

2018 Water Quality Report

Village of Colon

This report covers the drinking water quality for the Village of Colon during the 2018 calendar year. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2018. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

We are committed to supplying you with the highest quality drinking water possible and to monitor for specific contaminants on a regular basis as required by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources and Environment (DNRE).

Your water comes from four groundwater wells (ranging in depths of 56 to 96 feet) that draw from the St. Joseph River Watershed. Three wells are located on North Blackstone Avenue and one is on North Burr Oak Road.

The State performed an assessment of our source water to determine the susceptibility or the relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven tiered scale from “very low” to “very high” based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry and contaminant sources. The susceptibility rating of our source is “high.”

Significant existing or potential sources of contamination include **underground storage tanks (USTs), one large quantity and three small-quantity hazardous waste generator sites, two former landfills and one active landfill, one oil and gas site, and one gas pipeline.** Agricultural sites may pose a potential threat if fertilizers and pesticides are over-applied. Abandoned wells provide a direct conduit for surface runoff and contaminants to easily reach the groundwater and may pose a potential problem.

We are making efforts to protect our water sources by remedying known sources of contamination to prevent movement to the municipal wells and by participating in the wellhead protection program.

A copy of the Source Water Assessment Report can be obtained at the Colon Village Office, 110 N. Blackstone Avenue or by calling 269-432-2532.

- **Contaminants and their presence in 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).**

- **Vulnerability of sub-populations:** Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune systems disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care providers about drinking water. 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 (800-426-4791).
- **Sources of drinking water:** The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. Our water comes from 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 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 and residential uses.
 - **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

- **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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that 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.

Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2018 calendar year. The presence of these 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 January 1 – December 31, 2018. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All of the data is representative of the water quality, but some are more than one year old.

Terms and abbreviations used below:

- **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)**: means 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)**: means 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.
- **N/A**: Not applicable, **ND**: not detectable at testing limit, **ppb**: parts per billion or micrograms per liter, **ppm**: parts per million or milligrams per liter.
- **Action Level**: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Regulated Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level Detected	Range	Year Sampled	Violation Yes / No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	100	100	48	27-48	2018	NO	Naturally present in groundwater
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.11	ND-.12	2018	NO	Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
TTHM – Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	N/A	.0297	N/A	2018	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	4	N/A	.002	N/A	2018	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	4	N/A	.002	N/A	2018	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (ppm)	4	4	.57	.01-.73	2018	NO	Water additive used to control microbes
Contaminant Subject to AL	Action Level	MCLG	90% of Samples ≤ This Level		Year Sampled	# of Samples Above AL	Typical Source of Contaminant

Lead (ppb) **	15	0	0	2018	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppb)	1300	1300	470	2018	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Special Monitoring and Unregulated Contaminant *		Average Level Detected	Range	Year Sampled	Comments	
Sodium (ppm)		14	13-23	2018	Erosion of natural deposits	
Iron		0.8		2018	Erosion of natural deposits	
Hardness as CaCO ₃ (ppm)		283	251-313	2018	Erosion of natural deposits	
Gross Alpha				2017	Erosion of natural deposits	
Radium 226				2017	Erosion of natural deposits	
Radium 228				2017	Erosion of natural deposits	

* Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

Information about 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 Colon 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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We will update this report annually and will keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year, as they happen. Copies are available at Colon Village Office located at 110 Blackstone Avenue.

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. Village Council Meetings are held at the village hall, 110 N. Blackstone Avenue, at 7:00 PM the second Tuesday of every month. For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, contact Jim Weinberg at (269)432-2009 or email him at colonvillage@hotmail.com. For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at www.epa.gov/safewater/.