



Water Quality Report

The Year in Review - 2023

Reporting data is collected throughout the year and provided to you, and to the Ohio EPA no later than July 1st annually. Therefore, this report is entitled **Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) 2023**.

The City of Munroe Falls purchases water from our neighboring City of Cuyahoga Falls. We are a distribution system, meaning we distribute water to our customers. Munroe Falls does not treat potable water. That is done at the treatment plant in Cuyahoga Falls. The City of Cuyahoga Falls also provides a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), or Water Quality Report annually. If you would like a copy of that report, it is linked in our website at www.munroefalls.com under "Water Quality Reports" (<https://munroefalls.com/DocumentCenter/View/4609/2023-Drinking-Water-Consumer-Confidence-Report-Cuyahoga-Falls>), or you may contact the City of Cuyahoga Falls directly, or go to www.cityofcf.com.

Although we do not provide water treatment, we do test the distribution water for certain chemicals and report those test results to the EPA. Munroe Falls tests for coliform bacteria, chlorine levels, lead and copper, asbestos, and disinfection byproducts. As you read through this report you will learn more about what these things mean to you, their health effects, and the test results.

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 (800-426-4791)**.

In 2023, your drinking water met all Ohio EPA standards.



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Source Water Information

The City of Munroe Falls receives drinking water from the City of Cuyahoga Falls. The Cuyahoga Falls water treatment plant, located at 2028 Munroe Falls Ave, uses well water as its source. The well field consists of 18 wells located in Water Works Park on the south bank of the Cuyahoga River.

The well field, which is the source for raw water to the water treatment plant, is surrounded by two theoretical protection zones. The “inner protection zone” is the area that provides ground water to the City of Cuyahoga Falls’ wells within one year of pumping. A chemical spill in this zone poses a greater threat to the drinking water so this area warrants more stringent protection. The “outer protection zone” is the additional area that contributes water when the well is pumped for five years. An inventory of potential contaminant sources located within the drinking water source was conducted by the Ohio EPA in 2002. Nineteen potential sources of contamination were identified within the protection areas. A list of these potential contaminants is available in the source water assessment report. If you would like more information about this assessment, **please contact Munroe Falls Service Director, James Bowery, at 330-688-7491.**

Assessment & Protection

A susceptibility analysis done by the EPA determined that the Cuyahoga Falls source of drinking water has a high susceptibility to contamination. High susceptibility does not imply that the well will become contaminated. It only means that the existing/known conditions are such that it could be if contaminate if sources were not properly managed.

The protection of groundwater and our drinking water source is the responsibility of all area residents. Please dispose of chemicals, household cleaners and pesticides in the proper manner. For more information on proper waste disposal please contact **Summit County REWORKS at 330-374-0383** or go to www.summitreworks.com.

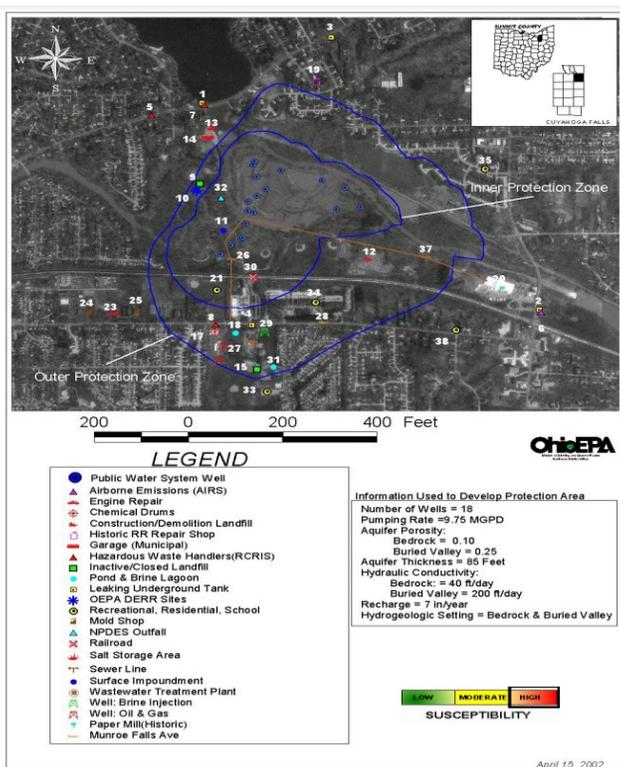


Figure 1. Drinking Water Source Protection Area and Potential Contaminant Sources, City of Cuyahoga Falls, Public Water System #7701012

Sources of drinking water (both tap 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 presences of animals or 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, agriculture livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas productions, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, 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 storm-water runoff and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Distributing Water To You

The Munroe Falls pumping station, located at 272 Munroe Falls Ave, pumped an average of 273,539 gallons of water a night in 2023 into two water tanks; a 1.5 million gallon reservoir located behind Sprenger Retirement Center and a 200,000 gallon tower on Gaylord Dr. Over the past few years the City of Munroe Falls has been busy implementing several upgrades to these systems. Although many of the upgrades are not visible to the public, they are necessary to comply with water regulations. The exterior and interior of both the stand pipe and the water tower were painted and the interior of both locations improved to provide better turbidity which allows for less standing of water within the towers and thereby lowering the amount of disinfection byproducts produced.

The pumping station renovations have been completed. This project upgraded our mechanical pumping and monitoring systems from formerly antiquated procedures. Engineering and construction costs for this work was expensive, but greatly overdue as the city could not afford to continue to operate the pump station in it’s outdated condition.

The Water Department is also still in the process of addressing the main waterline that runs under the Cuyahoga River providing water service to the north side of the city. Due to aging infrastructure and in accordance with EPA recommendations, a second main line is needed to continue to provide north side services in the future. Again, this is another costly but necessary expense.

Another service the Water Department performs to maintain our system is hydrant flushing. This service ensures that fire hydrants are operational when needed, and the act of flushing water maintains the distribution pipes by removing mineral deposits. This is a controlled procedure that is vital to the general maintenance of our system. Sometimes hydrant flushing can make the water temporarily appear rust colored due to iron and mineral deposits being stirred up. There is no health hazard associated with discolored water. It is safe to use and consume. However, it could stain light colored laundry. If you see discoloration, allow the water to run until clear.

The health of our water is greatly dependent upon the health of local rivers, streams and even Lake Erie. That is why it is so important to be mindful of pollutants in stormwater run-off. All water eventually leads to drinking water sources. By keeping stormwater run-off free from not only litter, but chemicals, herbicides, pesticides, spills, vehicle leaks and even pet waste, we can all help to maintain the quality of our drinking water. The more hard or impervious services there are, the more stormwater run-off is created. Use of native plants and trees can naturally filter and slow down this run-off.

The City of Munroe Falls operated under an unconditioned license to operate during the year 2023. A copy of that license is located at 43 Munroe Falls Ave, Munroe Falls Ohio.

Monitoring & Reporting Contaminants

On the next page you will find a list of monitoring results from 2023. As required by the EPA the city monitors levels of Total Chlorine, Total Coliform Bacteria, Lead & Copper, and Disinfection Byproducts called Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids and Asbestos. Some contaminants like fluoride are monitored and reported by the City of Cuyahoga Falls. 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

All water systems were required to begin compliance with a new rule April 1, 2016, the Revised Total Coliform Rule. This rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of total coliform bacteria, which includes E.Coli bacteria. The USEPA anticipates greater public health protection under the new rule, as it requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. As a result, under this rule there is no longer a maximum contaminant level violation for multiple total coliform detections. Instead, the new rule requires water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences to conduct an assessment to determine if any significant deficiencies exist. If found, these must be corrected by the Public Water System.

Of the 72 bacteria samples analyzed in Munroe Falls in 2023, all showed 0% presence of coliform bacteria.

Health Effects of the Chemicals Monitored

Total Chlorine

Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

Total Coliform Bacteria

Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. If found coliforms indicate the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. If this occurs, we are required to conduct assessments to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

Lead

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.

Copper

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.

Fluoride

Some people who drink water containing fluoride well in excess of the MCL, over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Children may get mottled teeth.

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)

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.

Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)

Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Asbestos

Some people who drink water containing asbestos in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of developing benign intestinal polyps.

Other contaminants that are monitored by the City of Cuyahoga Falls at the treatment level can be found on their report. See page 1 for instructions to find that report.

You may have heard of other things like "dissolved solids" in your drinking water. These are mainly naturally occurring minerals and do not pose health risks as determined by the EPA and are therefore not monitored by the City. Because the water provided to you is "hard" water it comes with the challenges presented by "hard" water. Many residents opt to install water softeners and/or filtration systems or devices to improve the water taste/texture.

EPA Definitions

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)

"The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's 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 Disinfection Level (MRDL)

"The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination."

Treatment Technique

"A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminants in drinking water."

Action Level (AL)

"The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow."

Variance and Exemption

"State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions."

PFAS

"Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals applied to many industrial, commercial and consumer products to make them waterproof, stain resistant, or nonstick. PFAS are also used in products like cosmetics, fast food packaging, and a type of fire-fighting foam called aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) which are used mainly on large spills or flammable liquids, such as jet fuel. PFAS are classified as contaminants of emerging concern, meaning that research into the harm they may cause to human health is still ongoing."

Customer Participation in Decision Making

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact the Munroe Falls Service Director, **Jim Bowery**, at **330-688-7491 ext 227** if you have any questions about this report, the information it contains or the Water Department operations.

Or, email Jim Bowery at water@munroefalls.com.

The Assistant to Mr. Bowery, Kristina Simmons, can be reached at 330-688-7491 ext 223.

All residents are encouraged to get involved and participate in the decisions about their drinking water and our operations made at bi-weekly City Council meetings held the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at City Hall, 43 Munroe Falls Ave, Munroe Falls Ohio.

Council meeting agendas and meeting minutes can be found at the City's website (www.munroefalls.com) under "Agendas & Minutes" located on the homepage.

All direct City Council and Administrative contact information is also available on the City's website or by calling City Hall at 330-688-7491.

City Hall hours of operation:
Monday - Friday
8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Please share this information to persons in our community who may have a language barrier or trouble understanding.



Monitoring Results for 2023

Contaminant (Units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
Lead and Copper - City of Munroe Falls collects from residential taps annually							
Lead (ppb) from 20 residential taps	0 out of 20 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the Action Level of 15ppb						
	AL = 15 (Action level)	0 (goal level)	ND	ND	NO	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures
Copper (ppm) from 20 residential taps	0 out of the 20 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the Action Level of 1.3 ppm						
	AL = 1.3 (Action level)	1.3 (goal level)	.60	.09 to .60	NO	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures
Inorganic Contaminants							
Fluoride (ppm)	4.0	4.0	.91	0.87 to .94	NO	Daily	Water additive that promotes strong teeth.
Disinfection Byproducts - City of Munroe Falls samples locally every 90 days							
Total Trihalomethanes TTHMs (ppb)	80	N/A	60.77	36.40 to 73.7	NO	2023	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids HAA5 (ppb)	60	N/A	23.10	16.5 to 29.2	NO	2023	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Residual Disinfectants - City of Munroe Falls samples daily							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	1.31	1.22 to 1.42	NO	2023	Water additive to control microbes

KEY TO TABLE

ppm is parts per million, or 1 part in a million parts
ppb is parts per billion, or 1 part in a billion parts
MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
N/A - not applicable
AL - Action Level

1 ppm is equivalent to 1 inch in 15.78 miles
1 ppb is equivalent to 1 inch in 15,782 miles
ND - not detected
MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
MRDLG - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal

Lead in Drinking Water

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. Munroe Falls Water Dept. is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in household 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>.

Who Should 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 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** at 1-800-426-4791.

Lead Service Line Homeowner Check

In an effort to determine the service line material for each household, in connection with the *Rural Community Assistance Partnership (RCAP)*, the City is asking residents to complete a short self-survey about the water service line at each property. Click the link below to take the survey:

[Munroe Falls Survey](#) (or visit www.munroefalls.com home page)

Sources of Lead in Drinking Water

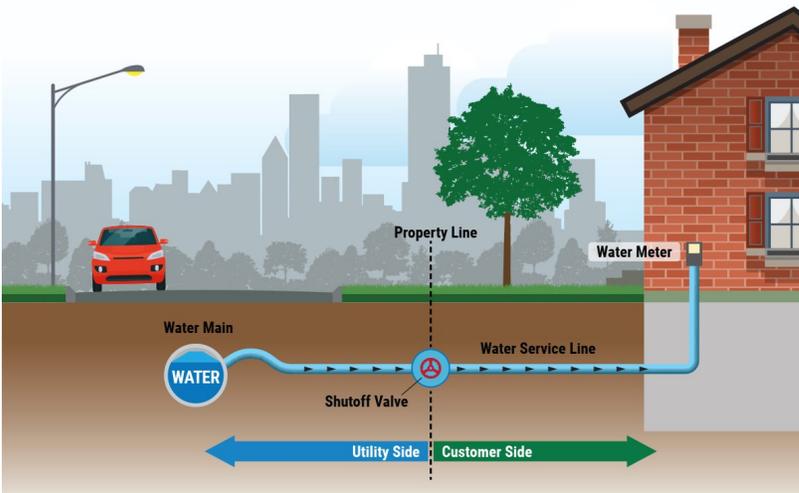
- Faucets**
Fixtures inside your home may contain lead.
- Galvanized Pipe**
Lead particles can attach to the surface of galvanized pipes. Over time, the particles can enter your drinking water, causing elevated lead levels.
- Copper Pipe with Lead Solder**
Solder made or installed before 1986 contained high lead levels.
- Lead Goose Necks**
Goose necks and pigtails are shorter pipes that connect the lead service line to the main.
- Lead Service Line**
The service line is the pipe that runs from the water main to the home's internal plumbing. Lead service lines can be a major source of lead contamination in water.

Reduce Your Exposure to Lead

- Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.
- Consider using a water filter certified to remove lead and know when it's time to replace the filter.
- Before drinking, flush your pipes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes.

Lead in homes can also come from sources other than water. If you live in a home built before 1978, you may want to have your paint tested for lead.

Source: www.epa.gov/safewater



Testing & Other Information

The City of Munroe Falls Water Department does not provide water testing. We utilize an outside lab for testing water. The City can provide you with a list of certified laboratories if you are concerned and not participating in the City's lead and copper monitoring program.

There are specific criteria required by the Ohio EPA for lead and copper monitoring of the 20 sample sites within our city. Not all homes qualify or are included in our monitoring program.

You may also contact the *Summit County Health Department* for information about lead exposure from water and other sources, like lead paint, at **330-926-5600** or visit their website at <https://www.scpd.org/healthy-homes/lead-poisoning-prevention-information>

What is the City doing about Lead Service Lines?

City of Munroe Falls

Water Department

The Munroe Falls Water Department remains committed to providing you with quality water and excellent customer service while remaining in compliance with all Federal, State and local regulations. We continue to strive for transparency in all that we do so we hope you will take the time to read the information provided here and if you have questions or concerns, please contact us.

Thank you

In accordance with EPA Lead Service Line mapping requirements, in conjunction with **RCAP** (Rural Community Assistance Partnership), the city is working on determination of materials and mapping all water service lines. The service line is what connects your home to the city's water main in the street. We know most of the service line materials currently in use. However, there are a few small areas of the city where we cannot be certain or that are undocumented. If it is not *documented*, we have to assume there is a potential for the service line to contain lead. This means we will visually check the line to document that there is no lead exposure.

We have a short self-survey for homeowners to provide information about what you know about your water service line (link on previous page). Additionally, we are excavating to visually determine and document the service line material. Notices are provided at each site, but the area is generally small enough for most customers to not even notice. A small section of grass is taken up, cameras are used in most cases and the grass section returned after backfilling. Occasionally, if repairs are needed, more extensive work could be performed. Again, the site is restored when work is completed.

Water service lines on privately owned property are the responsibility of the property owner. However, the city has a responsibility to determine if lead service lines are in use and to educate consumers about the dangers and abatement if present.

City of Munroe Falls

Water Department

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