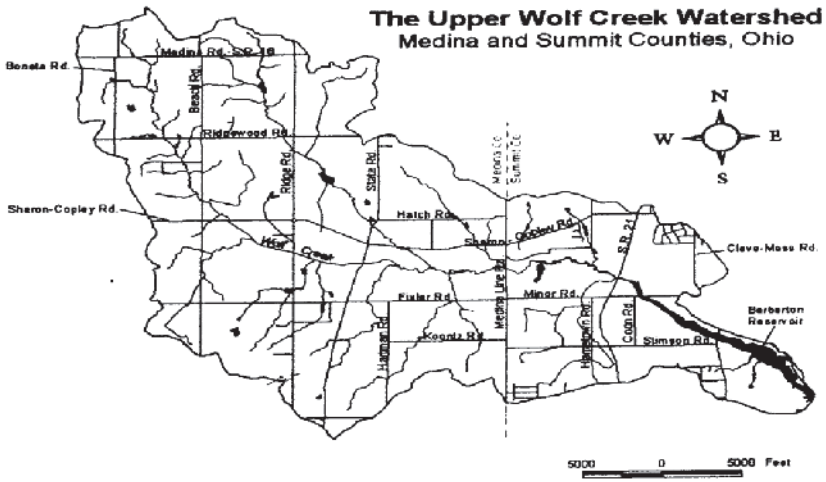
City of Barberton

2020 CITY OF BARBERTON
REPORT TO CONSUMERS
ON WATER QUALITY

The City of Barberton is committed to providing residents with a safe and reliable supply of high-quality drinking water. We test our water using sophisticated equipment and advanced procedures. The City of Barberton water meets state and federal standards for both appearance and safety. This annual "Consumer Confidence Report," required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), informs you where your water comes from, test results, general health information, and other facts you should know about your drinking water.

Barberton's water treatment plant, which had an unconditioned license to operate from the OEPA in 2020, serves all of Barberton and parts of Norton & Coventry. More information on our water quality data can be found online at http://www.waterdata.com. or by calling the Barberton Water Treatment Plant 330-848-6744.



WATER SOURCE

The City of Barberton has a surface water system that is supplied by the Upper Wolf Creek Watershed. A watershed is an area of land from which surface water drains into a common outlet, such as a stream, lake or wetland. The Upper Wolf Creek watershed drains approximately 18,062 acres in Medina and Summit Counties. The headwaters arise in the rural areas east of the city of Medina (Sharon Township) and flow east into the 200 acres, 670-million-gallon Barberton Reservoir in Summit County. The City of Barberton utilizes a Watershed Management Plan, which includes monthly testing at representative sites in the watershed to monitor quality.

As a backup supply of water to the Reservoir, the City of Barberton owns three ground water wells located on Pigeon and Wolf Creek with a total capacity of 4.6 MGD. A well head protection plan is followed to protect these wells. Recent improvements include Barberton's well pumps and motors being raised to three feet above the flood level in accordance to Ohio Revised code 3745 and 6109. New electrical controls and check valves were also added.

The City of Barberton also maintains two emergency water connections with the City of Akron. In 2020 Barberton did not purchase any water from Akron.

WHAT ARE SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION TO DRINKING WATER?

The sources of drinking water (both tap water 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 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 storm 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, urban storm runoff, and residential uses
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile 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.

BARBERTON DRINKING WATER SOURCE ASSESSMENT SUMMARY

For the purposes of source water assessments, in Ohio all surface waters are considered to be susceptible to contamination. By their nature, surface waters are readily accessible and can be contaminated by chemicals and pathogens which may rapidly arrive at the public drinking water intake with little warning or time to prepare.

The sand and gravel aquifer is also highly susceptible to potential contamination based on the following factors: the aquifer has a shallow depth to the water; there is no significant protective layer of low-permeability material between the aquifer and the ground surface; and potential significant contaminant sources exist within the protection area.

Potential contaminant sources within the City of Barberton's protection areas include:

- agricultural runoff from row crops and animal waste facilities
- inadequate semi-public and home sewage disposal systems
- new housing and commercial development that could increase storm water runoff from roads, and parking lots, loss and fragmentation of a vegetated riparian corridor (stream buffers)
- leaks spills from industrial, commercial, and hazardous material chemical storage areas and underground tanks, oil and gas wells, and transportation related spills.

The City of Barberton public water system treats the water to meet drinking water quality standards, but no single treatment technique can address all potential contaminants. The potential for water quality impacts can be further decreased by implementing measures to protect Wolf Creek Reservoir and the sand and gravel aquifer. More detailed information is provided in the City of Barberton's Drinking Water Source Assessment report, which can be obtained by calling Barberton Water Treatment Plant at (330) 848-6744 weekdays between 7:00 am & 3:00 pm.

Use our PWS ID Number: OH7700411 and our Facility ID: 7758601
For more information, call The City of Barberton Water Treatment Plant at (330) 848-6744.

Water Quality Data for community water systems throughout the United States is available on the internet at www.waterdata.com.

Frequently Asked Questions

If there are reported contaminants, how can my water be safe be safe to drink?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount 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. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. However, 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Why is Fluoride added to my water and how do I remove it?

Fluoride is added to the water to protect teeth as required by a state law that passed in 1969. Some home filtration devices remove fluoride. If a filter is used, please follow manufacturer's instructions to maintain the filter, as dirty filters pose not only taste and odor issues, but can create other health concerns. Bottled water may not contain fluoride depending on the source of the water.

Is there lead in my water?

There is no detectable lead in our water as it leaves the treatment plant. Water samples are collected at customer taps as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure safe water, thanks to our fellow residents. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant woman and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Barberton is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of material used in plumbing components.

To reduce exposure risk, USEPA recommends using cold water for drinking, flushing your home lines, and cleaning water faucet aerators once a month. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap water lines for 30 seconds up to 3 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

Always use cold water for cooking, drinking, or preparing baby formula. Hot water from the faucet can dissolve lead more quickly than cold water. If hot water is needed, collect the water cold and then heat the water.

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 800-426-4791 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater.lead.

If you are purchasing a filtering device to remove lead, please ensure the product's packaging specifically states that it is certified to meet the NSF/ANSI standard 53 for removing lead and follow all manufacturer's instructions on maintaining the filter and replacement.

Clean Aerators| Flush Lines| Use Cold

My drinking water looks cloudy. Is it safe to drink?

Cloudy water that clears up quickly from the bottom up is caused by small air bubbles, similar to what is found in carbonated beverages. After a while, the air bubbles will rise to the top and disappear. This cloudiness is more likely to be seen in the winter months when water is cold and dense. Air does not affect the safety of the water.

What is a faucet aerator and how do I clean one?

Cleaning faucet aerators at least twice per year and after disruptions in water service is important for maintaining the quality of water coming into your home. Aerator screens are made of metal or plastic and attach to the end of the faucet. During normal use aerators may accumulate tiny particles of sediment that have corroded from inside your home's plumbing and hot water tank. There are different types of aerators. The standard aerator screws onto the tip of the faucet and is the most common. Recessed faucet aerators may be inserted into some kitchen sink spray nozzles. Another type are called cache aerators, which need a special key or wrench to remove. Faucets with cache aerators are originally packaged with a flat metal or plastic tool that can be placed into the aerator grooves to unscrew it. If you do not have an aerator key set, one can be ordered online or by calling the manufacturer of your faucet. Instuctructions can be found online for your particular faucet.

Cleaning a Standard Aerator that Screws on to the Tip of Faucet

1. Remove aerator with adjustable wrench or once loosened, remove with fingers. Unscrew the screen until it comes off the tip of the faucet, by turning it clockwise if you are looking down at the top of the faucet.

2. Separate the parts of the screen. Rinse all parts with water and set into a small container.

3. If residue has accumulated on the screen or housing, soak the aerator parts in white vinegar for 20 minutes. Then, scrub all parts with a small clean brush.

4. Reassemble the aerator pieces and attach it to the faucet. Test the faucet for flow.

My Water smells bad or has a taste issue. How do I remove it?

If you know you have a tap water quality or taste problem, or want to take extra precautions, you should purchase filters certified by National Sanitation Foundation International (NFS), American National Standards Institute (ANSI), and Underwriters Laboratory (UL). The Barberton Water Treatment Plant regulates its own use of chlorine to disinfect water. After large rain events and temperature increases, the treatment plant may add more chlorine to the water to meet EPA compliance standards. If you dislike the taste or smell of chlorine in your water, you can make the water more palatable by allowing it to be exposed to the air for a few hours or by pouring it from one clean container to another. In addition, you may consider installing a home water treatment kit specifically designed to remove chlorine from your drinking water. It is critically important that all home filters be maintained and replaced at least as often as recommended by the manufacturer, or they might make the problem worse.

SYSTEM PROJECTS

- In late 2020 the Dam infrastructure improvement plan kicked off to report the conditions of the structure and to report the recommendations to guide the capital improvements that are needed.
- In the summer of 2020, the Barberton Water Treatment Plant participated in PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances) testing with the assistance USEPA personnel. We had no detection on the analytes tested.
- The City of Barberton water distribution expansion project is continuing to extend waterlines into Norton to better supply businesses and residential allotments in the area.

Sample Year 2020 Contaminants (units) (Typical Sources in Drinking Water)		MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detection	Violation
Microbiological	**Turbidity (NTU)*** (Soil Runoff)	N/A	TT (< 1NTU)	.46	0.01-0.46	No
	Turbidity (% meeting Standard)* (Soil Runoff)	N/A	TT (%)	99.8	99.8-100	No
	Fecal Coliform (% positive samples in a month) (Naturally present in the environment)***	0	TT (<5% of samples collected)	0	N/A	No
Disinfectant	**Total Chlorine (ppm)** (A water additive used to control microbes)	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4	1.07	0.97-1.27	No
Organic	**TTHM (ppb)** (Total Trihalomethanes are a by-product of drinking water chlorination)	N/A	80	64.9	22.2-105.6	No
	HAA5 (ppb) (Haloacetic acids are a by-product of drinking water chlorination)	N/A	60	42.5	19.4-51.0	No
	Total Organic Carbon (ppm) ** (Naturally present in the environment)	N/A	TT	1.43	1.23-2.24	No
Inorganic	**Fluoride (ppm)** Naturally present in the environment from erosion, water additive to promote strong teeth)	4	4	1.07	0.72-1.17	No
	Nitrate (**ppm,** measured as Nitrogen) (run off from fertilizer, leaching septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits)	10	10	0.6	<0.10-0.6	No
	Nitrate (**ppm,** measured as Nitrogen) (run off from fertilizer, leaching septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits)	10	10	0.6	<0.10-0.6	No

*Turbidity is the measure of cloudiness and an indication of filter system effectiveness. 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.

**The level reported under "Level Found" for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) is the lowest quarterly annual average ratio between percentage 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.

***Coliform samples collected in the distribution system.

Sample Year 2020 Contaminants (units) (Typical Sources in Drinking Water)		MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation
Inorganic	**Barium (ppm)*** Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits	2	2	0.046	N/A	No
Additional Testing	**Total Hardness (ppm)*** (Primary calcium, magnesium content)	N/A	N/A	138	70-203	No
	Iron (ppm)* (Not a health related standard but a natural mineral that can cause staining)	N/A	300	0.02	0-0.02	No
	pH (units)* (a symbol for the degree of acidity or alkalinity of a solution)	N/A	TT	7.4	6.9-7.7	No
	Total Alkalinity (ppm)* (Neutralizes the acidity)	N/A	N/A	98	50-162	No
	Color (Units) * (Clarity measurement)	N/A	N/A	2	0-16	No
	Orthophosphate (PO^4) (ppm) * (Fed for formal corrosion control)	N/A	N/A	0.85	0.68-1.02	No

*Samples collected at plant tap

Yearly Sampled Contaminants (units) (Typical Sources in Drinking Water)++		Action Level (AL)	Individual Results over AL	90th Percentile	Year	Violation
Lead and Copper Testing+	**Copper (ppm)** (Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits)	1.3 ppm	0	.18	2020	No
		Out of 30 city samples, none were found to have copper levels in excess of the action level of 1.3 ppm.				
	Lead (ppb) (Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits)	15 ppb	0	2.4	2020	No
		Out of 30 city samples, none were found to have lead levels in excess of the action level of 15ppb.				

+Lead and Copper samples are tested yearly in homes throughout Barberton.

++ There is no detectable lead in our water as it leaves the treatment plant. Corrosion of household plumbing systems is a source of lead and copper contamination. Water samples are collected at Costumer taps as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure safe water.

Unregulated Contaminants

The City of Barberton participated in the UCMR 4 (Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Regulation) which started in 2019 finished in the fall of 2020. The first step in the USEPA's efforts to determine whether or not a contaminant should be regulated comes from collection of information about their occurrence in drinking water by way of the UCMR. The presence of a compound does not necessarily equate to a health risk. The concentration of a compound is a far more important factor in determining whether there are health implications to the consumer. For more information on the UCMR 4 visit USEPA website epa.gov/dwucmr or contact the water plant at 330-848-6744.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4)	**Sample Years 2019-2020 Contaminants (Units)** (Typical Sources in Drinking Water)	**MCLG**	**MRL**	**Level Found**	**Range of Detections**	**Sample Location**
	Manganese (ppb) (Naturally present in the environment)	N/A	0.4	6.75	2.4-11.1	Raw
	Bromochloroacetic Acid (ppb) (by-product of drinking water chlorination)	N/A	0.30	4.67	6.44-3.74	Entry Point
	Bromodichloroacetic Acid (ppb) (by-product of drinking water chlorination)	N/A	0.50	5.73	8.80-3.54	Entry Point
	Chlorodibromoacetic acid (ppb) (by-product of drinking water chlorination)	N/A	0.30	1.39	1.60-1.21	Entry Point
	Dibromoacetic Acid (ppb) (by-product of drinking water chlorination)	N/A	0.30	.89	1.11-0.62	Entry Point
	Dichloroacetic acid (ppb) (by-product of drinking water chlorination)	N/A	0.20	10.6	15.1-8.0	Entry Point
	Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb) (by-product of drinking water chlorination)	N/A	0.50	12.6	15.7-8.60	Entry Point
	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)* (by-product of drinking water chlorination)	N/A	0.20	22.69	31.5-17.5	Distribution
	Haloacetic Acids (HAA6Br) (ppb)* (by-product of drinking water chlorination)	N/A	0.30	12.7	16.0-9.5	Distribution
	Haloacetic Acids (HAA9) (ppb)* (by-product of drinking water chlorination)	N/A	0.20	35.90	44.1-29.2	Distribution

* HAA samples collected from the same four locations as the THM samples in the distribution system.

An Explanation of the Water-Quality Data Table

The previous tables show the results of our water-quality analyses. Every regulated contaminant that we detected in the water is listed here. The tables contain the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for the public health, the amount detected, the usual sources of such contamination, notes explaining our findings, and a key to units of measurement. Definitions of MCL and MCLG are important. All abbreviations used in the table to shorten longer names are defined below. Please read these definitions below for each abbreviation in question to find out more.
The data presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations. No data older than five years is included. Although we ran tests for more than 100 contaminants, only the listed substances were found. All results are below the Maximum Contaminant level required.

Definitions

Action Level or AL: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow.

Detected Level: The average level detected of a contaminant for comparison against acceptance levels for each parameter. These levels could be the highest single measurement, or an average of values depending on the contaminant.

Maximum Contaminant Level or 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 Contaminant Level Goal or 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 Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or 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.

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.

Parts per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per Liter (ug/l): 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 <2 means the lowest level that could be detected was 2 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.

Range: The range of all values for samples tested for each contaminant.

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Unit Descriptions

Parts per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per Liter (mg/l): Units of measure for concentration of contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days.

N/A: Not Applicable

Parts per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per Liter (ug/l): Units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

ND: Not Detected

Nephelometric Turbidity Units, NTU: Measure of cloudiness of the water. We monitor this because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the plant filtration system. The EPA sets a limit of 0.3NTU in 95% of the samples analyzed each month not to exceed 1 NTU.

The City of Barberton public water system is committed to improving drinking water quality to our customers. The infrastructure improvements within the plant allow for better treatment of plant source water. Removing lead service lines during water main replacement projects are helping ensure public safety. Implementation of hydrant flushing and valve exercising plans, ensures proper functioning and maintenance of water distribution equipment. The utilization of GIS (Geographic Information System) technology in the distribution system provides the city the ability to log, manage maintenance tasks, examine the types of service lines in use, and budgeting needed to provide repairs into the future. Water testing after each step of the water treatment process, and analyzing water samples in diverse locations of the water system, demonstrates that we are dedicated to providing our customers with the highest quality water

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.

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic facing the residents of the City of Barberton, all Barberton City Council meetings will occur without the physical presence of members of the public. We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting drinking water. Members of the public wishing to engage in the public comment portion of the meeting may do so by checking the upcoming dates of meetings online at http://cityofbarberton.com/163/City-Council.

For more information on the previous water quality tables, please contact Dan Miller at the Barberton Water Treatment Plant at 330-848-6744, weekdays between 7:00 am & 3:00 pm.

Barberton Water Treatment Plant **|**3365 Summit Rd. **|**Norton, Ohio 44203