

# 2014 Water Quality Report for the City of Potterville

This report covers the drinking water quality for the City of Potterville for the calendar year 2014. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2014. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

Copies of this report are available at the Potterville City Hall, Water Department and will not be directly mailed to customers.

The city has three wells about 200 feet deep drawing from the Saginaw Valley Aquifer. One well is located by the city park, one well is behind Benton Twp Fire Department and the other by City Hall. The MDEQ has performed an assessment of our source water. If you would like to obtain a copy of the assessment it is available at Potterville City Hall.

## 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 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. Immuno-compromised 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 about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CED 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, accruing 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 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 are naturally occurring or may 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 system. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which provide the same protections for public health.

## Water Quality Data

The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2014 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, 2014. 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. As an oversight, the City failed to monitor for Disinfection Byproducts during the month of July. The next scheduled sample will be taken during the month of July in 2015. 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.

**ND:** Not detectable at testing limit **ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter **pCi/l:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

**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	Sample Date	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Fluoride (ppm)	4.0	0.1 – 0.7	0.15	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	0.060	0	0.007	2014	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection agents.
TTHM-Total Trihalomethane (ppb)	0.080	0	0.0311	2014	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection agents.
Chlorine	MRDL 4.0	MRDLG 0.5 - 1.5	1.8	2014	No	Water disinfection agent used to control microbes.
Radioactive Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Our Water	Sample Date		Typical source of Contaminant
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	5.0	0	3.2	10-06-14	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Unregulated Contaminant ***			Our Water	Sample Date		Typical source of Contaminant
Sodium			34	2014	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Contaminant Subject to AL	Action Level	90% of sample (this level)	Number of samples over AL	Sample Date		Typical source of Contaminant
Lead	0.015	0.009	0	2012	No	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	1.3	0.09	0	2012	No	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits.
Microbial Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Number Detected	Total of samples for 2014	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	0	0	36	No	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform and E. coli	0	0	0	No repeat samples	No	Human and animal fecal waste.

**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 a known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants. \*EPA considers 50 pCi/l to be the level of concern for beta particles.

**\*\*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.

**New Lead Language**

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 City of Pottsville 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>.

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. Please attend any of our regularly-scheduled City council meetings held the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Mr. Jesse Trout, Water & Waste Water Operator in charge at 517-645-7070 or Mr. Brad Boyce, Director of Public Works at 517-645-0162. For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)