The City of Hillsboro
2025 Annual Water-Quality Report

At the City of Hillsboro Water Treatment Plant, we are proud of the fine drinking water we provide. This is our annual water quality report. It shows the source of our water, lists the results of our tests, and contains important information about water and health. The City of Hillsboro Water Plant staff will notify you immediately if there is any reason for concern about our water. We have a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system.

We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting drinking water. Regular monthly utility committee meetings take place as notified in the Times Gazette and on the City's website.

Water Sources and Source Water Assessment

The City of Hillsboro's water comes entirely from surface sources. These sources include Clear Creek, the Selph Road reservoir, and the Liberty Park reservoir. In 2004, the Ohio EPA completed a source water assessment of all watersheds that could affect the water supplies for the City of Hillsboro. A source water assessment is a tool that is used to find possible areas of access for contamination of the source water supply. Some areas of access were found during the assessment; therefore, a high susceptibility to contamination has been assigned. These areas are being monitored and access minimized where possible. Contact Jason Bernard @ (937) 393-1325 for a copy of the report.

What are sources of contamination to drinking water?

The sources of 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operation and wildlife; (B) 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; (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are the by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; (E) radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 Hillsboro Water Plant 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 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.

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The City of Hillsboro conducted sampling for bacteria; inorganics; total chlorine; synthetic organic chemicals; volatile organic chemicals; total organic carbon and disinfection by-product contaminants during 2025. Samples were collected for a total of over 75 different contaminants, most of which were not detected in the City of Hillsboro potable water. 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.

What Does The Contaminant Table Mean?

The table shows the results of our water-quality analyses. Although we test for numerous different contaminants, only those listed below were detected. Every regulated contaminant that we detected in the water, even in the smallest trace, is listed here. The table contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health (MCLG), the amount detected, the usual sources of such contamination, footnotes explaining our findings, and a key to units of measurement. Definitions of MCL and MCLG are important.

Contaminant	Sample Year	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Range of Detection	Violation?	Typical Source
Microbiological								
Turbidity	2025	NTU	TT	N/A	.16	.04-.16	**NO**	Soil Runoff
Total Coliform Bacteria	2025	+/-	2 or	0	1	1	**NO**	Naturally occurring
E.coli	2025	+/-	more	0	1	1	**NO**	Human and animal fecal waste
Volatile Organics								
DBP- Total Trihalomethanes	2025	ppb	AQA =80	N/A	AQA= 70.58	42.7-93.4	**NO**	Disinfection Byproducts
DBP- Haloacetic Acids	2025	ppb	AQA= 60	N/A	AQA= 39.63	26.0-45.8	**NO**	Disinfection Byproducts
Inorganics								
Fluoride	2025	ppm	4	4	1.09	.64-1.09	**NO**	Added for dental health
Nitrate	2025	ppm	10	10	.91	.04-.91	**NO**	Soil runoff
Lead	2025	ppb	AL=15	0	<2.0	N/A	**NO**	Homeowners Plumbing.
Copper	2025	ppm	AL=1.3	1.3	0.600	N/A	**NO**	Homeowners plumbing
Barium	2025	ppm	2	2	0.043	N/A	**NO**	Discharge of drilling wastes

Key to Table

AL = Action Level
AQA= Annual Quarterly Average
MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l) **equal to one penny out of ten thousand dollars**
ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l) **equal to one penny out of ten million dollars**
TT = Treatment Technique
DBP = Disinfection Byproducts
< Less than. A result of <5.0 would mean that the lowest level that could be detected was 5.0, and that the contaminant was not detected.
Maximum Contaminant Level or 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 Contaminant Level Goal or 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.
Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
The data presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulation.

0 out of 20 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.
0 out of 20 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.

Turbidity Monitoring

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water and is an indication of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity limit set by the EPA is .30 NTU in 95% of the daily samples, and shall not exceed 1.0 NTU at any time. As reported above, the City of Hillsboro's single highest recorded turbidity result for 2025 was .16 NTU and lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%. 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 that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, and diarrhea and associated headaches.

Additional Contaminants Monitored:

	Sample Year	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detection Level	Range of Detection	Violation?
TOTAL CHLORINE	2025	ppm	4	4	1.3	1.1-1.6	**NO**
TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON	2025	ppm	N/A	N/A	2.8	2.2-3.4	**NO**

TOTAL ORGANIC CARBONS – A value of less than (1.0) indicates a violation of TOC removal requirements.

Additional Health Information.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Per the Lead and Copper Rules, Public Water Systems were required to develop and maintain a Service Line Inventory. A service line is the underground pipe that supplies your home or building with water. To view the Service Line Inventory, which lists the material type(s) for your location, you can visit 1486 N. High St. at the City of Hillsboro Water Treatment Plant.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

We at the City of Hillsboro Water Department work 365 days a year to provide the highest quality of water possible, said Jason Bernard. We ask that all of our customers help us to protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. Please report any suspicious activity or obvious criminal activity at any of the water department's tower sites, reservoirs, or water treatment plant, to water plant personnel at (937) 393-1325. Thank you.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact**:**

Jason S. Bernard
Superintendent of Water
City of Hillsboro Water Treatment Plant

DRINKING WATER NOTICE

Reporting requirements not met for Hillsboro City

We were required to issue SLIM notifications to people served by lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown service lines by July 1, 2025. Our system failed to demonstrate to the State that it delivered annual notifications and information to affected customers with lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown service lines as required by July 1, 2025. Although the failure to comply with the reporting requirement does not create a risk to public health, we are required to inform you of this violation and provide additional information including what we did to correct the situation. It is important for consumers to know if the water they are receiving has been delivered through a lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown service line so they can make decisions on whether and what actions to take to reduce their exposure to lead in drinking water.

What Should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time. **You do NOT need to boil your water or take other corrective actions. Remember, boiling water does not remove lead from water.**

For more information on reducing lead exposure around your home/building and the health effects of lead, visit the EPA's websites at https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water and http://www.epa.gov/lead.

What is Being Done?

Upon being notified of this violation, the water system completed and delivered all SLIM notifications to people served by lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown services. We completed our notifications to persons effected by 12-5-25 and notified the State on 12-16-25. We are no longer in violation.

Contact Person: **Jason Bernard.**

Phone Number: **937-393-1325**

Mailing Address: **1486 N. High St.**