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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.

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 storm water runoff, industrial or domestic discharges, oil and gas production, 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 byproducts 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.

Source Water Assessment: The State performed an assessment of our Lake Michigan source water in 2003 and completed it in 2004 to determine the susceptibility or the relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a six-tiered scale from “very-low” to “high” based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry and contaminant sources.

Methyl Tertiary-Butyl Ether (MTBE): This gasoline additive has contaminated some drinking water supplies across the country. Our drinking water does not contain MTBE.

PFAS: please visit this website for the latest results:

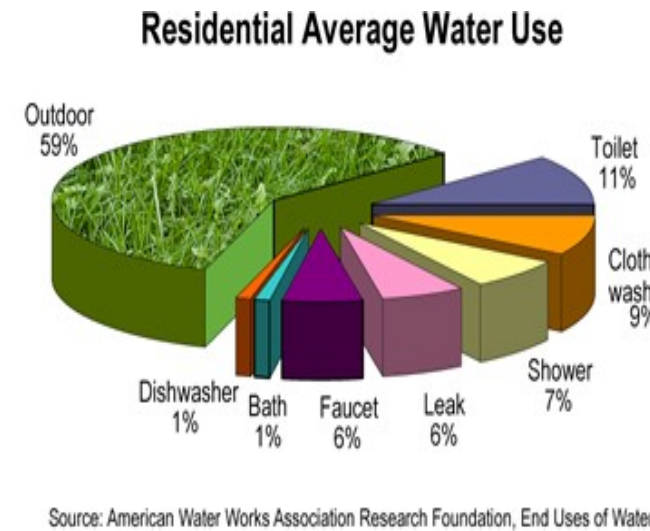
<https://www.grandhaven.org/nows-water-plant-pfas-results/>

For more PFAS information go to:

<http://michigan.gov/pfasresponse>

The susceptibility of our source is “moderate”. A copy of the report can be obtained by contacting the Water Facilities Manager at 847-3487.

Grand Haven Charter Township Lead Service Line Inventory	
Lead Service Lines	0
Service Lines of Unknown Material	431
Total Number of System of Service Lines	5,614



FACT:
In 2020, The Northwest Ottawa Water System Provided 2.4 Billion Gallons of Drinking Water



Grand Haven Charter Township

2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Northwest Ottawa Water System—Grand Haven Charter Township, Grand Haven City, Village of Spring Lake, City of Ferrysburg, Spring Lake Township, Crockery Township & Robinson Township

Grand Haven Charter Township is pleased to present this year’s Drinking Water Quality Report.

This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water we deliver to you everyday. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We are committed to ensuring the quality of drinking water.

Water is collected through submerged intakes located several feet under the bottom of Lake Michigan and is pre-filtered as it enters the treatment facility. The natural sand above the intakes provides a pre-filter barrier which complements the plant’s direct filtration process.



We are pleased to report that your drinking water is safe and meets the Federal and State of Michigan drinking water health standards.

The Northwest Ottawa Water System (NOWS) treatment plant and the City of Grand Haven routinely monitor for a variety of dissolved mineral and organic substances in your drinking water pursuant to state and federal laws.

This report is designed to give you detailed information which will ensure you of the quality of your drinking water. The tables in this brochure show the results of this monitoring from January 1st through December 31st, 2020.

If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please contact Township Superintendent Bill Cargo at 604-63248 or email bcargo@ght.org.

Moreover, to provide you with an opportunity for public participation in decisions, some of which might affect drinking water quality. The public is invited to attend the quarterly NOWS Administrative Committee meetings held at the Grand Haven City Hall Council Chambers. You may call Grand Haven Township for an up-to-date meeting schedule.

All drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least a small amount of some contaminants. It’s important to remember that the presence of these substances does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at:

1-800-426-4791

To download or view this on-line go to:

<https://www.ghet.org/community/water/>

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 cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are also available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) include rivers, streams, lakes, 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.

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Unregulated Contaminants

Monitoring Rule (UCMR4)

As your supplier we found it necessary to inform our customers that the required “unregulated contaminants monitoring” round 4 results for 2019 (Assessment Monitoring) are available. This monitoring series concluded December 2020. The intent of this rule is to provide baseline occurrence data that the EPA can combine with toxicological research to make decisions about potential future drinking water regulations. For more information concerning “unregulated contaminants” please feel free to contact our water plant staff at 847-3487.

Lead and Copper

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.

The Northwest Ottawa Water Treatment Plant is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in 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 have a lead service line it is recommended that you run your water for at least 5 minutes to flush water from both your home plumbing and the lead service line.

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 at

1-800-426-4791 or at

<http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead>

DEFINITIONS

◆ ppm - Parts Per Million

A measurement of concentration. One part per million corresponds with one minute in two years.

◆ ppb - Parts Per Billion

A measurement of concentration. One part per billion corresponds with one minute in 2000 years.

◆ MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level

The “maximum allowed”. MCL is the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.

◆ AL - Action Level

The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which water systems must follow.

◆ MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

The “Goal” (MCLG) is the level of contaminant in drinking water below, which there is no known expected risk to health. MCLG’s allow for a margin of safety

◆ TT - Treatment Technique

A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

◆ NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit

This is a measurement of suspended material that is found in water. We monitor because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our treatment process.

◆ pCi/l - Pico Curries Per Liter

A measure of radioactivity.

◆ LRAA - Locational Running Annual Average

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) is the average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous 4 calendar quarters.

◆ MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Goal

The highest level of disinfectant allowed in the drinking water.

◆ MRDLG - Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal

The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

PROVIDED BELOW IS A LIST OF THE REGULATED AND UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS DETECTED IN THE NORTHWEST OTTAWA WATER SYSTEM

REGULATED AND UNREGULATED MONITORING AT THE WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Regulated Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range	Year Sampled	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.02	N/A	2019	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge of metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.4	N/A	2020	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.65	N/A	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Chloride (ppm)	N/A	N/A	14	N/A	2020	No	Runoff from road de-icing, fertilizers and leaching from septic tanks
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	9.9	N/A	2020	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	1.09 (RAA)	0.23 to 2.00	2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	15	0	2	0.64 ± 1.29	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium (pCi/L)	5	0	2	1.11 ± 0.91	2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity Shall not exceed 0.3 NTU in 95% of samples / monthly	1.0 (TT)	N/A	0.14	0.02 to 0.14	2020	No	Soil runoff (Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water)

REGULATED MONITORING IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Regulated Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range	Year Sampled	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	80	N/A	LRAA = 58	33 to 65	2020	No	A byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	60	N/A	LRAA = 31	10 to 38	2020	No	A byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	1.09 (RAA)	0.23 to 2.00	2020	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Coliform (total number or % of positive samples/month)	TT	0	0% System Wide	Not Detected	2020	No	Naturally present in the environment
E.coli Bacteria (total number or % of positive samples/month)	N/A	0	0% System Wide	Not Detected	2020	No	Human and animal fecal waste

REGULATED MONITORING AT THE CUSTOMER TAP

Regulated Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	90 th Percentile	Range	Number of Samples above AL	Year Sampled	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	15	0	.00100	.001 to .00218	0	2020	No	Lead service lines, corrosion of household plumbing including fittings and fixtures; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.0239	.113 to .00175	0	2020	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Health Effects of Lead & Copper

- Elevated lead result above the Action Level (AL) – Infants and children who drink water containing lead 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.
- Elevated copper result above the Action Level (AL) - 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.