



WATER RESOURCES COMMISSIONER

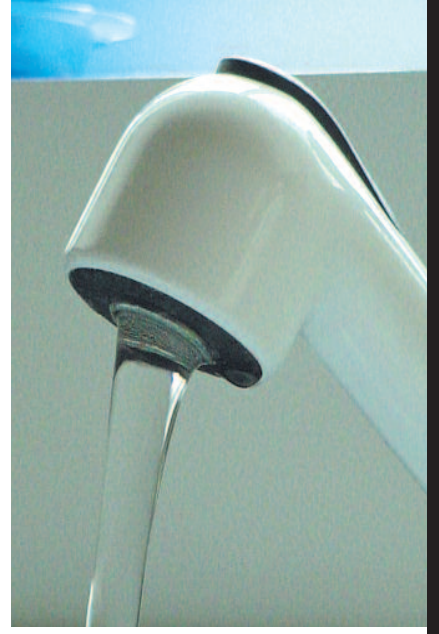
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# 2010 Water Report

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WATER RESOURCES COMMISSIONER  
*John P. McCulloch*

# 2010 Water Report



Is Your  
Water Safe  
to  
Drink?



CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

# This is Your Annual Report on Drinking Water Quality.

## Consumer Confidence Report

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) is the federal law that ensures the quality of Americans' drinking water. Under SDWA, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets standards for drinking water quality and oversees the state, local municipality and water supplier who implements those standards. Amendments to the SDWA require all public water systems with at least 15 service connections or a system that regularly serves at least 25 individuals to publish and distribute a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) annually.

The CCR increases the availability of information to water customers. Informed and involved customers can be strong allies

of their water systems, large and small, as they take action on water issues. Also, an increase in public awareness can give sensitive sub-populations the information that they may need for their protection.

In order to maintain water quality within your home, it is suggested by the Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner's office (WRC) that you remove and clean each faucet aerator twice annually. Aerators are the screens that screw into the end of the faucet. In addition, it is also recommended that you annually flush out the water heater and that you regularly maintain any in-home treatment equipment, such as water filters and softeners.

## Special Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 (800-426-4791).

## Lead Information

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.

WRC 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 two 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 at 800-426-4791 or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## Contaminants

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.

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 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,

storm water runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. All 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by simply calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).



## Cross Connection Control Program

The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) approved WRC Cross Connection Control Program (CCCP) was designed to protect your potable (drinking) water. A cross-connection is a link between a possible source of pollution and a potable

water supply. A pollutant may enter the potable water system by backpressure and/or via a back-siphon. The CCCP helps prevent backflow contamination protecting the quality of the water system, the safety and the public health of all water customers.



# 2010 Water Report

# Twin Lakes Well Water Supply System- Oakland Township

## 2010 Consumer Confidence Report

Title XIV of the United States Public Health Service Act, (Chapter 373, 88 Stat. 1660), popularly known as The Safe Drinking Water Act, and The Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act (1976 PA399, amended to 1998 PA56) require a supplier of water to provide Consumer Confidence Reports (CCR) to its customers. The Oakland County Water Resources Commissioner (WRC) is pleased to present the Annual Drinking Water Quality Report (CCR) for the year 2010.

### **NOTICE TO NON-RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMERS**

Federal Regulations require that as the billing customer, it is your responsibility to ensure that all water consumers at your facility (whether business, educational institute, apartments, etc...) have access to the report. Please post this CCR in a visible area. Additional copies are available for your distribution by contacting the WRC office at 248-858-1441.

This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water supply system operation and to protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

The water source is groundwater found in glacial materials. Two wells (12") provide the pumping capacity for this well water supply system (WSSN 6696). At this time, DEQ has determined the susceptibility for this water supply system as moderately low.

If you have questions about this report, or your water utility, please contact your Oakland County WRC representative, **Connie Sims, at 248-858-1441.** We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

### **System Design and Improvements**

We work continually to provide high quality water to every tap. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply, we may need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. We ask that all our customers help us conserve and protect our water resources, which impact our present life style and our children's future. Please call the WRC office at 248-858-1441, if you have questions, or visit our web site at [www.oakgov.com/water](http://www.oakgov.com/water).

### **Your Water Quality**

The Twin Lakes Well Water Supply System is routinely monitored, in accordance with the Public Acts, for contaminants in your drinking water. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2010. In addition, other test results are shown for the year they were required, since annual testing is not required for some contaminants. The most recent test date for the detected contaminant is listed in the table.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Many of these contaminants affect water aesthetics and are not considered a health concern. Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water and is set at a very stringent level. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

As you can see by the tables, **the action level for copper was exceeded.** Some samples collected in 2010 from customer faucets exceeded the copper action level. This is not a drinking water violation, but does require additional steps to be taken. Copper was not detected in samples collected at the well house or in the distribution system piping. The most likely cause of the copper exceedance in customer samples is due to water reacting with the in-home copper piping and/or faucet material. Various water customers are currently collecting additional samples to help us determine the safest and most economical way to proceed. If monitoring during 2011 meets the action level, no additional steps will be required.

### Regulated Contaminants Table

Contaminant	Test Date	Units	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Highest Detected Level	Range		Major Sources in Drinking Water	Violation
						Low	High		
<b>Regulated Inorganic and Volatile Organic Chemicals</b>									
Arsenic	2008	ppb	0	10	4	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.	No
Fluoride	2010	ppm	4	4	0.50	0.50	0.50	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	No
<b>Copper and Lead Monitoring at Customers' Tap</b>									
Contaminant	Test Date	Units	Health Goal MCLG	Action Level AL	90th Percentile Value*	Number of Samples Over AL		Major Sources in Drinking Water	Violation
Copper	2010	ppm	1.3	1.3	2.735	3			
Lead	2010	ppb	0	15	4	0			
*The 90th percentile value means 90 percent of the homes tested have copper and lead levels below the given 90th percentile value. If the 90th percentile value is above the AL, additional requirements must be met.									

### Unregulated Contaminants Table

Contaminant	Test Date	Units	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Average Level	Range		Major Sources in Drinking Water
						Low	High	
Chloride	2010	ppm	NA	NA	8	8	8	Naturally occurring due to geological processes.
Hardness	2010	ppm	NA	NA	275	275	275	
Iron	2010	ppm	NA	NA	0.9	0.9	0.9	
Sodium	2010	ppm	NA	NA	14	14	14	
Sulfate	2010	ppm	NA	NA	18	18	18	

### Important Definitions:

**Action Level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**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 Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Not Applicable (NA)**

**Parts Per Billion (ppb)** - The ppb is equivalent to microgram per liter. A microgram = 1/1000 milligram. A ppb is equivalent to one penny in \$10,000,000.

**Parts Per Million (ppm)** - The ppm is equivalent to milligram per liter. A milligram = 1/1000 gram. A ppm is equivalent to one penny in \$10,000.

**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.