

WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR - City of Petoskey (Posted June 2003)

This report concerns the quality of drinking water that was produced by the City of Petoskey during the 2002 calendar year. This information is a "snapshot" of the quality of the water that the City provided its customers in 2002. Included are details about the origin of the City's water, what it contains, and how it compares with United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) standards.

The City of Petoskey's water originates from four groundwater wells located within the City limits. One has been installed within Bayfront Park and three are within Bay Harbor area. The City of Petoskey now is conducting a detailed source water assessment project, known as a "Wellhead Protection Program". The delineation phase of this program has been completed.

- **Contaminants and their presence in water:** Drinking Water, including bottled water, might 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 **U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800-426-4791)**.
- **Vulnerability of sub-populations:** Some persons might be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Those who are Immuno-compromised such as cancer patients who are undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, those 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. U.S. EPA and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines provide appropriate means to lessen risks of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants and 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. The City of Petoskey's water supply originates 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 are naturally occurring.
- **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, which 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.



Water System Information

The City of Petoskey's water source is four groundwater wells, all located within the City limits. At any given time, all four wells are ready to serve. These wells range in depth from 258 to 405 feet. Water is stored in two above-ground and one below-ground storage tanks. Operation of the water system is computerized. The water system is monitored with alarm that notify the City's Department of Public Work staff of any potential problems, generally before City consumers are inconvenienced. The City's goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. The City performs all water quality testing that is required by both the United States Environmental Protection Agency and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.

Water Quality Data

The table that follows lists all the drinking-water contaminants detected within the City of Petoskey's water supply during the 2001 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 originate from testing that was completed between January 1 – December 31, 2002. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality allows the City to monitor for certain contaminants less frequently 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.
- 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 radiation).
- Action Level: (AL) The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

Regulated Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Range of Detections	Violation Y / N	Typical Source of Contaminant
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	ND	N	Erosion of natural deposits. Run off from fertilizers and septic tanks.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.2 to 1.6	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Unregulated Contaminants					
Sulfate (ppm)	NA	NA	21 to 270	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (ppm)	NA	NA	6 to 18	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.

Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

Microbial Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Number of Detections	Violation Y / N	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	> 1 Positive sample	0	None	N	Present in the environment

Distribution System Contaminants	Action Level	Our Water *	Number of Samples Over Action Level
Lead (ppb)	A.L.=15 ppb	0	0
Copper (ppm)	A.L.=1300 ppm	1390	+1

* 90 percent of samples at or below this level

+ One Sample exceed the A.L. for copper during the 2002 sample period. This site was sampled again. The repeated sample concentration was below the action level (A.L.).

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. 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 at 800-426-4791.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal physician.

Is the City of Petoskey's water system meeting other rules that govern the City's operations? The United States Environmental Protection Agency and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality require the City to test its water on a regular basis to ensure safety. The City met all such monitoring and reporting requirements for 2002.

The City of Petoskey is committed to providing its residents and customers safe, reliable, and healthy water. The City is pleased to provide you with this information to keep its water-system users fully informed about the City's water-supply system. This report will be updated annually, and City water customers will be informed about any problems that might occur throughout the year, when such problems are experienced.

The City of Petoskey invites public participation in decisions that affect drinking-water quality.

For more information about the City of Petoskey drinking water, or the contents of this report, contact the City Manager, 101 East Lake Street, Petoskey, Michigan 49770 or telephone 231-347-2500
By *_email* at WaterQuality@cityofpetoskeyservices.com