

# 2005 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR - City of Petoskey (Posted February 2006)

This report concerns the quality of drinking water that was produced by the City of Petoskey during the 2005 calendar year. This information is a "snapshot" of the quality of the water that the City provided its customers in 2005. 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 of Petoskey. One has been installed within the Bayfront Park and three are within Bay Harbor area. The City conducting a detailed water source 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 may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses..
- **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, U.S. 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 an alarm system that notifies 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 2005 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, 2005. 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.
- 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): 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 radiation).
- Action Level: (AL) The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

Monitoring and Reporting Requirements: The MDEQ and U.S. EPA require the City to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. The City of Petoskey met all the monitoring and reporting requirements for 2004

**Samples Collected at the Wellhouse:**

Regulated Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Our Water range Violation Y / N	Sample Date	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Arsenic (ppb) <sup>1</sup>	10	0	ND	2005	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0 to 0.10	2005	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium (ppm)	100	100	ND	2005	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.33 to 1.88	2005	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0 to 0.1	2005	No	Erosion of natural deposits. Run off from fertilizers and septic tanks.
Mercury	0.002	0.002	0.001	2005	No	Erosion of natural Deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills and croplands
Selenium	0.05	0.05	.001	2005	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from petroleum refineries; discharge from mines

<sup>1</sup>These arsenic values are effective January 23, 2006. Until then, the MCL is 50 ppb and there is no MCLG.

Radioactive Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Our Water Range	Sample Date	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	15	0	ND to 5.85	2002	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 226 / 228 (pCi/L)	5	0	ND to 2.11	2002	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Chemical Contaminants <sup>2</sup>	Our Water range	Sample Date	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminants
Sodium (ppm)	12.9 to 27	2005	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	20 to 202	2005	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits

<sup>2</sup> Unregulated contaminants are those for which the U.S. EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps U.S. EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

### Samples Collected in the Distribution System:

Contaminants Subject to an Action Level	Action Level	Our Water	Sample Date	Number of Samples Above AL	Typical Source of Contaminants
Lead (ppb) <sup>3</sup>	AL = 15 ppb	.11	2005	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) <sup>3</sup>	AL = 1300 ppm	460	2005	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Disinfection Byproducts	Action Level	Our Water range	Sample Date	Number of Samples Above AL	Typical Source of Contaminants
Free Chlorine Residual (ppm) <sup>4</sup>	MRDL = 4.0 ppm MRDLG = 4 ppm	0.0 to 1.5	Daily 2005	0	Water additive used to control microbes
Trihalomethane	80 ppb	8.4 to 29.3 ppb	2004	0	Disinfection Byproducts
HAA <sup>5</sup>	60 ppb	ND to 40 ppb	2004	0	Disinfection Byproducts

<sup>3</sup> 90 percent of the samples collected were at or below the level reported for City of Petoskey water. + One sample exceeded 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.). The City was not required to perform this test in 2004.

<sup>4</sup> The MRDL and MRDLG are effective January 1, 2004. Compliance is based on an annual average.

Microbial Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Positive Samples	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminants
Total Coliform Bacteria	1 positive monthly sample (5% of monthly samples positive)	0	1	Yes	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and E. coli	Routine and repeat samples are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal or E. coli positive	0	None	No	Human and animal fecal waste

\* Sampling error: The sample location was not an approved site. The repeated sample was taken at the correct sampling location. Additional samples were taken from an upstream address, as well as from a downstream address, from the proper sampling address. All samples tested negative therefore passing the test.

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 system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

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 doctor.

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality has performed an assessment of the City of Petoskey source water in 2003. A determination of sensitivity and susceptibility to contamination was by made by reviewing our source water geology, well construction, water chemistry, and potential contaminant sources nearby the wells, The Department of Environmental Quality has determined that the City's wells have low to moderate geologic sensitivity with an overall very low to moderate susceptibility to contamination. You can obtain a copy of the State report by contacting City Hall. This report will not be sent in the mail. The City of Petoskey is committed to providing its residents and customers safe, reliable, and healthy water. The City is 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. Copies of this report can be obtained by calling City Hall. Copies of the annual water reports (CCR) will not be sent.

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 at, 101 East Lake Street, Petoskey, Michigan 49770 or telephone 231-347-2500  
By *\_email at* [Water Quality@cityofpetoskeyservices.com](mailto:WaterQuality@cityofpetoskeyservices.com)

For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater) or the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality website at [www.michigan.gov/deg](http://www.michigan.gov/deg) .