



## Service Department

The Bellbrook Service Department oversees numerous public works operations within the City, including the water system, roadways, stormwater, and snow removal.

The Bellbrook Service Department operates and maintains the water system serving the City and parts of Sugar Creek Township. Currently, the City has one employee with a Class 2 Operator's License and four employees with a Class 1 Operator's License.

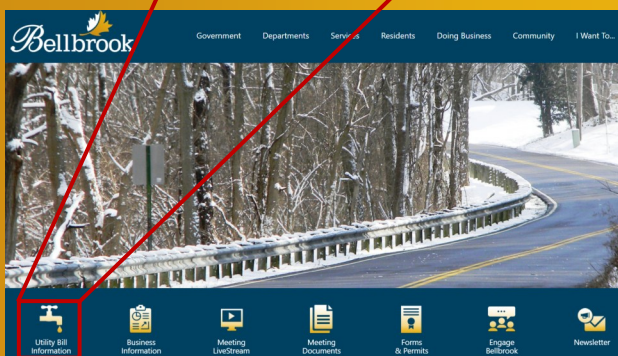
The Ohio EPA requires the City to have a minimum of one employee with a Class 1 Operator's License. The water system serves over 9,200 people in the

## Utility Billing Office

The City of Bellbrook provides water and waste collection for Bellbrook and water (no waste collection service) for portions of Sugar Creek Township. The Utility Billing Office issues quarterly bills for these services.

For questions regarding your water or waste collection services, please contact the Utility Billing Office at **937-848-4638**. You can also visit the Utility Billing page on our website at [www.bellbrook.gov](http://www.bellbrook.gov) under "Utility Bill Information."

The Utility Billing Office is located on the second floor of the City Administration Building at **15 East Franklin Street**. Office hours are Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. A



## City of Bellbrook Water Quality Report

March 2025

### 2024 Water Quality Report Overview

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires all community water systems to provide a water quality report to their customers annually. 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 Service 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 be in compliance with 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, there is no longer a maximum contaminant level violation for multiple total coliform detections. Instead, it requires water

### Water Source

The source of Bellbrook's drinking water is groundwater that is pumped from wells drilled into the aquifer that lies beneath the City. This aquifer extends the length of the Miami Valley. Residents are strongly encouraged to report activity or spills that could cause contamination of the aquifer by calling **937-848-8415** (for after-hours, please call **937-848-8484**). The aquifer has a high susceptibility to contamination 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 groundwater 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

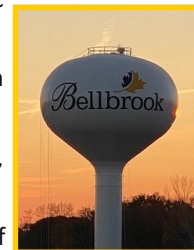
### Required Additional Health Information

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 protections 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 main sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled water) are groundwater and surface water, which include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it

## Required Additional Health Information Continued

- 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 various sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- 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.
- 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. Immunocompromised 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 healthcare 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 groundwater used here) are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **800-426-4791**. Additional information is also available through this hotline telephone number.



If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. 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.

Our distribution system has no lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown service lines. To determine this, we used the following sources: historical records, construction and plumbing codes, and visual inspections.



The City of Bellbrook is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. 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. 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 Quality Data Table Definitions

Listed are the 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 2024. All detected levels are far below the 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 Service 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):** units of measure for the 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):** units of measure for the 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 (defined below) 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 that a water system must follow.

## 2024 Water Quality Data Table

Contaminants (units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Year of Detection	Range of Detection	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminants
Disinfectant and Disinfectant By-Products							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1.26	2024	1.10 to 1.26	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	6.4	2024	0 to 6.4	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	NA	80	22.5	2024	10.1 to 22.5	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants							
Fluoride (ppm)	4 mg/L	4 mg/L	1.17 mg/L	2024	0.83 to 1.17	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Cyanide	0.2 mg/L	0.2 mg/L	0.01 mg/L	2023	NA	No	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic & fertilizer
Barium (ppm)	2 mg/L	2 mg/L	0.103 mg/L	2023	NA	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10 mg/L	10 mg/L	0.46 mg/L	2024	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage;
Unregulated Contaminants							
Chloroform (ppb)	NA	NA	8.6	2024	2.8 to 8.6	No	By-product of drinking water
Bromo-dichloromethane (ppb)	NA	NA	7.2	2024	3.3 to 7.2	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Dibromo-chloromethane (ppb)	NA	NA	5.4	2024	3.2 to 5.4	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Bromoform (ppb)	NA	NA	1.3	2024	0.8 to 1.3	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Dibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	NA	NA	2.0	2024	1.6 to 2.0	No	By-product of drinking water
Dichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	NA	NA	2.9	2024	1.8 to 2.9	No	By-product of drinking water
Contaminants (units)	Action Level (AL)	Individual results over the AL	90% of test levels were less	Year of Detection	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminants	
Lead and Copper							
Lead (mg/L)	15 ppb	1	8 ppb	2024	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
	*1 sample was found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb (20 ppb)						
Copper (mg/L)	1.3 ppb	N/A	0.459	2024	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 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, 1 above AL (20ppb)
MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	** = 20 samples, none above AL
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)	NA = Not Applicable

## PFAS Sampling Information

In 2023, our PFAS was sampled as part of the State of Ohio's Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Sampling Initiative. Results from this sampling indicated that PFAS were detected in our drinking water below the action level established by Ohio EPA. Follow-up monitoring is being conducted. For more information about PFAS and to view our latest results, please visit [www.pfas.ohio.gov](http://www.pfas.ohio.gov).

### What is PFAS?

Per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals applied to many consumer goods to make them waterproof, stain-resistant, or nonstick. PFAS are also used in products like cosmetics, fast food packaging, and a type of firefighting foam called aqueous film-forming foam (AFFF), which is used mainly on large spills of flammable liquids, such as jet fuel.

PFAS are classified as contaminants of emerging concern, meaning that research into the harm they may cause to human health is still ongoing. The most commonly studied PFAS are perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), and perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA) (Ohio Department of Health, 2019).

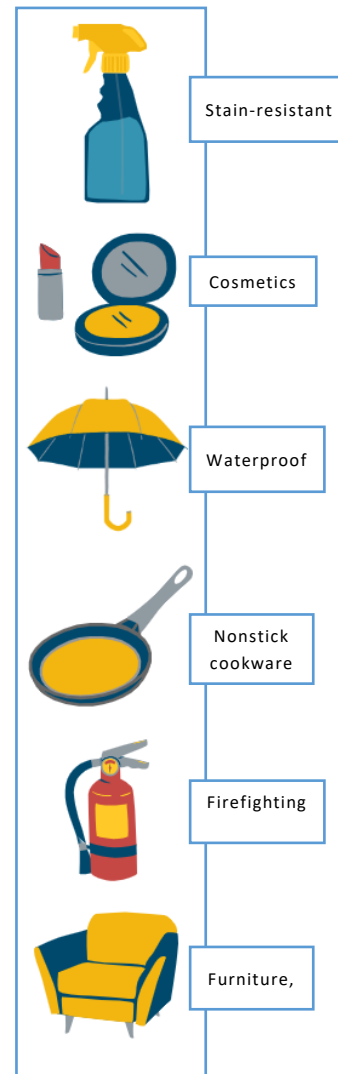
### What levels of PFAS are in the water, and how did they get there?

PFAS have been detected in the water resources where Bellbrook wells pump water for distribution; however, the levels detected are below the Ohio EPA Action Levels. PFAS can enter drinking water at sites where they are made, used, disposed of, or spilled. PFAS can be found in the air near manufacturing facilities and can enter rainwater. PFAS are very mobile and can be transported through rainwater run-off and enter surface water (lakes, ponds, etc.) or seep through the soil and migrate into groundwater (underground sources of drinking water). Because PFAS are very long-lasting and are not easily broken down by sunlight or other natural processes, they may remain in the environment for many years (Ohio EPA, 2020).

### Are there other sources of PFAS, and can they be prevented?

Completely stopping exposure to PFAS is not practical because they are so common and present throughout the world. PFAS exposure through drinking water can be reduced by treating the water using reverse osmosis or certified carbon filtration units or by using an alternative source of water that is not contaminated.

In general, dermal contact with water is not a health concern because PFAS are not readily absorbed through the skin. Using water that contains PFAS for showering, bathing, laundry, or household cleaning is generally safe.





## Water Rates Remain Unchanged

Per Bellbrook City Council, water rates did not increase in 2025. This is the fifteenth consecutive year that water rates have remained unchanged.

According to the annual *City of Piqua Water and Sewer Rate Survey*, the City of Bellbrook is currently below average in terms of what residents pay for water service. More information about this rate survey is available at [www.piquaoh.gov/549/Water-Sewer-](http://www.piquaoh.gov/549/Water-Sewer-)



## Common Water and Utility Billing Questions

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

- Pay by mail: Mail to PO Box 285, Bellbrook, OH 45305. Please include the bill stub with your payment.
- Pay in person: The Utility Billing Office is located on the second floor of the City Administration Building at 15 East Franklin Street.
- Pay by drop box: The drop box is located outside the front set of double doors of the City Administration Building at 15 East Franklin Street. Please include the bill stub with your payment.
- Pay online: Visit [www.invoicecloud.com/bellbrookoh](http://www.invoicecloud.com/bellbrookoh). You can register for an account or make a one-time payment. Input your full account number and last name in all caps to access your account.
- Pay by text: Visit [www.invoicecloud.com/bellbrookoh](http://www.invoicecloud.com/bellbrookoh). You may enroll in Pay by Text when making an online payment or by logging into your account and selecting the Pay by Text option. A confirmation will be sent to complete your enrollment.
- Pay by phone: Call **844-956-1380** and follow the prompts. You will input your full account number, only omitting the dash.

### *Do you offer paperless billing?*

Yes, you can receive utility bills by email by visiting [www.bellbrook.gov](http://www.bellbrook.gov) and clicking the "Utility Bill Information" icon. Current and past statements are available to view.

### *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 high water bill?*

During summer, many residents' water usage increases both inside and out. More bathing, laundry, filling swimming pools, and watering lawns and gardens can be factors in a higher-than-average water bill. Undetected leaks can also be a determinant in a higher-than-average bill. Check your toilets, water softeners, and other plumbing fixtures,

Leak Table		
Leak Size	Gallons Per Day	Gallons Per Month
A dripping leak consumes:	15 gallons	450 gallons
A 1/32-inch leak consumes:	264 gallons	7,920 gallons
A 1/16-inch leak consumes:	934 gallons	28,300 gallons
A 1/8-inch leak consumes:	3,806 gallons	114,200 gallons
A 1/4-inch leak consumes:	15,226 gallons	456,800 gallons
A 1/2-inch leak consumes:	60,900 gallons	1,827,000 gallons

## 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.

The purpose of water system flushing is to verify the safe operation of hydrants and valves, remove accumulated sediment/mineral buildup in the bottom of our water mains, flush stale water from dead-end streets, restore/help maintain a chlorine residual throughout the water system, and continue maintaining a clean water supply.

The water flushing may result in temporary discoloration of the water and a possible reduction in water pressure. Water discoloration is not a health risk. The Service Department recommends restricting your water usage and setting water softeners to bypass. The discolored water may stain your laundry, especially white materials, as well as the possible staining of plumbing fixtures. Therefore, please avoid doing laundry during the noted flushing period.

Before washing clothes, including times after the hours stated in this notice, please check the cold water for possible discoloration. If the water is discolored, let the cold water run for a minute (or two) and see if it begins clearing. If the water does not clear at that time, try again later. Unfortunately, the City cannot guarantee the possibility of discoloration even during the evenings and other times of the day as the water system has been disturbed. The City also cannot guarantee when a specific

# Bellbrook

### Service Department

29 North West Street  
Bellbrook, Ohio 45305  
937-848-8415

### Administration & Utility Billing Office

15 East Franklin Street  
Bellbrook, Ohio 45305  
937-848-4666—Administration  
937-848-4638—Utility Billing