

# Sanilac Township Water System Consumer Confidence Report 2010

## **Is my Water Safe**

The Sanilac Township Water system receives its water supply from the Village of Lexington's Water Treatment plant. Because this is a new system much of the data is historical data that Lexington has provided about the water Quality and contamination levels. As time goes on this data will be replaced by new data generated specifically from your system. Last year, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Environment drinking water health standards. Tetra Tech Operations division of the Water Resources Group vigilantly safeguards your water supplies and is proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

## **Do I need to 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/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 (800-426-4791).

## **Where does my water come from?**

Sanilac Township water is provided by the Village of Lexington's Water treatment plant. The source water entirely provided from the 51,737 Square Mile watershed commonly referred to as Lake Huron.

## **Source water assessment and its availability**

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources and the Environment has preformed a source water assessment to determine the susceptibility of potential contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a six tiered scale from very low to high based primarily on geological sensitivity, water chemistry and contamination sources. The Village of Lexington and Sanilac Township water system is categorized as having a moderately high susceptibility to potential contaminant sources. A copy of the source water assessment is available by calling Blair Selover at 810 252 8884.

## **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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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, that 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and 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 that 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.

## 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.

Contaminants	MCLG	MCL,	Your	Range		Sample	Violation	Typical Source
	or	TT, or		Low	High			
	MRDL	MRDL	Water			Date		
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</b>								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)								
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	0.5	0.05	0.5	2009	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	15	NA		2009	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination. This data was provided by the Village of Lexington Water Department and the Sanilac Township Water System.
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	41	NA		2009	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection. This data was provided by the Village of Lexington Water Department and the Sanilac Water System.
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.01	NA		2002	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits, This Data was supplied by the Village of Lexington Water Department.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.4	NA		2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. This data was provided by the Village of Lexington Water Department.
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	1	NA		2002	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines, This data was provided by the Village of Lexington Water Department.
Sodium (ppm)		MPL	7	NA		2009	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching. This data was provided by the Village of Lexington Water Department.
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>								
Turbidity (NTU) 100% of the samples were below the TT value of 0.3 A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation.						2009	No	Soil runoff. This data was provided by the Village of Lexington Water Department.
The highest single measurement was 0.183. Any measurement in excess of 5 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.								
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								

Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	0.5	NA	2003	No	Erosion of natural deposits. This data was provided by the Village of Lexington Water Department.
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<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>AL</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Sample Date</u>	<u># Samples Exceeding AL</u>	<u>Exceeds AL</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.6	2008	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	3	2008	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

## Undetected Contaminants

The following contaminants were monitored for, but not detected, in your water.

<u>Contaminants</u>	<u>MCLG Or MRDLG</u>	<u>MCL or MRDL</u>	<u>Your Water</u>	<u>Violation</u>	<u>Typical Source</u>
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>					
Xylenes (ppm)	10	10	ND	No	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories. This data was provided by the Village of Lexington

### Unit Descriptions

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NTU	NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

### Important Drinking Water Definitions

<u>Term</u>	<u>Definition</u>
MCLG	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	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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

### **Conservation Tips**

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 350 gallons of water per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost or no-cost ways to conserve water. Water your lawn at the least sunny times of the day. Fix toilet and faucet leaks. Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath. Turn the faucet off while brushing your teeth and shaving; 3-5 gallons go down the drain per minute. Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!

### **How can I get involved?**

If you have a desire or interest in learning more about your's and other drinking water systems please visit the Michigan section of American Water Works Association web site at [www.mi-water.org/miawwa/index.html](http://www.mi-water.org/miawwa/index.html). Additional information regarding safe drinking water is available at the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800 426 4791 or contact Blair Selover at Tetra Tech directly at 810 252 8884.

### **Other Information**

We encourage public interest and participation in the decisions affecting drinking water. The Sanilac Township board meets on a monthly basis at the Port Sanilac Township Hall, meetings are the first Wednesday of every month.

### **Additional Information for 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. Sanilac Township Water 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. 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>.

For more information regarding your drinking water or the operations of the Sanilac Township Drinking Water System, please contact:

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