.30	.35	.32
Bacteriological sample site #2	.90	.96	1.03	1.06	1.20	.83	.68	.97	.99	1.13	1.01	.94
Monthly average of samples	.55	.64	.65	.68	.78	.56	.42	.62	.65	.72	.68	.63
RAA **** computed quarterly			.62			.68			.57			.68

* These arsenic values are effective January 23, 2006. Until then, the MCL is 50 ppb and there is no MCLG.

** Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

*** 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 costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of 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.

**** Running Annual Average

THERE ARE 74 POSSIBLE REGULATED CONTAMINANTS THAT THE VILLAGE OF HOMER IS REQUIRED TO TEST FOR; ONLY DETECTED RESULTS ARE POSTED, FOR A COMPLETE LIST CONTACT THE VILLAGE HALL (517) 568-4321.