



## Utility Billing Office

The Utility Billing office is the first place to go for your water and waste collection needs. The Utility Billing function includes waste collection billing for Bellbrook residents and water service billing for Bellbrook residents, businesses, and portions of Sugarcreek Township.

For questions regarding your water or waste collection service (city residents), please contact the Utility Billing office at (937) 848-4638. You can also visit the Utility Billing page on our website at [www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org).

The Utility Billing office is located on the second floor of the Administration building at 15 East Franklin Street. A payment drop box is located at the front entrance to the building by the double doors. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

## Pay Your Bill Online

**E-Bills:** Residents can receive their Bellbrook utility bill over email. Visit the Utility Billing page on our website to sign up for this service. Current and past statements are available for customers to view.

**Pay Online:** Residents can pay their bill over the internet with a credit card or checking account. Visit the City's web site for additional information. A transaction fee will apply for credit card payments.



## 2019 Water Quality Report Overview

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires all community water systems to annually provide a water quality report to their customers. The Bellbrook Water Department is proud of the fine drinking water it provides and is pleased to show that it meets all water quality standards. This annual water quality report shows the source of water, lists the results of tests, and contains important information about water and health. The Bellbrook Water Department will notify you if there is ever any reason for concern about your water. The City of Bellbrook has a current, unconditioned license to operate the water system.

This water quality report reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2016. All water systems were required to comply with the Total Coliform Rule from 1989 to March 31, 2016, and begin compliance with a new rule, the Revised Total Coliform Rule, on April 1, 2016. The new rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of total coliform bacteria, which includes E. coli bacteria. The EPA anticipates greater public health protection under the new rule, as it requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. As a result, under the new rule there is no longer a maximum contaminant level violation for multiple total coliform detections. Instead, the new rule requires water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences to conduct an assessment to determine if any significant deficiencies exist. If found, these must be corrected by the public water system.

## Water Source

The source of Bellbrook's drinking water is ground water pumped from wells drilled into the aquifer that lies beneath the City. The aquifer extends the length of the Miami Valley. Residents are encouraged to report activity or spills that could cause contamination of the aquifer.

The aquifer has a high susceptibility to contamination. This is due to its sensitive nature and the existing potential contaminant sources identified. This does not mean that the well field will become contaminated; only that conditions are such that the ground water could be impacted by potential contaminant sources.

Future contamination can be avoided by implementing protective measures. More detailed information is available in the City's Wellhead Protection Report and Susceptibility Analysis, which can be obtained by contacting Ryan Pasley, Service Director, at (937) 848-8415.

## Required Additional Health Information

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

## Required Additional Health Information Continued

- 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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as individuals with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and some infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and EPA guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants (which, while rare, are more likely to be found in surface water sources than in the ground water used here) are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing.

The City of Bellbrook 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 thirty seconds to two 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. A list of laboratories certified in the State of Ohio to test for lead may be found at [www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw](http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw) or by calling (614) 644-2752. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).



We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting drinking water. Regular City Council meetings are scheduled at 7 pm on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 15 East Franklin Street. The Service Foreman will be happy to answer any questions about Bellbrook water quality. Please call (937) 848-8415. For further information, go to the EPA Ground Water & Drinking Water web site at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater).

## Water Quality Data Table Definitions

Listed are 20 tests in which any level of contaminant (regardless of how small the amount) was detected in Bellbrook's drinking water for the most recent date up to and including 2019. All detected levels are far below allowed limits. Not listed are over 200 other tests in which **no contaminants** were detected.

The data presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with EPA regulations by the Bellbrook Water Department. Terms used in the Water Quality Table and in other parts of this report are defined here:

**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 (ug/L) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

**Maximum Contamination 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.

**Action Level (for Lead and Copper):** the concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

# 2019 Water Quality Data Table

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Year of Detection	Range of Detection	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminants
<b>Disinfectant and Disinfectant By-Products</b>							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1.1	2019	1.03 to 1.1	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	6.1	2018	3.4 to 6.1	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	NA	80	47.2	2018	23.6 to 47.2	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.1	2019	.16 to 1.1	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.99	2019	NA	No	Run off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.114	2017	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Unregulated Contaminants</b>							
Chloroform (ppb)	NA	NA	20.4	2018	8.9 to 20.4	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Bromo-dichloromethane (ppb)	NA	NA	14.7	2018	7.2 to 14.7	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Dibromo-chloromethane (ppb)	NA	NA	51.9	2018	9.8 to 51.9	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Bromoform (ppb)	NA	NA	2.2	2018	1.5 to 2.2	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Dibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	NA	NA	1.8	2018	1.4 to 1.8	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Dichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	NA	NA	3	2018	1.5 to 3.0	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Trichloroacetic Acid	NA	NA	1.989	2018	1.214 to 1.989	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>Lead and Copper</b>							
Contaminants (units)	Action Level (AL)	Individual Results over the AL	90% of test levels were less than			Violation	Typical Source of Contaminants
Lead (ppb)	15 ppb	NA	5.9	2019		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
	0 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb						
Copper (ppm)	1.3 ppm	NA	0.344	2019		No	Erosions of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosions of household plumbing systems
	0 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm						

## Water System Updates

### Water Rates Remain Steady

In February, City Council decided not to increase water rates in 2019. This is the seventh consecutive year that water rates have remained stable. According to the annual *City of Oakwood Water and Sewer Rate Survey*, the City of Bellbrook is currently below average in what residents pay for water service.

### Radio Read Water Meters

Several years ago, the city upgraded every water meter to a remote read meter. These meters provide more accurate readings and take less time to collect meter information each month. This has been especially convenient for customers with inside water meters.

## Common Water Resident Questions

### How and where can I pay my bill?

- Pay online - Credit card and ACH payments are accepted via the web.
- Pay by mail - Payments are posted on date of receipt.
- Pay at the drop box - The secure drop box is located at the Utility Billing office.
- Pay in person - 15 East Franklin Street, Bellbrook, Ohio 45305.

### What is the hardness of our city water?

- Elements that contribute to water hardness are calcium and magnesium. The city's water hardness is about 23.8 grains per gallon or 408 milligrams per liter.

### What could cause a higher than normal water bill?

- If it is summer, many residents' water usage increases both inside and out. More bathing, more laundry, filling swimming pools, watering lawns and gardens all add up to higher than normal water bills.
- Undetected leaks can also cause one's bill to increase. Check your toilets and other plumbing fixtures including outside faucets and hose bibs. It may be necessary to have a plumber inspect your plumbing system.
- For more information, please see the Common Causes of High Usage informational page on the City's website.

## Water Quality Data Table Abbreviations

Table Key	
AL = Action Level	TTHM = Total Trihalomethanes
MCL = Maximum Contamination Level	HAA5 = Haloacetic Acids
MCLG = Maximum Contamination Level Goal	* = 20 samples, none above AL
MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	** = 20 samples, 1 above AL (25.1)
MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	*** = Added together not to exceed 80 ppb for TTHMs
Ppm = parts per million OR milligrams per liter (mg/l)	**** = Added together not to exceed 60 ppb for HAA5
Ppb = parts per billion OR micrograms per liter (ug/l)	N/A = Not Applicable



## Hydrant Flushing

The annual fire hydrant flushing will occur in the fall. Dates and times will be announced in the August edition of the City Newsletter and on the city's website.

Please avoid doing laundry during this time. If discoloration of laundry occurs, a special detergent is available from the City's Utility Billing Office. If you use a water softener, please set it to "by-pass" during this week. Water may appear rusty during the process, but will return to normal when the process is complete.

If you have any questions regarding Hydrant Flushing, please contact the Utility Billing Office at **(937) 848-4638**.

# Bellbrook

### Administration Office

15 East Franklin Street  
Bellbrook, Ohio 45305  
(937) 848-4666

### Utility Billing Office

15 East Franklin Street  
Bellbrook, Ohio 45305  
(937) 848-4638

### Service Department

29 North West Street  
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(937) 848-8415

[www.cityofbellbrook.org](http://www.cityofbellbrook.org)