

# 2015 Water Quality Report for the Village of Homer

This report covers the drinking water quality for the Village of Homer for the 2015 calendar year. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2015. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

Your water comes from three groundwater wells, each over 52 feet. The State performed an assessment of our source water to determine the susceptibility or the relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven-tiered scale from "very-low" to "very-high" based on geologic sensitivity, well construction, water chemistry and contamination sources. The susceptibility of our source is "low" and for our emergency stand-by well is "moderately high".

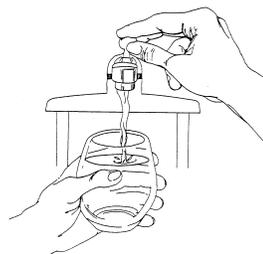
There are no Significant sources of contamination in our water supply. We are making efforts to protect our sources by our cross connection ordinance. The Village of Homer is contracting with Backflow Solutions to develop a Wellhead Protection Plan and a ten-year well delineation where the potential sources of contamination within the delineated areas will be defined.

If you would like to know more about the report please contact the Village office at 130 E Main Street, Homer, MI 49245 or call, 517-568-4321. Information is also available on our web site [www.homermichigan.org](http://www.homermichigan.org).

- **Contaminants and their presence in water:** 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 **EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.

- **Vulnerability of sub-populations:** 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 systems 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

- **Sources of drinking water:** The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. Our water comes from 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:
  - \* **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 discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
  - \* **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.
  - \* **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
  - \* **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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.



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. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which provide the same protection for public health.

## Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2015 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 – December 31, 2015. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All of the data is representative of the water quality, but some are more than one year old.

### Terms and abbreviations used below:

*Water Supplier: Define only the terms you use in the table below. Delete any you don't use.*

- **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 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 Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** means 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):** means 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.
- **N/A:** Not applicable **ND:** not detectable at testing limit **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).
- **Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Regulated Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Year Sampled	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0	3	N/A	2014	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.26	N/A	2014	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge of metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.24	.15-.24	2015	NO	Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
TTHM - Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	N/A	20.7	N/A	2014	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	N/A	3	N/A	2014	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	<b>MRDL</b>	<b>MRDLG</b>	.62	.36 - .85	2015	NO	Water additive used to control microbes
	4	4					
Radioactive Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Year Sampled	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	15	0	0	N/A	2014	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium (pCi/L)	5	0	2.58	N/A	2013	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminant Subject to AL	Action Level	MCLG	90% of Samples ≤ This Level	Year Sampled	Number of Samples Above AL	Typical Source of Contaminant	
Lead (ppb)***	15	0	8	2015	1	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.360	2015	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives	
Special Monitoring and Unregulated Contaminant **			Level Detected	Year Sampled	Comments		
Sodium (ppm)			47	2015	Typical source is erosion of natural deposits		

\*\* 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.

**Information about 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. The Village of Homer D.P.W. 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Microbial Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Number Detected	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	>1 positive monthly sample (>5.0% of monthly samples positive)	0	0	No	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and <i>E. coli</i>	Routine and repeat sample total coliform positive, and one is also fecal or <i>E. coli</i> positive	0	0	No	Human and animal fecal waste

The State and EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. During the monitoring period from January 1 to September 30, 2015 we did not take the required number of routine samples for volatile organic compounds, synthetic organic contaminants, cyanide, and nitrate. We collected samples on October 20, 2015 to correct this violation. During the monitoring period from July 1 to July 31, 2015 we did not take the required number of routine samples from the correct locations for disinfection byproducts. We will collect additional samples in July 2016 to correct this violation. These violations did not pose a threat to the quality of the drinking water. We will review our monitoring schedule and work with the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality to ensure this does not occur again.

We will update this report annually and will keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year, as they happen. Copies are available at the Village of Homer municipal building, 130 E. Main Street, Homer, Michigan 49245 or on our web site [www.homermichigan.org](http://www.homermichigan.org). This report will not be sent to you.

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. The Village of Homer Council meets the first Monday of every month at 7:00 pm at the Village of Homer municipal building, 130 E. Main Street, Homer, Michigan. For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, contact Village Manager, Art Kale at 517-568-4321 [www.homermichigan.org](http://www.homermichigan.org). For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at [www.epa.gov/safewater/](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/).