TOWNSHIP OF SCIO

2023 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

The Scio Township Utilities Department is pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to provide information about the quality water service we deliver to you every day. Scio Township receives treated, potable water from the City of Ann Arbor and delivers it to customers in our water district. What follows is information substantially garnered from the City of Ann Arbor Annual Water Quality Report, which may be found in full at A2gov.org/drinkingwater.

The Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) require municipalities to test their water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State standards. This report includes information on all regulated drinking water parameters detected during calendar year 2023. All the data is representative of the water quality, even if some data is more than one year old. **The bottom line is: Your water met all EPA and EGLE drinking water health standards in 2023.**

We update this report annually and inform you of any problems that occur throughout the year as they may happen. We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. The Scio Township Board of Trustees, the governing body of this jurisdiction, meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:00 pm. The public is always welcome in person or via Zoom. Find the schedule of upcoming meetings at sciotownship.org.

Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Copies of this report are available at the Scio Township Hall, 827 N. Zeeb Road, and may be viewed or downloaded from our website at sciotownship.org/waterquality. For more information about your water or the contents of this report, contact Brandon McNiel, Utilities Director, at (734) 369-9355. For more information about safe drinking water, visit the US Environmental Protection Agency at epa.gov/safewater.

1,4-Dioxane, by Scio Township Trustee Kathleen Knol

In 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed adding the Gelman 1,4- dioxane contamination site to the National Priorities List (NPL). The Gelman dioxane plume spans parts of Scio Township, Ann Arbor Township, and the City of Ann Arbor. Dioxane is classified as a likely carcinogen by all routes of contact. The first step in the process of being added to the NPL is to publish the proposal to add the site to the NPL in the Federal Register, which triggers a 60-day public comment period. This comment period ran from March 7 to May 6, 2024. The process of finalization for placement on the NPL can take up to one year. Once the EPA's jurisdiction of the Gelman site is established by its addition to the NPL, the EPA will take over administration of ongoing cleanup and testing. It is important to note that taxpayers have paid for a significant amount of the ongoing drinking-water well-testing in Scio Township. Once jurisdiction is established by the EPA, the polluter will be responsible for these costs.

If the site is placed on the NPL, a remedial investigation and feasibility study will be conducted. The goal of the remedial investigation is to delineate the nature and extent of the contamination. When the site is finalized for placement on the NPL, the EPA will create a site-specific community involvement plan. There is no national drinking water standard for allowable levels of dioxane and state regulations vary widely. The current Michigan dioxane standard is 7.2 ppb, which is the second weakest in the nation. The feasibility study will decide the standard to be applied to the Gelman site.

For more information, visit these websites: Environmental Protection Agency, epa.gov/mi/gelman-sciences; Scio Residents for Safe Water, SRSW.org; Coalition for the Remediation of Dioxane, Washtenaw.org/1774.

PFAS (source: City of Ann Arbor 2023 Water Quality Report)
Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) is a group of chemicals that have been classified by the EPA as an emerging contaminant. PFAS have been around since the 1950s, but we did not know much about their effects until the early 2000s, when scientists began releasing data on PFAS health impacts and their persistence in the environment. For decades, PFAS have been used in industrial applications and consumer products such as carpeting, waterproof clothing, upholstery, food paper wrappings, fire-fighting foams, and metal plating. They are still widely used today. PFAS have been found at low levels both in the environment and in blood samples of the general US population. PFAS are persistent, which means they do not break down in the environment. They also bioaccumulate, meaning the amount builds up over time in the blood and organs. Currently, granular activated carbon (GAC) filtration is the best available technology for removing PFAS in drinking water. Use of this technology has allowed the City of Ann Arbor Water Department to produce finished water with PFAS concentrations significantly below all Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) adopted by the State of Michigan in 2020.

On April 10, 2024, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) announced the final National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR), establishing legally enforceable levels, called Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), for six PFAS in drinking water. "Proactive investment in treatment technologies by Ann Arbor Water has positioned us to immediately be compliant with these new standards, ensuring our customers continue to have access to safe and reliable drinking water," said City of Ann Arbor Public Service Area Administrator Brian Steglitz. "The investments that we have made and strategies that we use for PFAS removal at the Water Treatment Plant allow us to meet these new rules immediately, ahead of the five-year compliance window."

Cryptosporidium (source: City of Ann Arbor 2023 Water Quality Report)
The following is the official USEPA language on Cryptosporidium: Cryptosporidium is a protozoan parasite that is too small to be seen without a microscope. It is sometimes found in some surface waters, especially when the waters contain a high amount of fecal waste from run-off or other activities. Those who are infected with this parasite can experience gastrointestinal illness. USEPA and the Centers for Disease Control have published guidelines on ways to reduce the risk of Cryptosporidium infection. The guidelines are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. The City of Ann Arbor's testing indicates the presence of Cryptosporidium in our source water, but not in the finished water.

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 US EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 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. US EPA/Centers for Disease Control 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).

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 stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from sources such as agriculture and residential uses.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Reporting Requirements Not Met for Scio Township

We are required to report the results of your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. While we collected our monthly total coliform sample on time, we did not report the results to the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE) by the November 10, 2023, deadline for the October 1 to October 31, 2023, compliance period.

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time. This is not an emergency. You do not need to boil water or use an alternative source of water at this time. The results of the sample were negative for bacteria. Even though public health was not impacted, as our customers you have a tight to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation.

What happened? What is being done?
While we collected the sample on time, we inadvertently missed reporting the sample results to EGLE by the required deadline. We are required to monitor total coliform by collecting nine samples per month. We collected five samples on October 11, 2023, and five samples on October 23, 2023, but failed to report all the results until November 27, 2023. We are making efforts to ensure this does not happen again. We have already returned to compliance.
For more information, please contact: Brandon McNiel Utility Director Scio Township (734) 369-9355

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by Scio Township.

Terms and Abbreviations Used in the Tables Below

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible, using the best available treatment technology. MCLs are set at very stringent levels by the State and Federal governments.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs provide for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** 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.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** 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 necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.
- **mg/I:** milligrams per liter or parts per million (ppm) - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water
- ***µ*g/1:** micrograms per liter or parts per billion (ppb) - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water
- **pCi/1:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
- **N/A:** not applicable
- **Avg:** Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly or quarterly samples.
- **ND:** Not detectable at testing limit
- **LRAA:** Locational running annual averages
- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirement that a water system must follow.
- **Level 1 Assessment:** A study of the water supply to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
- **Level 2 Assessment:** A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) a E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Water Quality Test Results *The following regulated substances were detected in some samples.*

Regulated at the Water Treatment Plant: City of Ann Arbor					
Regulated Substance	**Highest Level Detected Samples**	**Range of Individual**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Source of Contamination**
Fluoride	1 ppm	0.53-1 ppm	4 ppm	4 ppm	Added to water to promote strong teeth. Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	3.4ppb	n/a	10	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	1 ppm	0.2-1 ppm	10 ppm	1 ppm	Run-off from fertilizer use. Leaching from septic tanks and sewage. Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite	0.18 ppm	<.10-0.180 ppm	l ppm	l ppm	Run-off from fertilizer use. Leaching from septic tanks and sewage
Barium	<5.0 ppb	N/A	2000 ppb	2000 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge of drilling wastes and metal refineries
Total Chromium	<10.0 ppb	N/A	100 ppb	100 ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Bromate	1 ppb[1]	1.8-7.7 ppb	10 ppb	O ppb	By-product of ozone disinfection of drinking water
Total Organic Carbon 1roq 58% removed[1]		50%-63% removed	(TT):25% min. removal	N/A	Naturally present in the environment
Chloramines	2.5 ppm[1]	0.6-3.5 ppm	(MRDL): 4 ppm	(MRDLG): 4ppm	Disinfectant added at Water Plant
Gross Alpha	3.75-± 2.21pCi/L	N/A	15 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 226 & 228	2.00-0.85pCi/L	N/A	5 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.

Regulated at the Water Distribution System: Township of Scio						
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ND	N/A	60	N/A	By-product of disinfection	No Violations
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	7.8 ppb[2]	2.5-7.8 ppb	80	N/A	By-product of disinfection	No Violations

Microbial Contaminants	**Number Detected**	**Level 1 Assessment Triggered?**	**Level 2 Assessment Triggered?**	**Violation Yes/No**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	No	No	No	Naturally present in the environment

[1] Highest running annual average [2] Highest locational running annual average (LRAA)

Turbidity - Regulated at the Water Treatment Plant: City of Ann Arbor

Definitions:

- **Turbidity:** A measure of cloudiness of water. The Ann Arbor Water Treatment staff monitors turbidity because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system. Turbidity must be less than 0.3 NTU in at least 95% of the measurements taken throughout each month. It must never exceed 1.0 NTU.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** A measure of light scattered from particles in the water. Measures drinking water clarity.
- **Treatment Technique (TT): A** required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Regulated Substance	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCL	MCLG	Source of Contamination
Turbidity	0.11 NTU	100% of samples i0.3 NTU	(TT): 1 NTU and 95% of samples i0.3 NTU	N/A	Naturally present in environment.

SPECIAL MONITORING AND OTHER PARAMETERS OF INTEREST

2023 Special Monitoring: City of Ann Arbor

Parameter Detected	Units	Your Water Results		Likely Source
		Average Level Detected	Range	
1,4-dioxane	ppb	<0.07	**<0.07**	Groundwater contamination from manufacturing process and landfills
N-Nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA)	ppb	<10	**N/A**	Byproduct of disinfection
Perchlorate	ppb	<4.0	**N/A**	Nitrate fertilizer runoff; contamination from industrial manufacturing process
Sodium	ppm	73	**60-89**	Erosion of natural deposits; road salt and water softeners
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA), Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS), Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid (PFHxS), Hexafluoropropylene Oxide Dimer Acid (HFPO-DA), Perfluorononanoic Acid (PFNA) Units is PPT		<2.0	**<2.0**	Firefighting foam; discharge and waste from industrial facilities; discharge from electroplating facilities; stain resistant treatments

Other Water Quality Parameters of Interest: City of Ann Arbor

Parameter Detected	Units	Your Water Results	
		Average Level Detected	Range
Alkalinity, total	ppm asCaCO	58	36-86
Aluminum	ppm	<0.050	N/A
Ammonia as N	ppm	<0.10	<0.10-0.12
Arsenic	ppb	<1.0	NIA
Calcium	ppm	28	19-38
Chloride	ppm	126	110-170
Conductivity	µmhos/cm	652	593-790
Hardness (CaCO3)	ppm	122	92-168
	gpg	7.1	5.4-9.8
Iron	ppm	<0.20	NIA
Lead at Water Treatment Plant	ppb	<1.0	N/A

	Units	Your Water Results	
		Average Level Detected	Range
Magnesium	ppm	14	7-21
Manganese	ppm	<0.020	<0.020
Mercury	ppb	<0.20	N/A
Non-Carbonate Hardness	ppm	64	38-102
pH	S.U.	9.3	9.0-9.5
Phosphorus, total	ppm	0.26	0.20-0.32
Potassium	ppm	3.3	NIA
Sulfate	ppm	49	37-66
Temperature	"Celsius	15.2	6.4-24.5
Total Solids	ppm	380	352-426
Zinc	ppb	<10	N/A
Nitrite in Distribution	ppm	0.027	<0.10-0.390

Township of Scio Lead and Copper Results

Inorganic Contaminant Subject to Action Levels (AL)	Action Level	MCLG	Your Water[1]	Range of Results	Year Sampled	Number of Samples Above AL	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	15	0	ND	N/A	2023	0	Lead service lines, corrosion of household plumbing including fittings and fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.1	0-0.07	2023	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Ninety (90) percent of the samples collected were at or below the level reported for our water.

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. Scio Township Utility Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in our customers' private 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 epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Township of Scio Chlorine Residual Monitoring Report 2023

Scio Township is required to monitor and sample the water supply each month for free and total chlorine. There are 10 samples collected from the distribution system in 5 separate locations.

		MRDL	MRDLG	Range Results	Average	Source
Free Chlorine (mg/L):	**4**	**4**	**0-0**	0	Water additive used to control microbes	
Total Chlorine (mg/L):	**4**	**4**	**.67-2.29**	2.26		

Water Meter Replacement Program

For the first time, Scio Township will be actively updating water meters throughout the Township. The first push will be to replace water meters east of S. Wagner and south of W. Liberty, the oldest area in our water district. Water customers in this area please be aware that you may see Scio Township Utility staff working after normal business hours and on Saturdays to complete this project. Field Techs will be in marked Scio Township Trucks, wearing Scio Township apparel, and will have a Scio Township ID with them. If you live in this area and would like to schedule your new meter installation, please call 734-369-9351 and our Finance Assistant will get you scheduled.

We are updating to Metron water meters (seen here), which use cell service to transmit data to a website. Once installed, water customers will be able to access information for their specific water meters. Often the most important information a water customer will want to know is if they have a water leak. The website will allow customers to set alerts when the meter detects a leak. Per our Township Ordinance (Article 34 II, Sec. 34-24(B)), meters 2 inches and below (most residential customers) will be replaced at no charge to the customer. For meters greater than 2 inches (most commercial properties), the cost of meter replacement is the responsibility of the property owner. The Utility Department will be reaching out to schedule these appointments. Meter replacements are mandatory for all water customers who are not already on Metron meters. Our goal is to have all Scio water customers on Metron meters by 2029.

Please keep in mind that our technicians will make every attempt to shut off your water at the outside shut-off valve during water meter replacement. However, in some instances they may not be able to access the valve. In these cases, the Utility Tech will ask to come inside your home or business in order to shut off the water on both sides of the water meter. If your valves are outdated gate-style valves, it is recommended that our customers replace them with the newer ball-style valves. Old gate valves tend to leak when being shut off and on. All efforts will be made to stop a leak that appears during meter replacement work (with the homeowner's permission). However, if the valve continues to leak, the property owner is responsible for repairs.

Complete Distribution Service Materials Inventory List (CDSMI)

Per EGLE and the EPA, Scio Township is required to report the exact number of water service lines we have in our system and their material composition by October 16, 2024. Currently, Scio Township has 2,710 service lines. At this time, the material composition of all service lines is unknown, likely not lead. The Scio Township water system was started in 1985. The likelihood that there are any lead lines in the system is very low as lead was not the standard at that time and was outlawed for use in water lines in 1988. The CDSMI project was delayed here in Scio from its intended start date of 2020 and launched in April of 2024. OHM-Advisors, a civil engineering firm, has been hired to gather as much information as possible from available records. It is possible that Scio Township may be required to manually inspect a significant percentage of our service lines. As always, we will keep you informed as our work on this project continues.

Sewer Cleaning and Televising Program

Scio Township will be re-starting routine sewer maintenance conducted by industry professionals. Sewer maintenance will begin this year in Walnut Ridge and for sewer customers east of S. Wagner and south of W. Liberty roads. Scio Township also has known problem areas that will be cleaned a minimum of once every year to maintain the sewer system. At the time of this writing, a company to perform the work has not been selected. Be on the lookout for a huge vactor truck that makes a lot of noise (at right). When you see this truck in your area make sure that the toilet lids in your bathrooms stay shut throughout the day. If your current sewer plumbing isn't vented properly, there is a chance clean water will spray out of your toilet into your bathroom. Keeping the toilet lids down will minimize the affected area. For more information call Brandon McNiel, Scio Township Utility Director, at 734-369-9355.

Scio Township Hall
827 North Zeeb Road
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

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Notice of Rate Change

At the June 11, 2024, meeting of the Board of Trustees, water and sewer rates were evaluated and approved for increase based on the rate study provided by consultants with Plante Moran. Effective July 1, 2024, the rate for water per 1,000 gallons is $12.46; the rate for sewer per 1,000 gallons is $12.86. In the event you are not able to pay your utility bill, please reach out to the Scio Township Utility Department, 734-369-9351.

Meet your dedicated Scio Township Utility Department Team!


Matt Donajkowski


Brandon McNiel


Dave Podvoyski


Rich Hughes

Use the QR code at left to find an electronic copy of this report, and annual Water Quality reports from previous years. Simply point your camera phone at the code and touch the address that pops up on your screen. You will be taken to the page sciotownship.org/waterquality.