

Congratulations - you've won!!!

(A copy of the 2016 Customer Confidence report - we encourage you to read the entire report and call with any questions)

Town of Hamilton Water Utility (PWS ID # 5276023)

2016 Consumer Confidence Report

Town of Hamilton Drinking Water

Is my water safe?

YES!!! Last year, 2015, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. The Town of Hamilton vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated any required monitored parameters and has not exceeded any applicable maximum contaminant level or any other water quality regulation during the monitoring year of 2015.

Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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/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.

Where does my water come from?

Your drinking water originates from two (2) deep wells located within the Town of Hamilton. These wells are identified as Point of Entry (POE) -No. 3 (109480) and POE – No. 4 (16171A), PWSID 5276023. The two older wells have been removed from service as of July 2004 POE-No.1 (85493) and POE-No.2 (85492).

The water is treated to remove Iron and other nuisance naturally occurring materials and distributed directly to the individual homes via the Town distribution system. The water source is also chlorinated to reduce the microbiological presence in the water. The wells are in secure locations with limited access. The wells are kept clean and in proper operating condition. Maintenance and daily analytical performance tests are performed on a regular prescribed schedule. In October of 2001 the utility completed phase “1” of their wellhead protection program, we also completed our phase “2” plan in 2012 (state program to ensure safety of the well head). If you would like to review a copy of the wellhead protection program or would like a tour of the facility, please contact us. Contact information is located at the end of this report and you may also address any questions during the monthly Town Council meetings, which are held on the first Monday of each month at 7pm at the Town Hall.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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. 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. » 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 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 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. 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 (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

Your involvement starts with the environment around you. Surface water and eventually groundwater are continually being impacted by all of our actions. The most effective way to prevent groundwater contamination is through education about potential sources of contamination and how to minimize or eliminate them completely.

The EPA has many important resources dedicated to drinking water issues. The Safe Drinking Water Hotline may be contacted at 1-800-426-4791. The EPA's web site may also be accessed at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/>. The Indiana Department of Environmental Management's web site may be viewed at <http://www.in.gov/idem>.

Please remember that your own environmental awareness helps protect your groundwater sources. Be aware of potential sources of contamination and act to minimize any potential impact to your water supply.

Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. 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 change frequently.

Terms and Abbreviations used

PWS: Public Water System

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.

Variations and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
ICR Disinfection By-Products								
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	NR	80	40.0 (ppb)	N/A		2015	No	By-product of chlorine disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	NR	60	8.0 (ppb)	N/A		2015	No	By-product of chlorine disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.307	N/A		2015	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.8	N/A		2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate / Nitrite (ppm)	10	10	0.23	N/A		2015	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching From septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of Natural deposits.
Sodium (ppm)	NR	NR	13.4	N/A		2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching
Sulfate (ppm)	NR	NR	6.31	N/A		2006	No	

Water Quality Data Table (Cont.)

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Your		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
			Water	Range Low High			
Cadmium	.005	.005	.0005 (ppm)	N/A	2015	No	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Radium-228	0	5	0.6 (pci/L)	N/A	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Microbiological Contaminants

# Total Coliform (# of - monthly positive samples)	0	0	0	N/A	2015	No	Naturally present in the environment
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Contaminant(s) (units)	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	# of Samples > AL*	Sample Date	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
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Inorganic Contaminants

Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.25	0	September – 2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching; Corrosion of household plumbing systems; from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	0	15	5	0	September – 2014	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Residual Disinfectant

Chlorine Residual		4 (MRDL)	0.8 (free)	N/A	2015	No	Water Additive (disinfectant) used to control microbiological organisms
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Additional samples

Cyanide (ppm)		.2	.02	N/A	2015	No	A salt or ester of hydrocyanic acid
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*AL: Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow

Units Description:

ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l) – think of “1” gallon for every million gallons or 1 cent in \$10,000

ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l) – think of “1” gallon for every billion gallons or 1 cent in \$10,000,000

of monthly positive samples: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive

Violations:

We are proud to report that we have had no violations during the calendar year 2015

Arsenic

Your drinking water meets the current EPA Maximum Contaminant Level for Arsenic (10.0 ug/L). The most recent analysis for Arsenic was .6 ug/L, which is barely detectable. Additionally, the EPA standard for Arsenic balances the current understanding of Arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing Arsenic from Drinking Water. The EPA continues to research the health effects of Arsenic.

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. Our system 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. Please contact us for additional information.

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>.

Tips

We offer all types of tips: anywhere from winterizing your home to simple adjustments to save you \$\$\$\$ on your water bill.

- **Did you know** a leaky toilet could add \$50 or more a month to your water bill? A faulty softener can be much worse!!!
- **Did you know** that by installing certain types of filters you could eliminate the taste of chlorine in your water???
- **Did you know** that by not showering for an entire month you could save up to \$20 on your water bill???. Just kidding we want you to shower.

Notes

As our customers we want your opinion. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestions on how we can make this report friendlier - please let us know. Our number one goal is to keep you, "the customer", happy and to provide you with reliable, clean, and safe drinking water. Please pay close attention to your water bills for new programs that the water utility will be offering.

For more information concerning your Drinking Water, please contact:

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