

2025 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

VILLAGE OF BELLAIRE (PWS) Public Water System

OH0700114 Facility ID# 752966

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report for 2025

The Bellaire Public Water System (PWS) has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included within this report is general health information, water quality test results, how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water, and water system contacts.

Spanish (Español)

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Where does my water come from?

The Bellaire PWS receives its source water from the Upper Ohio Wheeling Watershed. This includes an area of about 1509 sq. miles. This area is largely agricultural with forested region amounting to about 80% of the total. Within this watershed are numerous small creeks, rivers, streams, springs and small lakes. The water you drink comes from the Ohio River. Surface waters are one of the principal sources of drinking water in the United States. Water is always available from the river, thus making it a very reliable source. In general, surface waters require more extensive treatment than ground waters because they are subject to runoff from the surrounding land and also to direct discharges into the river. For that reason, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (OEPA) requires specific treatment techniques (TT). Your water is treated in a "Treatment Train" that includes coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration and disinfection. Coagulation removes dirt and other particles suspended in the source water by the addition of chemicals (coagulants) to form sticky particles called "floc" which attract other particles to form larger particles. Flocculation (the formation of these larger particles) is achieved by constant slow mixing. The heavy particles will settle out naturally in the sedimentation basins. The clearer water will then flow to the filtration process where it will pass through sand, gravel, charcoal or other filters to remove even smaller particles. A small amount of chlorine or other disinfectant is added to the water to kill bacteria, viruses, cysts, etc. that may still be present in the water before it is stored and then pumped to distribution to homes and businesses within the community.

Protecting drinking water is the responsibility of ALL area residents. Please dispose of hazardous chemicals in the proper

manner and report polluters to the proper authorities. Only by working together can we assure an adequate and safe supply for future generations.

The Ohio EPA recently completed a study of the source water for the Village of Bellaire to identify potential sources of contamination and provide guidance to protect the source. According to this study, the aquifer (the water rich zone) that supplies water to the village has a very high susceptibility to contamination. This determination is based on the following facts:

- * The presence of a relatively thin layer of sediment overlying the aquifer
- * The presence of a significant contaminant source within the protection area
- * The presence of man-made contaminants in the aquifer
- * The shallow depth of the aquifer (less than 30 feet below the surface)

More information about the source water assessment or what consumers can do to help protect the aquifer is available by calling the Water Treatment Plant at 740-676-2664. Copies of the source water assessment report prepared for the Village of Bellaire by OEPA are available on request by calling the WTP at the number above.

ADDITIONAL SOURCE OF WATER

The Village of Bellaire has an EMERGENCY INTERCONNECTION with Belmont County Water & Sewer District at Klee Crossing in West Bellaire. During 2025 the Village of Bellaire received 100,00 gallons of water per month from this interconnection. While not used for any specific “emergency”, receiving this water ensures the connection remains fresh and exercised to be ready for emergencies and ensure that the village is never without a source of water. This report includes a copy of the 2025 CCR on the water from Belmont County Water & Sewer District, an additional copy of their consumer confidence report can be obtained by contacting, Kelly Porter, Director, Belmont County Water & Sewer District office at 740-695-3144.

The Village of Bellaire received 1.95 MG of water from this connection in 2025. 950000 gallons in March when the plant flooded and 650000 gallons in July during a large water line break.

License to Operate

The Village of Bellaire had an unconditional license to operate the water system in 2025.

WHAT ARE THE SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION IN DRINKING WATER?

The sources of drinking water, both tap and bottled, include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves many naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, livestock operations, and wildlife; (B) Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals many of which are naturally occurring or can be the result of urban storm water runoff, industrial activity, mining, domestic waste water discharge, oil and gas production and farming; (C) Pesticides and Herbicides which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses; (D) Organic chemical contaminants including synthetics (SOC) and volatile organic chemicals (VOC) which are the by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water

runoff and septic systems; (E) Radioactive contaminants which can be either naturally occurring or be the result of mining or oil and gas production.

In order to insure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, as well as Bottled Water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants DOES NOT necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CONTAMINANTS AND POSSIBLE HEALTH RISKS YOU CAN CALL THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S SAFE DRINKING WATER HOTLINE AT 1-800-426-4791.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as individuals with cancer who are 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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

How can I get involved and participate in decisions about my drinking water?

Village council meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of every month at 5:00 pm on the second floor of the Municipal Building. Public participation and comments are encouraged. We appreciate all of your concerns about your water system and will answer any questions you may have. Please call ahead to be added to the agenda.

Additional copies of this report may be obtained at the Municipal Building, the Water Treatment Plant or online at the Village of Bellaire webpage.

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5-minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.

- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Cross Connection Control Survey

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and ensuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below, please contact us so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property such as, but not limited to wells, cisterns or natural springs
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough
- Private yard hydrants

Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides - they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public sewer system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

Results of Voluntary Monitoring

The Village is required to test for VOC's Quarterly (4x per year) to remain in compliance.

However, out of an abundance of caution, the village collects samples for VOC's monthly, due to the presence of a

common dry-cleaning chemical, Tetrachloroethylene (TCE), that is found in test wells near the downtown section of town. The tested area is a 4-block area between 32nd and 36th streets south to north and ST. RT. 7 to Noble St. East to West....This testing is an ongoing project and involves the GROUND WATER in that area. The EPA collects those samples. To date the SOURCE WATER used and DRINKING WATER produced by the Bellaire Water Treatment Plant has always been found to be in compliance. A plan is in place to remove the contaminant by installing two air strippers. The volatile chemical is easily removed by applying air and we had these in service by the end of 2023. This should enable complete removal of TCE.

PFAS Testing

In 2020 The Village of Bellaire WTP was sampled as part of the State of Ohio's Drinking Water Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) Sampling Initiative. Six (6) compounds were sampled and NONE were detected on our finished drinking water. For more information on PFAS, please visit pfas.ohio.gov

Unregulated contaminants are those for which U.S. EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of these contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. In 2024 Bellaire PWS participated in the fifth round of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) this included PFAS and lithium. For a copy of the results please call Mike Watkins at 740-676-2664.

Meter Replacement and Service Line Material Inventory Survey

The Village Water Department had hired a contractor (Fort Steuben Maintenance for 41st street north and Newman for the rest of town and 214) to replace all residential meters in the Village water system. The METER REPLACEMENT IS MANADATORY and will be installed at no cost to the property owner.

While the new meter is being installed the crew will inspect your service line that supplies your property with water. The Village is doing this inspection to comply with new EPA regulations that require the Village to inventory every service line in the Village system. The Village needs to know what material the service line is made of, such as plastic, galvanized steel, steel, copper, or lead.

If your service line is LEAD or GALVANIZED STEEL, we are required to report this information to the EPA and add your service line to a list to be replaced.

Per the Lead and Copper Rules, Public Water Systems were required to develop and maintain a Service Line Inventory. A service line is the underground pipe that supplies your home or building with water. To view the Service Line Inventory, which lists the material type(s) for your location, you can visit the Water Treatment Plant at 217 37th Bellaire, OH 43906

Additional Information for Lead

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. VILLAGE OF BELLAIRE 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 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 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Turbidity

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water and is an indication of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity limit set by the EPA is 0.3 NTU in 95% of the samples analyzed each month and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time. As reported below the Village of Bellaire Public Water System’s highest recorded turbidity results for 2025 was 0.20 NTU and lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%.

Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	16.8 UG/L	7.42 UG/L	16.8 UG/L	2025	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM/S Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	NA	80	67.4	38.3	67.4	2025	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon (% Removal)	NA	TT	1.0	1.0	1.0	2025	No	Naturally present in the environment
The value reported under “Level Found” for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) is the lowest ratio between percent of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of greater than one (1) indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements. A value of less than one (1) indicates a violation of the TOC removal requirements.								
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	1.0	0.20	0.04	0.20	2025	No	Soil Run-off

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
100% of the samples were below the TT value of 1. A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation. The highest single measurement was 0.20. Any measurement in excess of 5 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.								
Chlorine (ppm)	NA	4.0	1.65	1.22	1.88	2025	No	Drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.12	0.80	1.30	2025	No.	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	3.21	NA	NA	2024	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; discharge from mines
Barium (ppb)	2000	2000	15	NA	NA	2025	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	2.36	0.841	2.36	2025	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants								
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	0.257	ND	NA	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	0	15	1.80	ND	NA	2023	NO	Erosion of natural deposits

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
Ppm or mg/l	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
Ppb or ug/l	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected

Unit Descriptions							
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.						
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units; Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.						
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	90 th Percentile	Sample Date	Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.0077	Jan-Jun 2025	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0.0	Jan-Jun 2025	1,51.5	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

0 out of 40 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.

1 out of 40 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	90 th Percentile	Sample Date	Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.00627	July-Dec 2025	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0.0	July-Dec 2025	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

0 out of 40 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.

0 out of 40 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.

Unregulated contaminants

Unregulated contaminants are those for which U.S. EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of these contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. In 2024 Bellaire PWS participated in the fifth round of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5). For a copy of the results please call Mike Watkins at 740-676-2664.

Contaminant (Units)	Sample Year	Average Level Found	Range of Detections
PFBS (ppb)	2024	0.0017	ND-0.0038

Definitions of some terms contained in this report:

- 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 Disinfection 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.
- Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS): are a group of man-made chemicals applied to many industry, 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 firefighting foam called aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) which are used mainly on large spills of flammable liquids such as jet fuel.
- Parts per Million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days.
- Parts per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per Liter (µg/L) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.
- The “<” symbol: A symbol which means less than. A result of <5 means that the lowest level that could be detected was 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.
- Picocuries per liter(pCi/L): A common measure of radioactivity.

Please Share This Report

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

For more information please contact:
 Mike Watkins Superintendent of Water
 Address: 217 37th STREET, BELLAIRE, OH 43906 PH: 740-676-2664

The Belmont County Water & Sewer District has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included within this report is general health information, water quality test results, how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water and water system contacts.

The Belmont County Water & Sewer District - District 3 water supply is located North of Bellaire, Ohio, from a well that is supplied by the aquifer in the region.

What are sources of contamination to drinking water?

The sources of drinking water both tap water and bottled water includes rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the grounds, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife; (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; (D) Organic chemicals 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; (E) radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations established limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 (1-800-426-4791).

Who needs to 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. USEPA/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 (1-800-426-4791).

Source Water Susceptibility Report (BCWSD)

An assessment that was conducted by the Ohio EPA places the well aquifer at a HIGH susceptibility rating due to the following: (A) Presence of a relatively permeable layer of silty clay overlying the aquifer; (B) Shallow depth (less than 20 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer; (C) The identification of VOC contaminated soils within the one year time of travel; (D) Presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area; (E) The presence of manmade contaminants in treated water. To obtain a copy of the report or for more information contact, Kelly Porter, Director, Belmont County Water & Sewer District at 740-695-3144.

About your drinking water.

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Belmont County Water & Sewer District conducted sampling for bacteria and volatile organic contaminants during 2025.

The Ohio EPA requires monitoring for a few contaminants less than once a year because they do not change frequently.

Other regulated contaminants that the district tested with no violation being found are as follows: 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 Belmont County Water & Sewer District 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 are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. A list of laboratories certified in the State of Ohio to test for lead may be found at <http://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw> or by calling 614-644-2752. 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://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Our distribution system has no lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown service lines. To determine this, we used the following sources: waterline break records, mapping and customer surveys.

Definitions for terms and abbreviations used in the report are as follows:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MCLGs allowed for a margin of safety.

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 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.

Action level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Not Detected (ND): Not Detected.

Not Applicable (NA): Not applicable.

Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L): Are units of measure of a contaminant.

Parts per Billion (ppb): Are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

Parts per Million (ppm): Are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days.

In 2025 the Belmont County Water & Sewer District had a current unconditional license to operate our system.

Public participation and comments are encouraged at regular meetings of the Belmont County Commissioners which meet on Wednesdays at the Belmont County Courthouse, Main Street, St. Clairsville, OH 43950. For more information contact Commissioners at 740-699-2155.

On the following page is information on those contaminants that were found in the Belmont County Water & Sewer District.

Table of detected contaminants

(Units)			Found	Detections		Year	Contaminants
Inorganic Contaminants							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.08	0.89-1.19	NO	2025	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which strong teeth; discharge promotes from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.555	.555 -.555	NO	2025	Run off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	0	15	0.112	0.112	NO	2020	Erosion of Natural Deposits.
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	0	5.0	0.668	N/A	NO	2020	Erosion of natural deposits;
The MCL for Radium is comprised of both Radium 226 and Radium 228. Known as Combined Radium 226/228							
Residual Disinfectants and Disinfectant By-Products							
Chlorine (ppm)	<u>MRDLG</u> =4	<u>MRDL</u> =4	0.86	.62 - .94	NO	2025	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acid 5 (ppb)	N/A	60	23.7	17.1 - 23.7	NO	2025	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	N/A	80	44.4	33.2 - 44.4	NO	2025	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Lead and Copper							
Contaminants (units)	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	Individual Results over the AL	90th Percentile Value	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
Lead (ppb)	15 ppb	0	38 ppb 49 ppb	1.75	NO	1st Half of 2025	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits.
			2 out of 60 samples were found to have lead levels above the lead action level of 15 ppb.				
Lead (ppb)	15 ppb	0	N/A	0.872	NO	2nd Half of 2025	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits.
			0 out of 62 samples were found to have lead levels above the lead action level of 15 ppb.				
Copper (ppm)	1.3 ppm	1.3	N/A	0.43	NO	1st Half of 2025	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits.
			0 out of 60 samples were found to have copper levels above the copper action level of 1.3 ppm				
Copper (ppm)	1.3 ppm	1.3	N/A	0.14	NO	2nd Half of 2025	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits.
			0 out of 62 samples were found to have copper levels above the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.				

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

PUBLIC NOTICE - DRINKING WATER WARNING

**Monitoring requirements were not met for
Bellaire PWS**

We are required to monitor your drinking water for turbidity on a regular basis. The results of regular monitoring indicate whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. On March 23, 2025, following a plant flood, our turbidimeters were damaged. These meters were not repaired and returned to service within fourteen days of the failure.

What Should I Do?

- *There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective action.*
- Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

What is being done?

Upon being notified of this violation, Bellaire water supplier was directed to perform monitoring and reporting of turbidity, as required. Your water supplier will take steps to ensure that adequate monitoring will be performed in the future.

For more information:

Contact Mike Watkins
Phone Number: 740-676-2664
Mailing Address: 217 37th St Bellaire, OH 43906

PWS ID: OH0700114	Date this public notice was distributed: 12/17/2025
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If a potential or actual cross-connection contamination hazard is identified, the customer will be required to eliminate the hazard and/or install an appropriate backflow preventer at the service connection and/or at the hazard.

Special Conditions

Auxiliary Water Systems

What is an auxiliary water system?

It is any water system on or available to your property other than the public water system. Used water or water from wells, cisterns or open reservoirs that are equipped with pumps or other sources of pressure, including gravity are examples.

What protection is required?

- The auxiliary water system must be completely separated from water supply plumbing served by a public water system; and
 - An approved backflow preventer must be installed at the service connection (where the public water system connects to the customer's plumbing system).
- OR

- The auxiliary water system must be eliminated.

Are there exceptions?

At their discretion, the water supplier may waive the requirement for a backflow preventer at the service connection if all the following conditions are met:

- All components of the auxiliary water system, including pumps, pressure tanks and piping, are removed from the premises, which are defined as all buildings, dwellings, structures or areas with water supply plumbing connected to the public water system.

- The possibility of connecting the auxiliary water system to the water supply plumbing is determined by the water supplier to be extremely low.
- No other hazards exist.
- The customer enters into a contract with the water supplier, as described below.

The contract will require the customer:

- To understand the potential hazard of a cross-connection.
- To never create a cross-connection between the auxiliary water system and the public water system.
- To allow an inspector to survey their property for hazards as long as the contract is in effect.
- To face loss of service and other penalties if the contract is violated.

The water supplier must perform an annual inspection of the customer's contract-regulated property to verify the conditions have not changed, which would warrant installation of a backflow preventer. The water supplier must, by law, do everything reasonably possible to protect the water system from contamination.

Booster Pumps

What is the concern?

Booster pumps connected to plumbing systems or water mains can cause backsiphonage by reducing the water mains. The following requirements are in place to help prevent backsiphonage:

- Booster pumps, not used for fire suppression, must be equipped with a low suction cut-off switch that is tested and certified every year.
- Alternately, when a booster pump is necessary for one-, two- and three-family dwellings, it is preferred that the booster pump draw from a surge tank filled through an air gap; and

- Booster pumps, used in a fire suppression system, must be equipped with either a low suction throttling valve on the discharge side or be equipped with a variable speed suction limiting control system. Low-pressure cut-off devices will suffice for fire pumps installed prior to August 8, 2008, until a significant modification is warranted, at which point the minimum pressure sustaining method must be updated. Each of these methods must be tested and certified each year.

Contacts

Need more information?

Questions concerning backflow prevention and cross-connection control may be directed to your local water department or to your local Ohio EPA District Office at the following numbers:

Northwest District (419) 352-8461
Northeast District (330) 963-1200
Southwest District (937) 285-6357
Southeast District (740) 385-8501
Central District (614) 728-3778

Questions regarding internal plumbing in the home may be directed to your local plumbing authority or to the Ohio Department of Commerce, Plumbing Administrator, at (614) 644-3153.

Mike DeWine, Governor
Laurie A. Stevenson, Director

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Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control

Protecting our
Public Water System

August 2015



Division of Drinking and Ground Waters
P.O. Box 1049
Columbus, Ohio 43216-1049
(614) 644-2752
www.epa.ohio.gov

What is a cross-connection?
Any physical connection created between a possible source of contamination and any drinking water system piping.

What is backflow?
It is the flow through a cross-connection from a possible source of contamination back into the drinking water system. It occurs when a cross-connection is created and a pressure reversal, either as backsiphonage or backpressure, occurs in the water supply piping.

Why be concerned?

- All cross-connections pose a potential health risk.
- Backflow can be a health hazard for your family or other consumers if contaminated water enters your water supply plumbing system and is used for drinking, cooking or bathing. Chemical burns, fires, explosions, poisonings, illness and death have all been caused by backflow through cross-connections.
- Backflow occurs more often than you think.
- You are legally responsible for protecting your water supply plumbing from backflow that may contaminate drinking water, either your own or someone else's. This includes complying with the plumbing code and not creating cross-connections.

What causes backsiphonage?

Backsiphonage occurs when there is a loss of pressure in a piping system. This can occur if the water supply pressure is lost or falls to a level lower than the source of contamination. This condition, which is similar to drinking from a glass with a straw, allows liquids to be siphoned back into the distribution system.

What causes backpressure?

Backpressure occurs when a higher opposing pressure is applied against the public water system's pressure. This condition allows undesirable gases or liquids from another system to enter the drinking water supply. Any pumping system (such as a well pump) or pressurized system (such as steam or hot water boilers) can exert backpressure when cross-connected with the public water system.

What can I do?

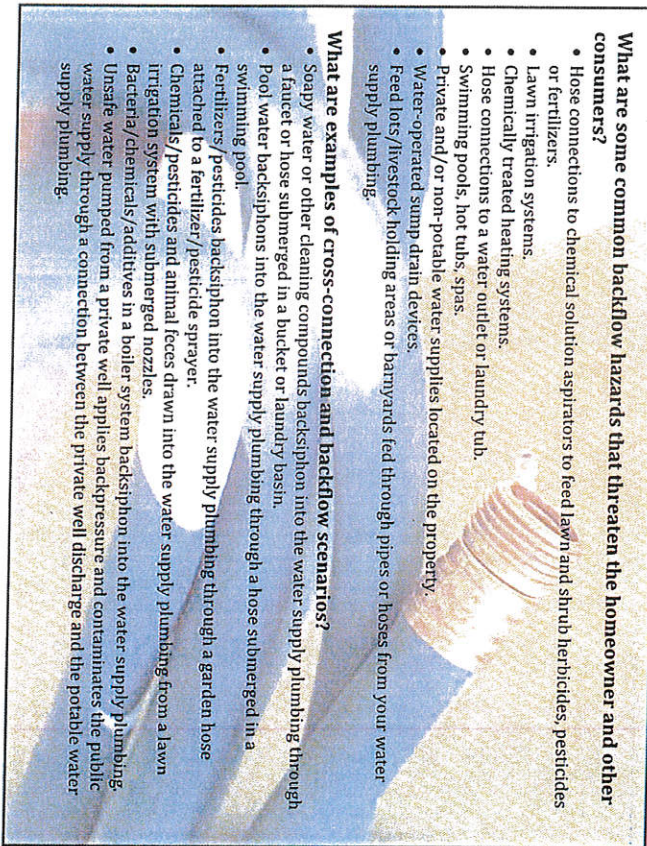
- Be aware of and eliminate cross-connections.
- Maintain air gaps. Do not submerge hoses or place them where they could become submerged.
- Use hose bib vacuum breakers on fixtures (those connections in the basement, laundry room and outside).
- Install approved, testable backflow preventers on lawn irrigation systems.
- Do not create a connection between an auxiliary water system (well, cistern, body of water) and the water supply plumbing.

What are some common backflow hazards that threaten the homeowner and other consumers?

- Hose connections to chemical solution aspirators to feed lawn and shrub herbicides, pesticides or fertilizers.
- Lawn irrigation systems.
- Chemically treated heating systems.
- Hose connections to a water outlet or laundry tub.
- Swimming pools, hot tubs, spas.
- Private and/or non-potable water supplies located on the property.
- Water-operated sump drain devices.
- Feed lots/hvestock holding areas or barnyards fed through pipes or hoses from your water supply plumbing.

What are examples of cross-connection and backflow scenarios?

- Soapy water or other cleaning compounds backsiphon into the water supply plumbing through a faucet or hose submerged in a bucket or laundry basin.
- Pool water backsiphons into the water supply plumbing through a hose submerged in a swimming pool.
- Fertilizers/ pesticides backsiphon into the water supply plumbing through a garden hose attached to a fertilizer/pesticide sprayer.
- Chemicals/pesticides and animal feces drawn into the water supply plumbing from a lawn irrigation system with submerged nozzles.
- Bacteria/chemicals/additives in a boiler system backsiphon into the water supply plumbing.
- Unsafe water pumped from a private well applies backpressure and contaminates the public water supply through a connection between the private well discharge and the potable water supply plumbing.



What must be done to protect the public water system?

The public water supplier must determine potential and actual hazards. If a hazard exists at a customer's public water supply service connection, the customer will be required to install and maintain an appropriate backflow preventer* at the meter and/or at the source of the hazard.

*Check with your water supplier to verify which backflow preventer is required before purchase or installation.

Who is responsible?

In Ohio, the responsibility for preventing backflow is divided. In general, state and local plumbing inspectors have authority over plumbing systems within buildings while Ohio EPA and water suppliers regulate protection of the distribution system at each service connection.

Water customers have the ultimate responsibility for properly maintaining their plumbing systems. It is the homeowner's or other customer's responsibility to ensure that cross-connections are not created and that any required backflow preventers are tested yearly and are in operable condition.

What is the law?

Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 3745-95 requires the public water supplier to protect the public water system from cross-connections and prevent backflow situations. The public water supplier must conduct cross-connection control inspections of their water customers' property to evaluate hazards. Local ordinances or water department regulations may also exist and must be followed in addition to state regulations.

Village of Bellaire Backflow survey questionnaire

Please return to the Village of Bellaire Water Treatment Plant if you are a commercial water service or answered yes to any of questions 2-8. By mail 217 37th street Bellaire, OH 43906 or by calling the water treatment plant at 740-676-2664.

1. What is the Water Service used for at this facility?

Commercial Residential

2. Is there a Backflow Prevention Device at this facility?

Yes No

3. Is there an underground Sprinkler system at this address?

Yes No

4. If there is a sprinkler system, is the system connected to Public Water?

Yes No

5. Is there a private well on this property?

Yes No

6. If there is a well, is it being used?

Yes No

7. Do you have a swimming pool?

Yes No

8. Do you have Boiler heat or water to air heat pump?

Yes No

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