

**PORTAGE COUNTY WATER RESOURCES
PINES SYSTEM**

2006 ANNUAL CONSUMER WATER QUALITY REPORT

Billing Information: 330-297-3670

Customer Service: 330-297-3685

24-Hour Number: 330-626-5283

This report is also available on our web site: www.portageco.com/waterresources.htm

Water Quality Exceeds Mark

Portage County Water Resources is committed to providing our customers with a safe and reliable supply of high quality drinking water. The water meets both state and federal standards for quality and safety. This annual "Consumer Confidence Report," required by the Safe Drinking Water Act, explains where your water comes from, what tests show about it, and other things you should know about drinking water.

Water Source

The Pines Water Treatment Plant, which provides drinking water to Portage County customers, uses ground water as its source. The plant produced an average of 20,000 gallons per day in 2006.

Source Water Protection

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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Portage County Water Resources vigilantly safeguards its groundwater supplies and plans to continue implementing protective measures.

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)).

Contaminates which may become present in source water include: (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural or 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 runoff, and residential uses; (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which can come from industry, 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.

Portage County Water Resources has actively monitored the area around its well field for ten (10) years to protect it from potential pollution. The Pines "Wellhead Protection Area Delineation" has been completed and a "Potential Pollution Source Inventory" is monitored to protect our source water. There are presently no known sources of pollution affecting our ground water and we intend to use public education and constant monitoring to continually improve our protection program. We need the cooperation of everyone living and working in the area where our water originates to prevent contamination, more information is available by calling customer service.

Special Information available

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 (800-426-4791).

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.

2006 Pines Treated Water Quality Roundup

Table A 2006 Detected Contaminants

Substance	Year	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Sources of Contaminate	Violation Yes / No
Lead	2004	PPB	15	0	7.3 90%	2.0-11.0	Customer Plumbing & Service Connections	No
Copper	2004	PPM	1.3	1.3	.215 90%	.069-.250	Customer Plumbing & Service Connections	No
Total Chlorine	2006	PPM	4	4	1.30	0.38-1.34	Disinfection Byproduct	No
Bromodichloro methane	2004	PPB	N/A	N/A	2.7	N/A	Disinfection Byproduct	No
Bromoform	2004	PPB	N/A	N/A	0.5	N/A	Disinfection Byproduct	No
Dibromochloro methane	2004	PPB	N/A	N/A	0.8	N/A	Disinfection Byproduct	No
Chloroform	2004	PPB	N/A	N/A	7.6	N/A	Disinfection Byproduct	No
Barium	2004	PPM	2000	2000	150	N/A	Fertilizer Runoff	No

Listed above are the analyses for which contaminants were detected. Not listed are the other contaminants for which we test that were not detected.

**PPM - One part per million

**PPB - One part per billion

Definitions:

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.”

Action level: “The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.”

Lead and Copper Precautions

“Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home’s plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home’s water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).”

Customer Views Welcome

If you are interested in learning more about the water department and water quality or participating in the decision-making process, there are a number of opportunities available. Questions about water quality can be answered by calling our Customer Service office at 330-297-3685. Inquiries about public participation and policy decisions can be made by calling the main office at 330-297-3670. The Board of Commissioners meetings are Tuesday at 10:00 am and open to the public.