

# **2023 WATER QUALITY REPORT**

**City of Heath** Mark Johns *Mayor*  **Department of Public Utilities** John Geller *Director*  **Division of Water Production** Mike Hammond *Superintendent*  **Division of Water Distribution** John Appleman *Superintendent* 



The City of Heath has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the customer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included within this report is general health information, water quality test results, and how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water.

# About Your Drinking Water

The five objectives of water treatment are to:

- 1) Kill disease-causing organisms
- 2) Remove unwanted chemicals
- 3) Remove sediment
- 4) Fluoridate to approved health standards
- 5) Produce water with pleasant taste and odor



# How is My Water Treated?

Water from the Heath Water Plant goes through a complex multibarrier process to achieve these objectives. This process is as follows: Water is pumped from Heath's underground aquifers into the Water Treatment facility. Aeration occurs, and the water is softened through the use of alum and lime. Carbon dioxide is added to adjust the pH. Any remaining particles are trapped as the water is filtered through a mix of sand and gravel. Chlorine is added at this point to kill any trace of undesirable organisms, and a small amount of fluoride is added to bring concentrations up to EPA requirements. Clean water is pumped to distribution points throughout the city's residential, commercial, and industrial base. The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The plant is in complete compliance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and the State of Ohio Environmental

Protection Agency's drinking water regulations. The City of Heath has a current unconditioned license to operate the water system.



# Special Information Available

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised individuals such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ

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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 from their health providers regarding drinking water. 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

### Lead & Drinking Water

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 City of Heath 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

### Monitoring & Reporting Violations & Enforcement Actions

The City of Heath Water Department was in violation for failing to collect a sample for arsenic analysis during the third quarter of 2023 as required by the Ohio EPA. The Water Department returned to compliance when samples were collected for arsenic on October 18, 2023.

Steps have been taken to ensure that all sampling will be conducted as required by enacting a more comprehensive management plan. This plan assigns responsibilities for sampling and contains contingency measures if the assigned Water Department personnel are absent.

# **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Water is a valuable resource that most people take for granted. As we all strive to become more involved in protecting our environment, we need to have a better understanding of the interdependency of all life as it revolves around water.

We at the Heath Division of Water look forward to the opportunity to meet with all segments of our community, to provide a better understanding of water as a resource and to encourage a commitment to water conservation.

The City of Heath offers automatic deductions from your checking or savings account as a convenient way to pay your water and sewer bills.

Please contact Denise Rush at (740) 522-1420, Ext. 2, for information about setting up your account. View your bills and pay online at **heathohio.gov**.

We want to listen to the questions and concerns of our constituents, and respond with more specific information, to better serve our community. City Council meetings are open to the public. These meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month, 7:30 p.m. at the Heath Municipal Building, 1287 Hebron Road, Heath, Ohio 43056, (740) 522-1420.

#### CONTACTS Mr. Mike Hammond

Superintendent Heath Water Plant (740) 522-1677 **Mr. John Appleman** Superintendent Division of Water Distribution (740) 522-6282



# **2023 WATER QUALITY REPORT | FINISHED WATER**

The data presented in the CCR are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations.

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Sources of Contaminants
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	2.56	1.78 to 2.63	No	2023	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	N/A	80	2.2	0 to 2.2	No	2023	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.03	0.81 to 1.25	No	2023	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	3.3	0 to 3.3	No	2023	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes

Contaminants (Units)	Action Level	MCLG	Individual results over the AL	90% of test levels were less than	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Sources of Contaminants
Conner (nnm)	1.3	1.3	N/A	0.012 ppm	No	2021	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper (ppm)		0 out of 30	samples were	found to have cop	per levels in e	cess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm	

Unregulated Contaminants (Units)	Average Level	Range of Detections	Year Sampled
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	0.6	N/A	2023
Chloroform (ppb)	1.45	1.3 to 1.6	2023

# **DEFINITIONS & TERMS**

Action Level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	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
Maximum Contaminant	The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water	(MRDLG)	contamination.
Level (MCL)		N/A	Not applicable.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health	Parts per Billion (ppb)	Units of measurement for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in roughly 31.7 years.
(MCLG) Maximum	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in	Parts per Million	Units of measurement for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in roughly 11.5 days.
Residual Disinfectant	drinking water	(ppm)	
Level (MRDL)		<	A Symbol which means less than. A result of <5 means that the lowest level that could be detected is 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.

### **Source of Water**

The City of Heath has four well fields located at Hoback Park on Dorsev Mill Road and Irving Wick Drive. The well fields produce over 11 million gallons per day at current conditions. All of the municipal wells at Heath have been developed in a broad and thick gravel aquifer that generally lies from 150 to 200 feet below ground surface, and parallels the South Fork of the Licking River. This aguifer is part of an extensive buried valley of glacial deposits occupying a broad ancient valley, which extends from Hebron through Newark. This formation consists of sand and gravel intermixed in lenses with glacial tills and clays.

The aquifer that supplies drinking water to the City of Heath has a low susceptibility to contamination, due to (1) its depth, (2) the thick layer of clay that covers the aquifer in which the drinking water well is located, and (3) the low-risk nature of the existing potential contaminant sources identified. This does not mean that this well field cannot become contaminated, only that the likelihood of contamination is relatively low. Future contamination can be avoided by implementing protective measures. The source water assessment report, which includes more detailed information, is available by calling The Water Treatment Plant, 70 Dorsey Mill Road, (740) 522-1677.

### **Distribution System**

The distribution system consists of the following: approximately 86 miles of water main, six booster stations and five storage facilities. There are two underground concrete reservoirs with a combined capacity of 1.5 million gallons, and three standpipes with a combined capacity of 1.1 million gallons.

There are approximately 520 facilities where backflow prevention devices have been installed. These

units are inspected at the time of installation and every 12 months thereafter. The water main sizes range from 6 inches to 16 inches.

## **History**

The first water treatment plant was built in 1957 with a capacity of one million gallons per day. As the demand for water supply grew, and the population increased, the City made extensive upgrades to the plant and distribution system from 1969 to present day. In 1998, the City completed a major upgrade to the treatment facilities, raising the production capacity from two million gallons per day to four million gallons per day. In 2014, the City upgraded the plant with new high service pumps and a solids contact clarifier to replace aging equipment. In 2016, the WCLT standpipe was replaced to serve future demands, and to improve the water pressure in neighboring areas.



# Valuable Information Concerning Your Water

Heath's drinking water was voted the best drinking water in the State of Ohio in 1994. Unlike most cities, Heath's drinking water comes from underground aquifers, instead of a more polluted surface source. The city water is softened to 145 mg/l making home water softeners unnecessary. Heath's ground water has a natural fluoridation, with only small amounts of fluoride added during the treatment process to meet EPA regulations.

# What are Sources of Contamination to Drinking Water?

The source of drinking water for both tap 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 materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals 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 run-off, 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 run-off, and residential uses
- D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas station, urban storm water run-off and septic systems
- E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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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. 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 calling the **Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).**  Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Unregulated contaminant monitoring results are available by calling The Water Treatment Plant, 70 Dorsey Mill Road, (740) 522-1677.



# heathohio.gov





**EPA.Ohio.gov** 

Mike DeWine, Governor Jon Husted, Lt. Governor Anne M. Vogel, Director

November 22, 2023

### **NOTICE OF VIOLATION – ACTION REQUIRED**

JOHN L GELLER CITY OF HEATH PWS 70 DORSEY MILL RD. HEATH, OH 43056 CITY OF HEATH PWS NOV Drinking Water Program Licking County PWS ID: OH4500912

#### Subject: Failure to Monitor Drinking Water

CITY OF HEATH PWS is in violation of Ohio Administrative Code Rule (OAC) 3745-81-23 for failing to monitor your drinking water during the Third Quarter of 2023 monitoring period and/or report results for the following contaminants: ARSENIC.

In order to return to compliance, CITY OF HEATH PWS must take the following actions:

- 1. Notify your customers using the enclosed instructions and public notice.
- Complete and submit a verification form with a copy of the public notice to "Ohio EPA DDAGW, Lazarus Government Center, P.O. Box 1049, Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049, Attn: Compliance Assurance" or via email to kathleen.pinto@epa.ohio.gov.

RE:

- 3. Promptly collect your next sample according to your most recent monitoring schedule.
- 4. Submit the sample for analysis to a certified laboratory. A list of certified laboratories is online at https://epa.ohio.gov/static/Portals/28/documents/labcert/Combined-Lab-List.pdf.
- 5. For a community water system, include in the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) a clear explanation of the violation including the length of the violation, the potential adverse health effects, and actions taken by the system to address the violation. The mandatory health effects language for the particular contaminant is specified in the appendix to OAC section 3745-96-02.

Your prompt attention to this matter is greatly appreciated. Continued noncompliance may lead to enforcement actions. If you have any questions, or if the required sample analysis was performed, please call me at (614) 644-2752 or email me at <u>kathleen.pinto@epa.ohio.gov</u>.

Sincerely,

Kothlun Pinto

Kathleen Pinto Division of Drinking and Ground Waters Enclosure: Public Notice, Verification Form ec: Mike Santone, CDO, DDAGW

50 W. Town Street Suite 700 Columbus, Ohio 43215 U.S.A. 614 | 644 3020 epa.ohio.gov

The State of Ohio is an Equal Opportunity Employer and Provider of ADA Services

# **DRINKING WATER NOTICE**

### Monitoring requirements not met for CITY OF HEATH PWS

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the Third Quarter of 2023 time period we did not monitor for the following contaminants and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time: **ARSENIC**.

### What Should I Do?

This notice is to inform you that CITY OF HEATH PWS did not monitor and report results for the presence of the contaminants listed above in the public drinking water system during the Third Quarter of 2023 time period, as required by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. You do not need to take any actions in response to this notice.

### What Is Being Done?

Upon being notified of this violation, the water supply was required to have the drinking water analyzed for the above mentioned parameters. The water supplier will take steps to ensure that adequate monitoring will be performed in the future.

A sample was (will be) collected on October 18th, 2023 .

Sample results and additional information may be obtained by contacting CITY OF HEATH PWS at:

Contact Person: Mike Hammond

Phone Number: 740-404-8825

Mailing Address: 70 Dorsey Mill Rd. Heath, Ohio 43056

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

PWSID: OH4500912 Facility ID: 4555520

Date Distributed: \_\_\_\_\_

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### PUBLIC NOTICE INSTRUCTIONS AND VERIFICATION FORM FOR COMMUNITY PUBLIC WATER SYSTEMS WITH TIER 3 VIOLATIONS

The owner or operator of a community public water system with a Tier 3 violation or situation shall notify the persons served by the public water system as soon as practical but **no later than one year** after the system learns of the violation. At a minimum, community public water systems must issue the notice by **mail or other direct delivery**. Public notice issued by other methods shall be repeated annually as long as the violation or situation persists.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE PUBLIC WAS NOTIFIED BY THE FOLLOWING METHOD(S) INDICATED BELOW, AS DESCRIBED IN THE OHIO ADMINISTRATIVE CODE RULE 3745-81-32:

Required Method of Public Notification	Actual Method of Public Notification
Use one or more of the following methods to reach all persons served by the public water system:	Describe actual methods used to notify public of the violation:
Public notice issued by mail or other direct delivery to each customer receiving a bill and to other service connections to which water is delivered by the public water system. <i>The</i> <i>consumer confidence report (CCR) delivered to customers by</i> <i>July 1 of each year may be used as long as the public notice</i> <i>includes all the required content and is delivered within the</i> <i>required timeframe.</i>	Date of mailing/delivery Please check if public notice was included in the yearly CCR 
If the above methods do not reach all persons served, also use any other method reasonably calculated to reach other persons regularly served by the public water system (e.g. publication in a local newspaper or newsletter, delivery of multiple copies for distribution by customers that provide their drinking water to others, posting in public places served by the system, use of e-mail or the Internet to notify employees or students, or delivery community organizations). If the notice is posted, it shall remain in place as long as the violation exists, but in no case less than 7 days.	A. Method(s)  B. Date(s)

### Please indicate below what public notice was used. INCLUDE A COPY OF THE PUBLIC NOTICE.

\_\_\_\_ A public notice as provided was issued without changes.

Signature of Responsible Person	Date	PWS NAME: CITY OF HEATH PWSID: OH4500912 Facility ID: 4555520	
Printed Name and Title of Responsible Person		COUNTY: LICKING MONITORING, ROUTINE MA 3Q2023; Vio ID 11337	
For Ohio EPA Use Only: Date PN received:			
PN acceptable: PN not acc	ceptable:		