

City of Kentwood's Water Quality Report

We are pleased to report that your drinking water meets, and often is better than, all state and federal guidelines for safe drinking water. Included in the details of this 2004 Water Quality Report is important information about where your water comes from, what's in it, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We update this report annually and will keep you informed if problems occur throughout the year. Copies are available at City Hall, the Kentwood Public Library and the Public Works Building, or by calling (616) 554-0733.

We purchase water from the City of Wyoming whose source for drinking water is Lake Michigan. Rain, ground water, rivers, and streams feed into Lake Michigan, dissolving naturally occurring minerals and sometimes picking up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Some of the substances which can make their way into Lake Michigan are: viruses and bacteria from animal, agricultural, and human activities, salts, metals, pesticides and herbicides, as well as by-products of industrial processes, and radioactive contaminants, which occur naturally or may 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, called Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) which limit the amount of certain contaminants in your drinking water.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. However, the presence of contaminants in drinking water does not necessarily indicate that the drinking water poses a health risk. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791.



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For technical questions about this report, call the water quality manager, Tom Kent at (616) 261-3555.

Kentwood's City Commission meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Kentwood City Center. To learn more about the Utilities Department, visit us on the web at www.ci.kentwood.mi.us.

Esta publicación contiene información importante sobre el agua que usted bebe diariamente. Si no lo entiende, busque a alguien que se lo traduzca o le explique su contenido. Para mas información, llame al (616) 261-3552 o visite nuestra página electrónica www.ci.wyoming.mi.us.

City of Kentwood
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Kentwood, MI 49518



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Help Protect our Source for Drinking Water

We believe it's important to safeguard our water supply by protecting our watershed as well. You can participate in public hearings related to the protection of our source water by contacting the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) on the web at www.deq.state.mi.us. You may also call (800)662-9278 for a listing of public hearings regarding various environmental issues in your area.

MDEQ conducted a Source Water Assessment of the City of Wyoming's water system, in partnership with its wholesale water customers, in 2003. This report found that our water supply has a moderately high susceptibility to contaminants. This report is intended to encourage protection of water sources, provide information for watershed assessment and planning, direct additional water studies and improve land use planning. For a copy of this report, please call our office at 616-399-6511.



Water Quality Report

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Water System

City of Kentwood's

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Each day, our staff works to ensure the water delivered to your home meets all regulatory requirements and your expectations for safety, reliability and quality. For your protection, your drinking water is tested for many parameters. The following tables show only the substances detected in your water during calendar year 2004. We are proud to report there were no violations during that time.

As authorized by the EPA, the State has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data (e.g., for Arsenic), though representative, is more than one year old.

Testing is performed to detect the presence of Cryptosporidium and Giardia, which are protozoan parasites that, when ingested, can result in diarrhea, fever and other gastrointestinal symptoms. The organism is present in Lake Michigan and comes from animal wastes in the watershed. Wyoming's water treatment process provides multiple barriers, including clarification, filtration, and disinfection, to lower the risk of these contaminants in finished tap water. Monitoring of treated water samples yielded a 100% removal rate, proving the effectiveness of the treatment system in microscopic particle removal. For information on microbiological testing, contact our laboratory at (616) 261-3555.

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 persons and infants can be particularly at risk from infections.

These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791.

We sample for total coliform bacteria 16 times per month, every month of the year. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. In July of 2004, we had one positive sample for coliform. All of the repeat samples came back negative. The MCL for coliform is less than 5% of the highest number of samples in any given month. This one positive sample was not a violation.

REGULATED MONITORING AT THE TREATMENT PLANT

SUBSTANCE	UNITS	Highest Running Annual Average	MCL	MCLG	Samples Exceeding MCL	POSSIBLE SOURCES
Arsenic*	ppb	1.0	10	NA	0	Naturally occurring
Fluoride	ppm	1.0	4	4	0	Additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate	ppm	0.4	10	NA	0	Naturally present, soil runoff

*Arsenic data gathered in 2000. The values for arsenic are effective January 23, 2006. Until then, the MCL is 50 ppb and there is no MCLG.

SUBSTANCE	UNITS	Range	Running Annual Average	MCL	MCLG	Samples Exceeding MCL	POSSIBLE SOURCE
Total Organic Carbon**	ppm	NA	1.59	TT	NA	0	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity	NTU	0.4 - 0.16	NA	TT = 0.5 NTU	NA	0	Soil runoff and natural sediment

**The Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal ratios calculated as the ratio between the actual TOC removal and the TOC removal requirements. The TOC was measured each month and because the level was low, there is no requirement for TOC removal.

REGULATED MONITORING IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

SUBSTANCE	UNITS	Range	Highest Running Annual Average	MCL	MCLG	Samples Exceeding MCL	POSSIBLE SOURCES
Chlorine Residual	ppm	0.21 - 1.4	0.8	4	MRDLG=4	0	Used to disinfect drinking water
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	9.2 - 39.1	23.8	60	NA	0	Formed when chlorine is added to water with naturally occurring organic material
Trihalomethanes	ppb	12.9 - 44.3	29.7	80	NA	0	

* Running annual average reported for Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids.

REGULATED MONITORING AT CUSTOMER'S TAP

Compliance is determined using the 90th percentile, where nine out of ten samples must be below the Action Level.

SUBSTANCE	UNITS	90th Percentile	AL	MCLG	Samples Exceeding AL	POSSIBLE SOURCES
Copper	ppb	100	1.3	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing system, erosion of natural deposits, micronutrients
Lead	ppb	2	15	0	0	

UNREGULATED MONITORING

SUBSTANCE	UNITS	HIGHEST LEVEL	SOURCE
Hardness	ppm	132	Naturally present due to dissolved calcium and magnesium salt
pH	pH	7.3	pH is an important measurement of the acidity or alkalinity of water
Chloride	ppm	13	Naturally present in the environment
Sodium	ppm	8	Naturally present in the environment

Results were gathered from tests performed at the City of Wyoming's certified lab, as well as the independent laboratories of Montgomery Watson of California and Environmental Associates of NY.



Definition Key

AL Action Level: the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement, which a water system must follow.

MCL Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.

MCLG Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.

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.

MRDLG The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits to the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA Not applicable

ND Not Detected

NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Unit: measurements of minute suspended particles, used to judge water clarity.

ppb parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

ppm parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

TT Treatment Technique: a required process, intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water