



Drinking Water Quality Report 2024

The Year in Review - 2024

Reporting data is collected throughout the year and provided to you, and to the Ohio EPA no later than July 1st annually. Therefore, this report is entitled **Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) 2024**.

The City of Munroe Falls purchases water from our neighboring City of Cuyahoga Falls. We are a distribution system, meaning we distribute water to our residents. Munroe Falls does not *treat* potable water. That is done at the treatment plant in Cuyahoga Falls. The City of Cuyahoga Falls also provides a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), or Water Quality Report on an annual basis. If you would like a copy of that report, it is linked in our website at www.munroefalls.com under "Water Quality Reports" (<https://www.munroefalls.com/DocumentCenter/View/5847/CUYAHOGA-FALLS-Water-Quality-Report-2024>), or you may call the City of Cuyahoga Falls directly, or visit their website at www.cityofcf.com.

Although we do not provide water treatment, we do test the distribution water for certain chemicals and report those test results to the Ohio EPA. Munroe Falls tests for coliform bacteria, chlorine levels, lead and copper, asbestos, and disinfection byproducts. As you read through this report you will learn more about what these things mean to you, their health effects, and the test results.

Additionally, there are unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those for which US 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 further regulation is warranted. In 2024 Munroe Falls participated in the fifth round of the Unregulated Contaminant Rule (UCMR 5) **For a copy of the results please call Jim Bowery at 330-688-7491.**

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 (800-426-4791)**.

In 2024, your drinking water met all Ohio EPA standards.



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Special points of interest

- Lead in Drinking Water
- Lead Service Line Inventory
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- Lead Testing information

Source Water Information

The City of Munroe Falls receives drinking water from the City of Cuyahoga Falls. The Cuyahoga Falls water treatment plant, located at 2028 Munroe Falls Ave, uses well water as its source. The well field consists of 18 wells located in Water Works Park on the south bank of the Cuyahoga River.

The well field, which is the source for raw water to the water treatment plant, is surrounded by two theoretical protection zones. The "inner protection zone" is the area that provides ground water to the City of Cuyahoga Falls' wells within one year of pumping. A chemical spill in this zone poses a greater threat to the drinking water so this area warrants more stringent protection. The "outer protection zone" is the additional area that contributes water when the well is pumped for five years. An inventory of potential contaminant sources located within the drinking water source was conducted by the Ohio EPA in 2002. Nineteen potential sources of contamination were identified within the protection areas. A list of these potential contaminants is available in the source water assessment report. If you would like more information about this assessment, **please contact Munroe Falls Service Director, James Bowery, at 330-688-7491.**

Assessment & Protection

A susceptibility analysis done by the EPA determined that the Cuyahoga Falls source of drinking water has a high susceptibility to contamination. High susceptibility does not imply that the well will become contaminated. It only means that the existing/known conditions are such that it could be if contaminate sources were not properly managed.

The protection of groundwater and our drinking water source is the responsibility of all area residents. Please dispose of chemicals, household cleaners and pesticides in the proper manner. For more information on proper waste disposal please contact **Summit County REWORKS** at 330-374-0383 or go to www.summitreworks.com.

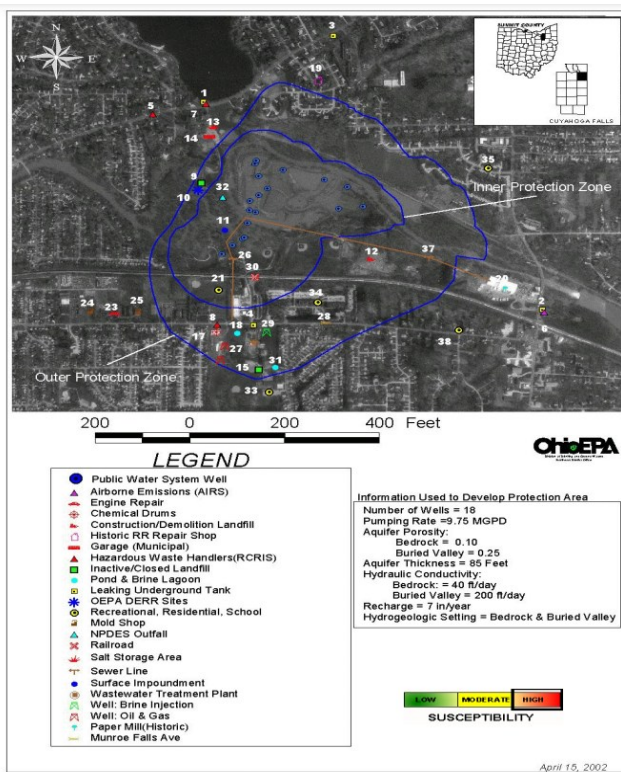


Figure 1. Drinking Water Source Protection Area and Potential Contaminant Sources, City of Cuyahoga Falls, Public Water System #7701012

Sources of drinking water (both tap 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 presences of animals or 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, agriculture 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 productions, 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.

Distributing Water To You

The Munroe Falls pumping station, located at 272 Munroe Falls Ave, pumped an average of **276,619** gallons of water a night in 2024 into two water tanks; a 1.5 million gallon reservoir located behind Sprenger Retirement Center and a 200,000 gallon tower on Gaylord Dr. The City of Munroe Falls maintains the pumping station, the water storage facilities and the water lines in addition to the valves, individual curb boxes and most fire hydrants as well all residential water meters, most commercial water meters and the meter reading transmitting system. Larger commercial water meters must be manually read on a monthly basis. The Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) system allows the city to collect meter readings remotely. It also permits alerts and reporting of unusual events like continuous water usage (an indication of a potential leak).

An important responsibility of the Water Department is monitoring Backflow Testing program. Backflow preventers are devices installed at a water service location that prevents the unwanted reverse flow of water. These apparatuses require annual testing to ensure they are working properly which is important because, in the event of a loss of pressure, they prevent a backflow of water into the drinking water system. Backflow preventers are required for commercial properties, and some residential properties like those with boiler heating systems or sprinkler systems, or wherever the potential for a cross-connection is present. A cross-connection is created when a water service has a connection to potential unwanted or poisonous source of contamination like chemicals or pesticides for example.

Another service the Water Department performs in order to maintain our system is hydrant flushing. This service ensures that fire hydrants are operational when needed, and the act of flushing maintains the distribution pipes by removing mineral deposits. This is a controlled procedure that is vital to the general maintenance of our system. Sometimes hydrant flushing can make the water temporarily appear rust colored due to iron and mineral deposits being stirred up. There is no health hazard associated with discolored water. It is safe to use and consume. However, it could stain light colored laundry. If you see discoloration, allow the water to run until clear.

The health of our water is greatly dependent upon the health of local rivers, streams and even Lake Erie. That is why it is so important to be mindful of pollutants in stormwater run-off. All water eventually leads to drinking water sources. By keeping stormwater run-off free from not only litter, but chemicals, herbicides, pesticides, spills, vehicle leaks and even pet waste, we can all help to maintain the quality of our drinking water. The more hard or impervious services there are, the more stormwater run-off is created. The use of native plants and trees can naturally filter and slow down this run-off.

The City of Munroe Falls operated under an unconditioned license to operate during the year 2024. A copy of that license is located at 43 Munroe Falls Ave, Munroe Falls Ohio.

Monitoring & Reporting Contaminants

On the next page you will find a list of monitoring results from 2024. As required by the Ohio EPA the city monitors levels of Total and Free Chlorine, Total Coliform Bacteria, Lead & Copper, and Disinfection Byproducts called Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids and Asbestos. Some contaminants like fluoride are monitored and reported by the City of Cuyahoga Falls. The Ohio EPA requires us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, may be more than one year old.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

All water systems were required to begin compliance with a new rule April 1, 2016, the Revised Total Coliform Rule. This rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of total coliform bacteria, which includes E.coli bacteria. The USEPA anticipates greater public health protection under this rule, as it requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. As a result, under this rule there is no longer a maximum contaminant level violation for multiple total coliform detections. Instead, the rule requires water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences to conduct an assessment to determine if any significant deficiencies exist. If found, these must be corrected by the Public Water System.

Of the 72 bacteria samples analyzed in Munroe Falls in 2024, all showed 0% presence of coliform bacteria.

Health Effects of the Chemicals Monitored

Total Chlorine

Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

Total Coliform Bacteria

Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. If found coliforms indicate the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. If this occurs, we are required to conduct assessments to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

Lead

Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Copper

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson’s disease should consult their personal doctor.

Fluoride

Some people who drink water containing fluoride well in excess of the MCL, over many years could get skeletal fluorosis, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of children’s teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling, also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums.

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Haloacetic Acids (HAAs)

Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Asbestos

Some people who drink water containing asbestos in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of developing benign intestinal polyps.

You may have heard of other things like “dissolved solids” in your drinking water. These are mainly naturally occurring minerals and do not pose health risks as determined by the EPA and are therefore not monitored by the City. Water is softened at the treatment level by the City of Cuyahoga Falls with a finished hardness of 120 to 140 ppm. Many residents still opt to install water softeners and/or filtration systems or devices to improve the water taste/texture. For more information on treatment and water hardness, please contact the City of Cuyahoga Falls at 330-971-8130.

EPA Definitions

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)

“The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG’s 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 Disinfection Level (MRDL)

“The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.”

Treatment Technique

“A required process intended to reduce the level of contaminants in drinking water.”

Action Level (AL)

“The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.”

Variance and Exemption

“State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.”

PFAS

“Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals applied to many industrial, 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 fire-fighting foam called aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) which are used mainly on large spills or flammable liquids, such as jet fuel. PFAS are classified as contaminants of emerging concern, meaning that research into the harm they may cause to human health is still ongoing.”

Monitoring Results for 2024

Contaminant (Units)	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
Lead and Copper - City of Munroe Falls collects from residential taps annually							
Lead (ppb) from 20 residential taps	0 out of 20 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the Action Level of 15ppb						
	AL = 15 (Action level)	0 (goal level)	0.00	ND	NO	2024	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures
Copper (ppm) from 20 residential taps	0 out of the 20 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the Action Level of 1.3 ppm						
	AL = 1.3 (Action level)	1.3 (goal level)	.46	.08 to .70	NO	2024	Corrosion of household plumbing fixtures
Inorganic Contaminants							
Fluoride (ppm)	4.0	4.0	.91	0.89 to .92	NO	Daily	Water additive that promotes strong teeth.
Disinfection Byproducts - City of Munroe Falls samples locally every 90 days							
Total Trihalomethanes TTHMs (ppb)	80	N/A	41.10	21.30 to 56.6	NO	2024	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids HAA5 (ppb)	60	N/A	20.75	11.7 to 26	NO	2024	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Residual Disinfectants - City of Munroe Falls samples daily							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	1.30	1.08 to 1.42	NO	2024	Water additive to control microbes

KEY TO TABLE

ppm is parts per million, or 1 part in a million parts

ppb is parts per billion, or 1 part in a billion parts

MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level

MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

N/A - not applicable

AL - Action Level

1 ppm is equivalent to 1 inch in 15.78 miles

1 ppb is equivalent to 1 inch in 15,782 miles

ND - not detected

MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

MRDLG - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal

Customer Participation in Decision Making

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please contact the Munroe Falls Service Director, **Jim Bowery**, at **330-688-7491** if you have any questions about this report, the information it contains or the Water Department operations.

Or, email Jim Bowery at water@munroefalls.com.

The Assistant to Mr. Bowery, Kristina Simmons, can be reached at 330-688-7491 ext. 223.



All residents are encouraged to get involved and participate in the decisions about their drinking water and the City's operations made at bi-weekly Council meetings held the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 pm at City Hall, 43 Munroe Falls Ave, Munroe Falls Ohio.

Council meeting agendas and meeting minutes can be found at the City's website (www.munroefalls.com) under "Agendas & Minutes" located on the homepage.

All direct City Council and Administrative contact information is also available on the City's website or by calling City Hall at 330-688-7491.

City Hall hours of operation:

Monday - Friday

8:30 am to 4:00 pm

Please share this information to persons in our community who may have a language barrier or trouble understanding the information provided.

Lead in Drinking Water

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. Munroe Falls Water Dept. is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in household 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>.

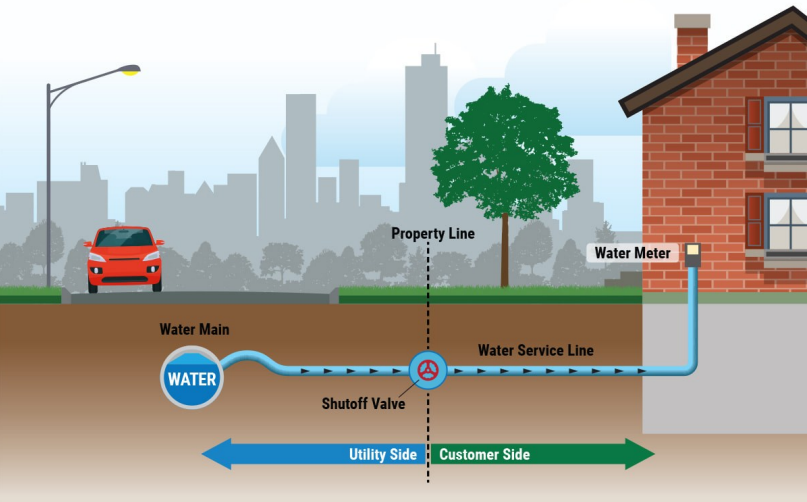
Who Should Take Special Precautions?

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. 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* at 1-800-426-4791.

Lead Service Line Inventory

MFWD potholed (or dug) at many properties to verify the material of residential water service lines in 2024. This verification will continue throughout the City to confirm recorded documentation of service line materials through 2027. To date, no lead service lines have been found.

The current **Lead Service Line Inventory** is available on the City’s website at <https://www.munroefalls.com/1349/Lead-and-Copper>. This is a PDF list of all service lines in Munroe Falls. You can find your address by clicking “control-f” then type in a location once you open the file. If you suspect you have a lead service line on your property, or have questions please contact Jim Bowery at 330-688-7491.



Sources of Lead in Drinking Water

Faucets

Fixtures inside your home may contain lead.

Galvanized Pipe

Lead particles can attach to the surface of galvanized pipes. Over time, the particles can enter your drinking water, causing elevated lead levels.

Copper Pipe with Lead Solder

Solder made or installed before 1986 contained high lead levels.

Lead Goose Necks

Goose necks and pigtails are shorter pipes that connect the lead service line to the main.

Lead Service Line

The service line is the pipe that runs from the water main to the home's internal plumbing. Lead service lines can be a major source of lead contamination in water.

Reduce Your Exposure to Lead

Use only cold water for drinking, cooking and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water.

Consider using a water filter certified to remove lead and know when it's time to replace the filter.

Before drinking, flush your pipes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes.

Lead in homes can also come from sources other than water. If you live in a home built before 1978, you may want to have your paint **tested** for lead.

Source: www.epa.gov/safewater

Testing & Other Information

The City of Munroe Falls Water Department does not provide water testing. We utilize outside labs for testing water samples. The City can provide a list of certified laboratories if you are concerned and not currently participating in the City’s lead and copper monitoring program.

There are specific criteria required by the Ohio EPA for lead and copper monitoring of the 20 sample sites within our city. Not all homes qualify or are included in our monitoring program.

You may also contact the *Summit County Health Department* for information about lead exposure from water and other sources, like lead paint, at **330-926-5600** or visit their website at <https://www.scph.org/healthy-homes/lead-poisoning-prevention-information>

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City of Munroe Falls

Water Department

The Munroe Falls Water Department remains committed to providing you with quality water and excellent customer service while remaining in compliance with all Federal, State and local regulations. We continue to strive for transparency in all that we do so we hope you will take the time to read the information provided here and if you have questions or concerns, please contact us.

Thank you

More on Lead Service Lines

In accordance with the Ohio EPA requirements the City will continue over the next 2 years confirming water service line materials. We have used the documentation on file for properties for which we have records for the required Lead Service Line Inventory. For services where physical documentation was either not available or too old, the City "pot holed" (dug a hole) at or near the service line to visually confirm service line material.

We will continue further documentation as we will also be required to make more extensive visual inspections of, not only service lines, but materials used to connect service lines to the main water lines by 2027. This will be a more extensive process requiring further diggings. As always, we will restore any excavations once completed.

Water service lines on privately owned property are the responsibility of the property owner. However, the city has a responsibility to determine if lead service lines, and/or lead connections or goosenecks are in use and to educate consumers about the dangers and abatement if present.



City of Munroe Falls

Water Department

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