

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report 2024

The Putnam Community Water Corporation has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included in this report are general health information, water quality test results, how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water and water systems contacts.

Putnam Community Water drinking water source is received from two wells located next to the Muskingum River at 920 River Road in Devola. Average water production in 2024 was approximately 175,000 gallons per day. The 2 wells serve approximately 2500 residents with 965 service taps.

Ground water is by its nature susceptible to contamination. The assessment of the aquifer that supplies drinking water to the Putnam Community Water Corporation has a high susceptibility to contamination. Because : Since 1992 nitrates have been detected monthly within Putnam's treated water above the concentration of concern of (2 mg/l), The Putnam Community water Association's well field coexists within a highly populated residential area that is not served by a sanitary sewer system, no confining layer exists between the ground surface and the water table, and the depth of water in the sand and gravel aquifer is within 5 to 15 feet below ground level. This does not mean that this well field will become contaminated; only the conditions are such that the ground water could be impacted by potential contaminant sources. Future contamination may be avoided by implementing protective measures. More information is available by calling Jay Huck at 740 373 – 0975

Protecting our drinking water source from contamination is the responsibility of all area residents. Please dispose of hazardous chemicals in the proper manner and report polluters to the appropriate authorities. Only by working together can we ensure an adequate safe supply of water for future generations. More detailed information is provided in the Putnam Community Water Corporation Drinking Water Source Assessment Report. For a copy of the complete report, please contact Jay Huck at (740) 373-0975.

Putnam Community Water also maintains an emergency connection with Highland Ridge Water. During 2024 we did not use this connection. This report does not contain information on the water quality that would be received from Highland Ridge, but a copy of their consumer confidence report can be obtained by contacting Jeff Louer at (740 525-6267).

What are sources of contamination to drinking water?

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 land surface 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 plant, 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 byproducts 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.

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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 (1-800-426-4791).

Who needs 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 infection. 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 (1-800-426-4791).

About your drinking water

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. During 2024 Putnam Community Water Corporation conducted sampling for Bacteria, Disinfection Byproducts, Nitrates, Inorganic, Synthetic organic Chemicals, Volatile Organic Chemicals, PFAS (polyfluoroalkyl Substances), Lead & Copper. Samples were collected for 50 or more different contaminants, most which were not detected in the Putnam Community Water Corporation's water supply. 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. Some of our data, though accurate is more than one year old.

How to read the Water Quality Data Table: EPA establishes the safe drinking water regulations that limit the amount of contaminants allowed in drinking water. The table shows the concentrations of detected substances in comparison to regulatory limits. Substances that were tested for, but not detected, are not included in this table.

Listed below is information on contaminants that were found in the Putnam Community Water drinking water.

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminant (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
Disinfection Byproducts							
TTHM'S (ppb) Total Trihalomethanes	N/A	80	2.80	1.7 – 3.9	No	2024	By product of drinking water chlorination
Residuals Disinfectants							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	0.54	0.47 - 0.61	No	2024	Water Additive used to control microbes
Inorganic Contaminants							
Nitrite (ppm)	1.0	1.0	0.16	0.16 -0.16	No	2022	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaking from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	3.24	2.36 – 5.61	No	2024	Runoff from fertilizer use, erosion of natural deposits; leaching from septic tanks
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	0.8	0.8 - 0.8	No	2022	Discharge from steel and pulps mills; erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0259	0.0259 - 0.0259	No	2022	Discharge of drilling waste; refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC)							
Ethylbenzene (ppb)	700	700	.00010	.00010	No	2024	Discharge from petroleum or chemical factories
Synthetic Organic Compounds							
di-(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (ppb)	0	6	.3	.3 - .3	No	2023	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Benzo(a)Pyrene (ppt)	0	200	30	30 - 30	No	2023	Natural and manmade sources, leachate from coal tar, asphalt linings
Lead & Copper							
Contaminant (Units)	Action Level	MCLG	Individual Results over the AL	90 th Percentile	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	15	0	N/A	0.658 ppb	No	2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
	0 out of 10 samples for lead were above the action level of 15 ppb						
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	N/A	0.136 ppm	No	2024	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
	0 out of 10 samples for copper were above the action level of 1.3 ppm						

Lead Service Line Inventory

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 [Putnam Community Water Lead Service line Inventory](#).

Lead Educational 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. Putnam Community Water 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 at 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

Nitrate Educational Information

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants less than six months of age, High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for a short period of time because of rainfall or agriculture activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should seek advice from your health care provider.

Unregulated Contaminants

Unregulated contaminants are those for which U.S. EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of these contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. In 2024 Putnam Community Water participated in the fifth round of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5). For a copy of the results contact Jay Huck at 740 373-0975

Table of Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminants (units)	Sample Year	Average Level Found	Range of Detections
Polyflourooctanoic Acid (PFOA) (ppt)	2023	15.2	13.6 – 16.9
Perfluorohexanesulfonic Acid (PFHxS) (ppt)	2023	3.24	3.0 – 3.5

PFAS Substances

Putnam Community Water was sampled as part of the State of Ohio 's Drinking Water Per-and Polyfluoraalkyl Substnaces (PFAS) Sampling Initiative. Results from this sampling indicated PFAS were detected in our drinking water below the action level established by Ohio EPA. Follow up monitoring is being conducted. For more information about PFAS, and to view our latest results, please visit pfas.ohio.gov

In the year 2024 we had an unconditioned license to operate our water system.

Our License number is [OH8400712](#).

2022 Consumer Confidence Report Correction

Putnam Community Water received an EPA notice that the URL that was supplied with the original notice of availability of the 2022 Consumer Confidence Report did not link to the CCR. The correct link may be viewed on line. https://putnamwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/DRINKING_WATER_QUALITY_REPORT_2022.pdf

2023 Consumer Confidence Report Correction

Putnam Community received notice that some information on the 2023 CCR was not reported correctly, and that language was not included in the report pertaining to monitoring for unregulated contaminants as according to the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR). The corrected 2023 CCR can be viewed at https://putnamwater.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/DRINKING_WATER_QUALITY_REPORT_2023.pdf

Special Precautions

Who needs to take special precautions? Some peoples 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, peoples with HIV/AIDS or other immune systems disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infection. 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 (1-800-426-4791)

Notice to all customers of Putnam Community Water

This notice is mailed to our customers in accordance with the provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 4933.19. Tampering with water meters or water service equipment and the theft of water are criminal activities and may result in penalties to offenders. A person found benefiting from tampering or an unauthorized service connection is presumed to have committed the violation and will be prosecuted. It is a crime to tamper with or by-pass a water meter, conduit, or attachment of a utility. It is also a crime to reconnect a water, conduit or attachment of a utility that has been disconnected by the utility. A felony or misdemeanor conviction for theft offense can result from a violation of these laws.

Backflow Prevention

What exactly is backflow?

Backflow can be described as "a reversal of the normal direction of flow within a piping system" or as "the flow of water or other liquids, mixtures or substances into the distribution pipes of a potable water supply from any other source other than the intended source of the potable water supply". Cross connections in a piping system are the most common way that contaminants can enter the public water supply. Backflow can occur in two ways either as back-siphon age which happens when the pressure in the water main drops below the service line pressure which causes a soda straw effect or other way that backflow can occur is through backpressure which occurs when the downstream pressure is greater than the supply pressure,

Controlling Backflow

"Used water" is a term that is used to describe water that has passed through the customer's meter. After the meter the water supplier has no control over how the water is used but can prevent contamination through backflow prevention. The water system must evaluate the degree of hazard on that premises and then select the appropriate device to use based upon that degree of hazard and that protection that is required by the water system.

What do I need to do?

When you wish to connect to our system or choose to alter your current water supply such as adding an irrigation system or a permanent swimming pool you will need to contact our office or visit our website at [Backflow Prevention – Putnam Community Water](#).

Other Information you may want to know

How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comments are encouraged at regular monthly meetings of the Board of Directors which are held on the last Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at the board office located at 920 River Road next to the Devola pool.

Is there fluoride added to my drinking water?

Putnam Community Water does not add any fluoride to the drinking water. Recent tests have concluded that there is no measurable amount

that naturally occurs in the water.

What is the hardness of the water?

Currently the water hardness is 5 grains.

Does Putnam Water add anything to the water?

Sodium Hypochlorite is injected into the water supply at the clear well for disinfections purposes and to comply with EPA rules. PCW also uses Sodium Hydroxide for Ph balance in the treatment process and orthophosphate for corrosion control.

How often do we perform samples of the water supply?

Each year Putnam Water must sample according to the schedule that has been established by the Ohio EPA. Our monitoring schedule is listed on the Ohio EPA's Division of Drinking and Ground Water website.

Definitions of some terms contained within this report.

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 contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest residual disinfectant level allowed.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of residual disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

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

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Parts per Million (ppm) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in approximately 11.5 days.

Parts per Billion (ppb) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

Parts per Trillion (ppt) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per trillion corresponds to one second in 31,700 years.

The "<" symbol: A symbol which means 'less than'. A result of "<5" means that the lowest level detected was 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.

PFAS: Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals applied to many industrial, commercial and consumer products to make them waterproof, stain resistant, or nonstick. PFAS are also used in products like cosmetics, fast food packaging, and a type of firefighting foam called aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) which are used mainly on large spills of flammable liquids, such as jet fuel. PFAS are classified as contaminants of emerging concern, meaning that research into the harm they may cause to human health is still ongoing.

N/A: not applicable

2024 OPERATIONS HIGHLIGHTS

2024 in Review

In 2024 Putnam Water pumped just over 64 million gallons of water which average out to about 175,000 gallons per day. We are currently serving around 960 water taps. We use reverse osmosis treatment primarily for the removal of nitrates in the raw water. We do blend back some of our raw water to help in stabilization. Therefore, there are still levels of nitrates in the finished water but at a rate of about 35% of the raw water. The reverse osmosis treatment also reduces the hardness of the finished water to about 5 grains which by national standards is considered soft water.

PFAS or formerly known as C8 is an emerging contaminant that became a regulated contaminant by the US EPA in 2024. Traces amounts of this contaminant have been found in our drinking water. Although our reverse osmosis plant does filter out this chemical, not all of it is removed from the finished water due to the process of blending back some of our raw water. The US EPA has established guidelines and a time frame to eliminate this contaminant from our drinking water. The Board of Directors and plant operators take this issue very seriously and are working closely with EPA officials and other consultants to develop a plan to eliminate this chemical from your drinking water.

For additional information on PFAS visit this US EPA link: www.epa.gov/pfas

With the national contaminant level for PFAS in drinking being lowered to 4 ppt, Putnam Community Water entry point levels will be above that limit, and treatment will have to occur for PCW to comply with the national drinking water standards set to take effect in 2027. With the new regulations set to take place Putnam Water has started the process to remove PFAS from all the water entering the distribution system. We applied for and received funding for the design and engineering of an ionic exchange treatment system. We are planning to seek project bids for construction and start thereafter. It is anticipated that this project will take less than a year to complete. Estimated cost of this project is around \$350,000.

Each calendar year the Ohio EPA provides community water systems with an annual monitoring schedule for regulated contaminants, we continue monitor our water for contaminants according to that monitoring schedule. Copies of the monitoring results are available to our customers upon request.

Additional Information

Visit our web site: www.putnamwater.com for information on current boil advisories, to sign up for service, current water rates, rules and regulations, and past water quality reports.

Who are the current Board members, and how long do they serve?

Each board member serves a 3-year term. Currently, they are Steve Schoonover; President, Randy Barengo; Vice President. Sam Tuten; Director, Jim Wark; Director, John Hirschfield; Director, Jim Bir; Director, John Kuch; Director

Copies of this report are available at the Water office located at 920 River Rd. and at the Par Mar Store located in Devola. You may also review this report on our website at www.putnamwater.com. For more information please contact: Jay Huck, Manager. Mailing: Address: 920 River Road, Marietta, Ohio 45750, Office phone number: (740) 373-0975