



Consumer Confidence Report for Testing Year 2016

The City of Union has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water for testing year 2016. This report has been prepared as part of state and federal requirements to inform the consumer as mandated by the Safe Drinking Water Act. We welcome the opportunity to inform residents and business owners of our high water quality. We have a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system.

Source water information. The 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act established the federal Source Water Protection and Assessment Program, which required that a “source water assessment” be completed for all public water systems by May 2003. Source water assessments are nearly identical to wellhead protection plans, requiring a delineation of the protection area and a potential contaminant source inventory. However, a source water assessment additionally requires a susceptibility analysis. To fulfill the requirements of

the federal Source Water Assessment and Protection Program, Ohio EPA completed a study of Union's source of drinking water to determine its susceptibility. According to this study, the aquifer that supplies water to Union has a high susceptibility to contamination. This determination is based primarily on the lack of a protective layer of clay overlying the aquifer and the shallow depth (less than 15 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer. Nitrates have historically been detected in the treated water at concentrations well below the federal and state drinking water standards of 10 mg/L.

The termination of farming practices in the vicinity of the wellfield has caused the nitrates to be substantially reduced below concentrations of concern. EPA notes that Union has worked very hard to develop and implement a comprehensive wellhead/source water protection plan to help prevent contamination from entering the aquifer. The protection plan contains an education component, source control strategies, an emergency response plan, and groundwater monitoring strategies.

Union receives its drinking water from the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer using four groundwater production wells. Wells 2 and 3 pump directly to Union's Iron Removal Water treatment facility where the water is aerated to oxidize and precipitate iron. Iron is then removed by anthracite (activated carbon) and sand filtration. Chlorine is injected to provide for disinfection, and fluoride is added for dental benefits.

The treated water is pumped to Union's two water towers, which together have a total water-storage capacity of 1 million gallons. From these towers, water is distributed throughout Union to 2,719 service connections via approximately 37.5 miles of pipe varying in diameter from 4 inches to 20 inches. Union pumped 163 million gallons of treated water in 2016. Union has a waterline connection with the City of Englewood, which can be opened if a water-related emergency should ever occur (for Englewood's report call 836-5106).

What are possible sources of contamination to drinking water? Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least some small amount of contaminants. The presence of contaminants

does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about the contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. As water travels through the ground on its way to the aquifer, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and also can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals/human activities.

Contaminants can include:

- Micro contaminants, viruses and bacteria that may come from septic tanks, wastewater treatment plants, livestock, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, salts and metals that can be natural or result from stormwater runoff, wastewater discharges, and farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides that can come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants that originate from agriculture, industrial processes, petroleum production, gas stations, stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminant substances that can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- Lead, if present, which 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 Union 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. A list of laboratories certified in the State of Ohio to test for lead may be found by calling 614-644-2752. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you

can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline Web site at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead> and their phone number is 800-426-4991.

Precautions: In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in the water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations limit contaminants in bottled water. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune-system disorders, some elderly persons, and infants can be particularly at risk from infection. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. EPA and Centers for Disease Control 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.

About your drinking water: The City of Union provides safe and aesthetically pleasing drinking water to its residents, businesses, and visitors. The underground water supply is of high quality, and Union has worked hard to protect this valuable water resource. In order to supply you with the safest possible water product, Union chlorinates the water to control viruses and bacteria. Fluoride is also added to enhance dental protection. The levels of these two additives are monitored daily to ensure proper dosages are maintained. Iron is an abundant and widespread mineral found in the rocks and soils of Ohio. Iron is not a health risk but rather an aesthetic issue because of the discoloration it can cause in water. At high-enough concentrations, iron can affect the taste of water and other beverages. Iron also can stain laundry, plumbing fixtures, and porcelain. Manganese, while less abundant, can cause similar problems and leave a bitter taste in the water. Manganese also can leave visible black specks in ice cubes. To minimize effects of these naturally occurring minerals, Union operates a water treatment facility to reduce the iron and manganese concentrations that come out of the tap. Ohio EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. Water samples were collected to test for contaminants. Ohio EPA requires Union to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because of the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Therefore, some data, although accurate, is more than a year old

but in keeping with EPA requirements. Listed in this publication is information on those substances that were found in Union's drinking water.

For more information and to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water: Public participation and comments are encouraged at regular Union City Council meetings. These meetings are held the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in City Hall, 118 North Main St. Please contact City of Union offices at 836-8624 for more information.

Definitions of some terms contained within this report:

- **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 contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Parts per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)** are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days.
- **Parts per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per Liter (µg/L)** are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.
- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **The "<" Symbol:** The symbol that means "less than."

If a paper copy of the Consumer Confidence Report is desired, call 937-836-8624 and one will be provided.

2016 CCR REPORT FOR UNION, OHIO

CONTAMINANTS (UNITS)	MCLG	MCL	LEVEL FOUND	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	VIOLATION	SAMPLE YEAR	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS
BACTERIOLOGICAL							
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	1*	0	0 – 1	No	2016	Naturally present in the environment.
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS							
Nitrate ppm	10	10	1.23	< 0.1 – 1.23	Yes	2016	Runoff from fertilizer use.
Fluoride ppm	4.0	4.0	1.14	0.80 – 1.14	No	2016	Natural geology and supplement.
Copper ppm	1.3	A.L. - 1.3	0.359	0.038 - 0.359	No	2016	Corrosion of house-hold plumbing.
Lead ppb	0	A.L. - 15	6.200	< 2.0 – 9.88	No	2016	Corrosion of house-hold plumbing.
Barium ppm	2	2	.236	.127-.236	No	2015	Discharge from drilling waste; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
RADIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS							
pCi/L = Picocuries per liter - a measure of radioactivity.							
Gross Alpha A/Ci/L	0	15	< 5.45	0.0 - < 5.45	No	2015	Erosion of natural deposits.
REGULATED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM							
Haloacetic Acids 5-ppb	N/A	60 ^d	< 1. 00 - 3.560	< 6.0 - 8.21	No	2016	By-products of chlorination.
Trihalometanes ppb	0	80 ^d	1.610 - 6.290	15.14 – 19.71	No	2016	By-products of chlorination.
Total Chlorine ppm	MRDL=4	MRDL=4	.66	.53 - .82	No	2016	Water additive used to control microbes.
UNREGULATED COMPOUNDS							
Bromodichloro-methane ppb	N/A	N/A	6.22	4.69 – 6.22	No	2016	By-products of drinking water chlorination.
Bromoform ppb	N/A	N/A	1.940	1.61 – 1.940	No	2016	By-products of drinking water chlorination.
Chloroform ppb	N/A	N/A	6.290	3.38 – 6.290	No	2016	By-products of drinking water chlorination.
Dibromochloromethane ppb	N/A	N/A	5.590	5.130 – 5.590	No	2016	By-products of drinking water chlorination.

* MCL: presence of coliform bacteria in greater than or equal to 5 percent of monthly samples.

Copper and lead results were within compliance for sample analysis. 20 samples are taken for copper compliance and 20 samples are taken for lead compliance.

2016

1. Total water samples taken for year, 1192.
2. Total water samples taken for iron, 52.
3. Total water samples taken for total coliform and e-coli, 98.

Drinking Water Notice: 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 July 1 to September 30, 2016 time period we did not monitor for Nitrate.

What should I do? You do not need to take any actions in response to this notice.

What is being done? A sample was collected on June 23, 2016. The sample was taken 7 days before the required monitoring period, and therefore did not meet the requirement to sample between July 1 and September 30, 2016. The result of the June 23, 2016 sample was 1.23 mg/L, well below the MCL of 10 mg/L.

For more information, you may contact John Applegate at 937-836-8624 or by mail at 118 North Main Street Union, Ohio 45322.

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 Union 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 at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead> and the phone number is 800-426-4991.

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