

City of Williamston 2016 Annual Water Quality Report

This report covers the drinking water quality for The City of Williamston for the 2016 calendar year. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2016. 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 5 groundwater wells, each over 200 feet deep. The State performed an assessment of our source water in 2003 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 "moderate".

There are no significant sources of contamination in our water supply. We are making efforts to protect our sources by through the City's Wellhead Protection Program. In 2010 the City's Wellhead Protection Area (WPA) was defined and included in the City Zoning Ordinance. Activities within the WPA are monitored for potential impact. If you would like to know more about the Wellhead Protection Program, please contact City Hall at 517-655-2774.

Filtration through the soil helps keep the source water clean. The City's iron removal and water softening treatment plant went online in March 2012. Chlorine is added for disinfection and orthophosphate is added to help control corrosion. Water is tested on a weekly basis for bacteria.

The finished drinking water is pumped to the distribution system and the above ground storage tank for use during peak demands. The distribution system is flushed two to three times per year to remove old mineral deposits from the water mains. This improves the taste of the water and helps prevent a cloudy appearance.

- **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.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Williamston City Hall
161 E. Grand River Ave.
Williamston, MI 48895

Billing Questions:
517-655-2774

Water System Emergencies:

517-655-2774 Monday – Friday (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

517-655-4222 After Hours and Weekends

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: EPA Website:

800-426-4791

www.epa.gov/safewater/

Water Costs Money . . . Don't Waste It!

Little leaks add up in a hurry. A faucet drip or invisible toilet leak that totals only two teaspoons a minute comes to 15 gallons a day. That's 105 gallons a week and 5,460 wasted gallons of water a year. Check every faucet in the house. A single dripping faucet can waste far more water in a single day than one person needs for drinking in an entire week. Leaky toilets can waste as much as 200 gallons each day. Identify leaks by adding food coloring in your toilet tank. If the color shows up in the bowl without the toilet being flushed, you have a leak to repair.

Adjust lawn watering to the weather. Following a heavy rain, for instance, skip your regular watering a day until the grass needs it again. Teach the family how to turn off an automatic sprinkler system in case a storm comes up during the sprinkling cycle. With or without an automatic sprinkler system, it is wise to water during the evening or early morning hours. Water applied to a lawn during the hottest part of the day tends to evaporate before it has time to soak into the roots of the grass. If you have an automatic sprinkler system, check the heads periodically. Be sure they haven't shifted direction to spray water on the side of the house, driveway, or sidewalk instead of the lawn.

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2016 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, 2016. 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:

- **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):** 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 (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **Level 1 Assessment:** A study of the water supply to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
- **Level 2 Assessment:** A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Regulated Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range	Year Sampled	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.19	N/A	2016	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge of metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.32	N/A	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
TTHM - Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	N/A	41.9	N/A	2016	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	N/A	9	N/A	2016	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine* (ppm)	MRDL	MRDLG	1.11	0.89 to 1.40	2016	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	2	0 to 3	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium (pCi/L)	5	0	0	0 to 2	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	2		2016	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.37		2016	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)	129	2016	Typical sources are erosion of natural deposits and a byproduct of the City's softening process

* Chlorine was calculated using the running annual average.

** 90 percent of the samples collected were at or below the level reported for our water.

*** 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 City of Williamston water system 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>.

From January 1, 2016, to March 31, 2016:

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

From April 1, 2016, to December 31, 2016:

Microbial Contaminants	Number Detected	Level 1 Assessment Triggered?	Level 2 Assessment Triggered?	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	No	No	No	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and <i>E. coli</i>	0	No	No	No	Human and animal fecal waste

Monitoring and Reporting to the DEQ Requirements: The State and EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We met all the monitoring and reporting requirements for 2016.

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 City Hall, 161 E. Grand River Ave. This report will not be sent to you.

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. City Council meetings are held every second and fourth Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, contact the DPW Director at (517) 655-2221 extension 302. For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at www.epa.gov/safewater/.