

Choctaw Utilities Inc.

**2022 Consumer Confidence
Report**

**Ohio Environmental Protection Agency
Division of Drinking and Ground Waters**

Section 1: Title

Choctaw Utilities Inc. Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report For 2022

Section 2: Introduction

The **Choctaw Utilities Inc.** has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included within this report is general health information, water quality test results, how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water and water system contacts.

Section 3: Source Water Information

The Choctaw Utilities Inc. receives its drinking water from 3 water wells that are each 250 feet deep. This is considered to be a ground water source. These wells are located at the north-east end of Choctaw Lake, at the water plant. These wells are protected by green space and easements which ensure a 300 ft radius around all wells. Possible contamination sources are limited to surface water infiltration.

Source water assessment and its availability Ohio EPA has completed a study of Choctaw Utilities, INC, source of drinking water to identify potential contaminant sources and provide guidance on protecting the drinking water source. According to this study, the aquifer (water-rich zone) that supplies water to Choctaw Utilities, INC has a low susceptibility to contamination. This determination is based on the following

- *Presence of thick protective layer of clay overlying the aquifer*
- *Significant depth (over 100 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer*
- *No evidence to suggest that ground water has been impacted by any significant levels of chemical contaminants from human activities*
- *Presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area; This susceptibility means that under currently existing conditions, the likelihood of the aquifer becoming contaminated is relatively low. Any likelihood of contamination can be minimized by implementing appropriate protective measures. More information about the source water assessment and what consumers can do to help protect the aquifer is available by calling Choctaw Utilities, INC office, 2005 Itawamba Trail. London, OH (740) 490-7184 Include the following if an auxiliary or emergency public water system interconnection is available; see instructions for limitations on the use of this paragraph:*

Section 4: 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 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 operations 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 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA 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 Federal Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Section 5: 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).

Section 6: About your drinking water.

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Choctaw Utilities Inc. conducted sampling for 10 different contaminants most of which were not detected in the Choctaw Utilities Inc. 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, are more than one year old

Section 8: Table of Detected Contaminants

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the **Choctaw Utilities Inc.** drinking water.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
Inorganic Contaminants							
Nitrate	10	10	.710 mg/l		No	2022	Run off from fertilizer use, Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Flouride (ppm)	4	4	2 mg/l		No	2021	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.417 mg/l		No	2021	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Disinfectants and Disinfectant By-Products							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	N/A	80	4.5	1.8-4.5	No	2022	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper							
Contaminant (units)	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	Individual Results over the AL	90% of test levels were less than	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical source of Contaminants
Lead (ppb)	15 ppb	0 ppb	N/A	1 st half of 2022: 1.2 ppb 2 nd half of 2022: 1.3 ppb	N	2022	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
	0 out of 40 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.						
Copper (ppm)	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	N/A	1 st half of 2022: .749 ppm 2 nd half of 2022: 1.25 ppm	N	2022	Erosions of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosions of household plumbing system
	2 out of 40 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.						

Section 13: 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. **Choctaw Utilities Inc.** 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>.

Section 18: License to Operate (LTO) Status Information

One of four possible situations describes the status of a LTO. It **must** be included in the report.

If you were issued a green LTO, include a statement similar to the following:

In **2022** we had an unconditioned license to operate our water system.”

Section 20: Public Participation and Contact Information

How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of Choctaw Utilities Board of Directors which meets the second Wednesday during months of January, February, March, April , June, August, October, and December at 6:0 PM at the Choctaw Lake Conference Room. For more information on your drinking water contact Mike Casimir at 740-837-0833

Section 21: 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.

Definitions Required if term is used within the CCR.

- **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 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 to control microbial contaminants.
- **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.
- **Contact Time (CT)** means the mathematical product of a “residual disinfectant concentration” (C), which is determined before or at the first customer, and the corresponding “disinfectant contact time” (T)

- Parts per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per Liter (mg/L) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days.
- Parts per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per Liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.
- The “<” symbol: A symbol which means less than. A result of <5 means that the lowest level that could be detected was 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.
- Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): A common measure of radioactivity.