

DRINKING WATER NOTICE

The City of Toledo Did Not Meet Treatment Requirements

The City of Toledo routinely monitors its water for turbidity (cloudiness). This tells us whether we are effectively filtering the water supply. Water samples for March 2023 showed that 9.1 percent of turbidity measurements were more than 0.3 nephelometric turbidity units (NTU). The standard allows no more than 5 percent of samples to exceed 0.3 nephelometric turbidity units per month. The turbidity levels are relatively low. However, their persistence was a concern.

What is being done?

The events occurred due to an extended period of poor water quality at our intake. After the occurrence of the turbidity event on March 15, the construction efforts to bring two additional basins online were completed on March 27. The resulting additional 33 percent increase in treatment capacity will reduce the likelihood of turbidity exceedances in the future. Bacterial sampling and chlorine monitoring were conducted during and after the event. Results were normal, confirming that our disinfection process was effective. Additionally, total organic carbon reduction, a key performance indicator, remained well in compliance throughout the event.

What does this mean?

- This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours. Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.
- The symptoms above are not caused only by organisms in drinking water. If you experience any of these symptoms and they persist, you may want to seek medical advice.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil the water or take other actions.** We do not know of any contamination, and none of our testing has shown disease-causing organisms in the drinking water.
- People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly people may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

For more information, please contact: Marvin Jones at **(419) 936-3021** or **3040 York St. Toledo, OH 43605**

General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791.

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.

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