

2012 Water Quality Report for FORD RIVER TOWNSHIP

This Report covers the drinking water for Ford River Township, for the calendar year 2012. This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2012. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State standards.

Your water comes from two of three ground water wells.

The State performed an assessment of our source water in 2003 to determine the susceptibility or the relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility of well #1 is very high, and is no longer being used. Well # 1 was abandoned in 2012 by means approved by the DEQ. Wells 2 and 3 are rated very low and are in use.

For more information about the contents of this report, leave message for Jeff Lampi at the Township Hall 786-8532 or cell phone 420-4122.

Contaminants and their presence in 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 **EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)**.

Sources of Drinking water: The sources of drinking water (both tap 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.

Contaminates 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, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring or can be the result of oil or gas production and mining activities.

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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to insure 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 regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which provide the same protection for the public health.

Vulnerability of sub-populations: 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 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)**.

New Lead Language: If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant woman and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Ford River 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 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>.

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Water Quality Data

The tables below list all the drinking contaminants that we detected in the 2012 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this report is done January 1 – December 31, 2012. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once for year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All of the data is representative of the water quality, but some are more than one year old.

Terms and abbreviations used below:

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **Secondary Contaminant Standards:** Non-enforceable guidelines regulating contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water. EPA recommends secondary standards to water systems but does not require systems to comply.
- **Action Level (A.L.):** The concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **N/A:** Not Applicable, **ND:** Not detectable at testing limit, **NR:** Not Regulated, **ppb:** Parts per billion or micrograms per liter, **ppm or mg/l:** Parts per million or milligrams per liter, **pCi/l:** Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

Regulated Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sampled	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Barium (mg/l)	2	2	0.03	8/09	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (mg/l)	4	4	0.79	8/12	No	Erosion of natural deposits. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Unregulated Contaminants **		Secondary MCL				
Chloride (mg/l)	NR	250	28	8/12	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Iron (mg/l)	NR	0.3	ND	8/12	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese	NR	0.05	0.01	7/09	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (mg/l)	NR	NR	30	8/12	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate (mg/l)	NR	205	57	8/12	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Zinc (mg/l)	NR	5	.02	7/09	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness as CaCO ₃ (mg/l)	NR	NR	146	8/12	No	Erosion of natural deposits

** Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. Monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

Radioactive Contaminants	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sampled	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	15	None	5.98	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation.
*Combined Ra 226/228 (pCi/L)	5	None	4.97	2012	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminant Subject to Action Level	Action Level		90% of samples < this level	Sampled	Number of samples above A.L.	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	15		< 1	2011	0	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching; Corrosion of household plumbing systems; From wood preservatives (copper)
Copper (ppb)	1300		<50	2011	0	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching; Corrosion of household plumbing systems; From wood preservatives (copper)
Microbial Contaminants	MCL		Number of detections	Sampled	Violation	Source
Total Coliform Bacteria	1 positive monthly sample (Positive in >5% of samples)		0	Monthly samples (Zero Positive)	No	Naturally present in the environment.

* In 2006 we took well #1 out of service due to elevated levels of Ra ²²⁶ and Ra ²²⁸, (Combined is greater than 5 pCi/L). We are in the process of evaluating what alternates exist to address this issue. Well #1 has been abandoned in 2012.

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For more information about safe drinking water, visit the US Environmental Protection Agency at WWW.EPA.GOV/SAFEWATER/.