

# NEW LEXINGTON DRINKING WATER REPORT FOR THE YEAR OF 2008

## **Drinking water information.**

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

## **What's the Source of your drinking water?**

The City of New Lexington water system uses surface water drawn from New Lexington Reservoir and Rush Creek Reservoir Site 1B. The New Lexington Reservoir is located 1 mile north of New Lexington and east of Palmer Road. The Rush Creek Reservoir Site 1B is located 2 miles north of New Lexington just off of State Route 13. Both of these surface water sources are utilized and require extensive treatment prior to being used for drinking water.

For the purposes of source water assessments, in Ohio all surface waters are considered to be susceptible to contamination. By their nature, surface waters are readily accessible and can be contaminated by chemicals and pathogens which may rapidly arrive at the public drinking water intake with little warning or time to prepare.

The City of New Lexington's drinking water source protection area contains the following potential contaminant sources, including runoff from truck storage, auto repair, and salvage areas, agricultural runoff, oil and gas wells, abandoned mines, and vehicular accidents near stream crossings.

The City of New Lexington public water system treats the water to meet drinking water quality standards, but no single treatment technique can address all potential contaminants. The potential for water quality impacts can be further decreased by implementing measures to protect the New Lexington and Rush Creek Reservoirs. More detailed information is provided in the City of New Lexington's Drinking Water Source Assessment report, which can be obtained by calling Scott A. Bryant at 740-342-1633.

## **What are sources of contamination to drinking water?**

The sources of drinking water both tap water and bottled water include 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 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: (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 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 water runoff, and residential uses; (D) 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 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.

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).

**Who needs to take special precautions?**

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 (1-800-426-4791).

**About your drinking water.**

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The City of New Lexington conducted sampling for bacteria, inorganic, radiological, synthetic organic, and volatile organic contaminant sampling during 2008. Samples were collected for over 80 different contaminants most of which were not detected in the City of New Lexington water supply. The Ohio EPA requires us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, are more than one year old.

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the New Lexington drinking water.

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
<b>Microbiological (no bacteria detects in 2008)</b>							
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	TT	0.09	0.07 - 0.09	NO	2008	Soil runoff.
Turbidity % samples meeting standard	NA	TT	100%	All 100%	NO	2008	Soil runoff
Total Organic Carbon	NA	TT	1.068	0.61 - 1.43	NO	2008	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.39	0.71 - 1.39	NO	2008	Water additive which promotes strong teeth.; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	0	AL=15	<5.0	NA	NO	2006	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppb)	1300	AL=1300	42.1	NA	NO	2006	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.56	0.11 - 0.56	NO	2008	Runoff from fertilizer use; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage
Barium (ppb)	2000	2000	5.6	NA	NO	2008	Discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits;
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>							
TTHMs (ppb) (Total Trihalomethane)	NA	80	84.28	27.9 - 96.4	YES	2008	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	NA	60	25.18	7.76 - 33.24	NO	2008	
<b>Residual Disinfectants</b>							
Chlorine (ppm)	4	MRDL = 4	2.08	1.6 - 2.6	NO	2008	Water additive used to control microbes.

**Turbidity Language**

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water and is an indication of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity limit set by the EPA is 0.3 NTU in 95% of the daily samples and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time. As reported on the table the City of New Lexington highest recorded turbidity result for 2008 was 0.09 NTU and lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%.

**TTHM Health Information**

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

### TOC Language

The value reported under “Level Found” for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) is the lowest ratio between the percentage of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of greater than one (1) indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements. A value of less than one (1) indicates a violation of the TOC removal requirements.

### Nitrate and TOC Monitoring & Reporting Violations

The New Lexington Water System failed to collect and or monitor for the required nitrate and TOC samples in August, 2008. On October 17, 2008 the OEPA issued a notice of violation for failure to meet the treatment technique requirements for disinfectant by-product precursor removal. The New Lexington Water System has taken steps to correct the violations.

### How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of City Council which meets every first and third Monday of each month. Please contact the City Administration office at 740-342-1633 for the time and location of City Council meetings.

**For more information** on your drinking water contact Scott A. Bryant, City Administrator 740-342-1633

### 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 which a water system must follow.

**Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**The “<” symbol:** A symbol which means less than. A result of <5 means that the lowest level that could be detected was 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.



**New Lexington  
Raw Water Source  
Map**

**City of New Lexington  
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