

May 17, 2017

TO: Residents of City of Au Gres and Au Gres Township Water Customers

RE: City of Au Gres 2016 Annual Drinking Water Report

FROM: Au Gres City Council and Staff

We are pleased to present this report on the City of Au Gres Water System. The City of Au Gres has over 65 years experience as a public water utility, serving the needs of our water customers. We have strived to make improvements to our water system to ensure that our water supply is safe and dependable by expanding approximately 9 miles of new water mains, adding fire hydrants, water plant improvements, and increasing our storage capacity. The approximate capital project costs to upgrade our system within the past 5 years is 3.2 million dollars. These improvements have decreased the property insurance premiums for residents and commercial properties in the City from a 9 rating to a 6 rating.

Today, our City is benefiting from the positive planning by City water department staff, administration, City Council, Planning Commission and Tax Increment Finance Boards in terms of economic growth.

WATER RATES- All City water customers, residential and commercial, pay the same rate, \$4.75 per thousand gallons and a \$36.00 bi-monthly minimum fee. There is a \$35 turn-on/off fee.

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM- Our distribution system has over 25 miles of water mains and more than 130 fire hydrants. The City system has two water storage tanks with storage capacity of 350,000 gallons of water to service our 800 customers. As certified operators, our city employees handle all our distribution system maintenance.

WATER PLANT- The current plant capacity is 720,000 gallons per day with storage capacity of 350,000 gallons per day. The highest maximum daily pumpage the City water system had to date is 322,500 gallons per day.

Recently, the City water system had been selected as having the “best tasting water” on two occasions and also awarded ‘water utility of the year’ by Michigan Rural Water Association.

In responding to a recent survey of city residents, nearly 90% of the respondents rated our water system as excellent. We appreciate the high level of confidence and believe it reflects the dedication of our city staff to serve you, our customer, with the best water supply possible.

2016 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report City of Au Gres & Au Gres Township Water System

We are pleased to present to you the 2016 Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

In June 2004 the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality released a Source Water Assessment Report (SWAR) for our community’s source of raw water. Our community is provided water from the Saginaw-Midland Municipal Water Supply Corporation system, which draws water from two Lake Huron water intakes located off the shores of Whitestone Point, which is roughly 8 miles north of Au Gres, Michigan.

Included in the Source Water Assessment Report is a susceptibility analysis of our raw water. Susceptibility is a measure of the factors within the source water area that may pose a risk to the water supply. The Source Water Assessment Report concluded that Saginaw-Midland’s intakes have a moderately low susceptibility to potential contamination. Although the threat of contamination still exists, this rating is considered excellent for a surface water source.

Saginaw Midland Water Supply Corporation has been the City raw water supplier for approximately 65 years and is considered to be an excellent source of high quality raw water. The City of Au Gres water treatment plant then filters the raw water for distribution to all water system customers.

We’re pleased to report that our drinking water meets or exceeds federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Heath Christie, Water Plant Superintendent at (989) 876-8811. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings. They are held at Au Gres City Hall, 124 W Huron Road, Au Gres, Michigan every first Tuesday of the month at 7:00 P.M.

The City of AuGres Water System routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2016. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It’s important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) including rivers, lake, 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.

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.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we’ve provided the following definitions:

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level - The “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is 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 - The “Goal” (MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allows for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level - The “Maximum Allowed” (MRDL) is 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.

TEST RESULTS							
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit of Measure	Average/Range	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants							
Turbidity *(see note 1)	N	Maximum = 82 ntu	Ntu	24-82	N/A	TT	Soil runoff
* Note 1- turbidity is a measure of clarity of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. We are required that at least 95% of samples collected during any given month do not exceed 1 NTU. 100% of samples met this requirement in 2016.							
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper *(See note 1)	N	530 ppb in 90 th percentile	Ppb	130-540	1300 ppb	AL=1300 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Fluoride	N	ND	Mg/l	ND	4 ppm	4 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead *(See note 2)	N	3 ppb in 90 th percentile	Ppb	ND-7.0	0 ppb	AL=15 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Chlorine	N	.85 avg ppm	Ppm	2-1.2 ppm	MRDLG = 4 ppm	MRDL = 4 ppm	Water additive used to control microbes
*note 1- none of the the samples taken exceed to action level of 1300 ppb.							
*note 2- none of the ten samples taken exceed the action level of 15 ppb. The lead and copper test results are from our last required monitoring period (June 1, 2014 to September 30, 2014). The testing for lead and copper is required and scheduled by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.							
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes)- City	N	74.9	ppb	74.9 ppb	0	80 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHM- Township	N	67.6	ppb	67.6 ppb	0	80 ppb	
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids)- City	N	22.00	ppb	22.00 ppb	0	60 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5- Township	N	25.00	ppb	25.00 ppb	0	60 ppb	
Unregulated Contaminants							
Contaminant	Average of level detected		Range of level detected		Unit of measure	Likely Source of Contamination	
Sodium	5.0-7.0 mg/l		5.0-7.0 mg/l		Mg/l	Erosion of natural deposits	

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal - The “Goal” (MRDLG) is 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.

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. The City of Au Gres 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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa/safewater/lead>.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We’re proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be:

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 a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.

Radioactive contaminants, which are 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 process and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. All 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

Some people may be more vulnerable ton 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. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Please call our office at (989) 876-8811 if you have questions. A complete copy of the CCR Report for the City of Au Gres or the SWAR Report for the Saginaw-Midland Municipal Water Supply Corporation is available upon request at Au Gres City Hall, 124 W Huron Road, Au Gres, Michigan.

The City of Au Gres works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children’s future.