

City of Oil City  
Engineering Office  
21 Seneca Street  
Oil City, PA 16301

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## **2024 Drinking Water Quality Report City of Oil City - PWSID 6610023**

This report contains important information about your drinking water.  
Have someone translate it for you or speak with someone who understands it.

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable.  
Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alguien que lo entienda.



### ***For Further Information***

If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact the City Engineering Office at 814-678-3020. Regular City Council meetings are normally held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 4:30 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers, 21 Seneca Street. We encourage our residents to attend these meetings and become more involved with City government.

**City of Oil City website [www.oilcity.org](http://www.oilcity.org)**

**EPA Drinking Water website [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)**

# ***City of Oil City***

## ***2024 Drinking Water Quality Report***



The City of Oil City is required by law to forward this annual report to all its water customers. We routinely monitor the quality of your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The Detected Contaminants Tables included in this brochure show the results of our monitoring for the period January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

### ***Your Drinking Water Source***

The source of Oil City's drinking water is groundwater, consisting of a series of wells at the Seneca Farm field located along the Allegheny River upstream from the Oil City business district. The Seneca Farm field has been supplying drinking water for the city since 1897.

### ***Drinking Water Quality***

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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and DEP regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

### ***Sources of Contamination***

As groundwater travels through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring substances, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants can include microbes such as viruses and bacteria, organic chemicals, inorganic substances such as salts and metals, pesticides or herbicides, or radioactive materials.

Oil City's drinking water is disinfected with chlorine, which produces certain by-products. The water may also dissolve substances found in the piping network within the distribution system and in-home plumbing systems.

With funding and technical assistance from DEP, a Source Water Protection Plan was completed for Oil City in 2010. The complete Plan is available for review in the City Engineer's Office.

### **\*\* Attention Immuno - Compromised Persons \*\***

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. More information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

**DETECTED CONTAMINANTS TABLES**

Contaminant (Unit of Measurement)	MCL	MCLG	Frequency	Highest Level Detected	Violation Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination
Distribution Chlorine (ppm) 2024	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	Weekly	(1) 0.89 June 2024	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Nitrate (ppm) 7/11/24	10	10	Annual	0.13	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm) 2/27/24	2	2	Every 3 Years	0.0492	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb) 2024	80	N/A	Annual	(2) 13.8- 38.90	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA) (ppb) 2024	60	N/A	Annual	(2) 0.00-0.00	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

(1) Highest monthly average of samples taken. Monthly averages ranged from 0.66 to 0.89 ppm.

(2) Levels detected for two sites.

**Entry Point Disinfectant Residual**

Contaminant (Units)	MinRDL	Lowest Level Detected	Range of Detections	Violation Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm) 2024	0.40	0.77*	0.77-1.23	No	Water additive used to control microbes

\*Lowest level detected on 9/11/24

**Lead and Copper**

Contaminant	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value	Range of Tap Sampling Results	Units	# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Lead (ppb) 2022	15	0	2.56	0.00-10.80	ppb	0 out of 30	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) 2022	1.3	1.3	0.362	0.00-0.538	ppm	0 out of 30	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

**Definitions**

**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 a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow 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 to control microbial contaminants

**Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level (MinRDL)** - The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.

**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.

**Level 1 Assessment** - A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Level 2 Assessment** - A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**ppm** - parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppq** = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

**ppb** - parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

**ppt** = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

**Mrem/year** = millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

**pCi/L** = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

## **Lead in Drinking Water**



**Lead:** 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. Oil City is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Oil City at 814-678-3020. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)

A lead service line inventory was completed in 2024 and it was determined there were lead service lines in our distribution system, galvanized iron, and unknown materials. To access the service line inventory, contact Oil City at 814-678-3020.

## **About Water Service Disruptions**

If there is a disruption in your water service for an unknown reason, please call the Engineering Office (or the Police Department during off-hours).

When a water line break occurs, the rust present in the pipes can become upset and cause discoloration of the water. If your water service is disrupted due to a water main break, the City recommends that you not use your water until your full water pressure has been restored. The City then recommends using only your cold water to flush your line, in order to avoid getting discolored water into your hot water tank. Flushing of your water line may take several minutes until the water clears. If discoloration persists, you should call the Engineering Office (or the Police Department during off-hours) for assistance.

## **Contacting City Hall**



City Hall offices are open from 8 am to 4:30 pm Monday thru Friday, except holidays. The Police Department is always open. Water emergencies during City Hall office hours may be reported to the Engineering Office at 678-3020. Water emergencies during off hours may be reported to the Police Department at 678-3080, or for Telecommunication Relay Service use only, please dial 711.

Water quality inquiries or other inquiries about the water system should be directed to the City Engineer's Office at 678-3020 during City Hall office hours. Billing inquiries should be directed to the Utility Office at 678-3002 during City Hall office hours.

**Water Conservation Goal Statement:** The City of Oil City seeks the most efficient use of its water system, thereby optimizing the use of natural resources and revenues while providing reliable and excellent quality water to our customers.

