THE VILLAGE OF BETHEL

THE VILLAGE OF BETHEL ANNUAL NEWSLETTER • 2016 – 2017

Letter from the Village

The Village of Bethel would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our electric and water consumers who have been paying their utility bills by the 15th of the month. Prompt payment helps keep down operational costs, and also allows you to save ten percent by paying in this timely manner.

Contained in this newsletter is an assortment of notices and guidelines regarding Village utilities, services and property which you may find helpful. If you have any questions regarding these articles, or for inquiries not addressed here, please feel free to call our office at 734-2243.

Payment of Bills

All utility bills are due by the 15th of each month. The net amount applies during this time. After the 15th of each month, the gross amount of the bill is due. All utility bills are to be paid in full by the 21st of each month. If your utility bill is not paid by the 21st of each month, your service is subject to disconnection.

Reconnection Charges are as follows:

- $30.00 per service (Residential) by 5:00 PM Monday – Friday
- $100.00 per service after-hours and holidays
- Reconnection fees are to be paid by Cash or Money Order
- The charge for a returned check is $25.00

Should a consumer question the amount of the bill, or have an emergency making it impossible to pay their bill on time, that person should contact the Village Administrator's office, located at 120 North Main Street.

Meter Tampering

The laws of the State of Ohio require that once each year consumers of the water and electric departments of the Village of Bethel be advised of the consequences of tampering with or bypassing the water or electric meters owned by the Village.

The theft of electric and water is something the Village of Bethel takes seriously, and so should you. Tampering with a water or electric meter is a dangerous and illegal practice. The employees of the Village of Bethel have been trained to detect meter tampering. Theft of electric and/or water is dangerous, as both can do serious harm. Attempts to bypass or tamper with utility meters can cause shock, electrocution, fire, explosion or other serious damage to persons and property.

Electric or water theft is a crime.

Under Ohio Law, a fine of up to $5,000 plus imprisonment of between 6-18 months in jail can be imposed for tampering with an electric or water meter, for unlawfully reconnecting electric or water service which has been disconnected, or for unlawfully consuming electric or water through tampering. The cost of service stolen or equipment damaged can also be recovered. **In addition, a $250 Tampering Fee will be imposed on each account.**

The person who is obligated to pay the utility bill can be held responsible under Ohio law for any tampering or reconnection of service under their control. It is not necessary to be caught in the act of tampering with a meter in order to be prosecuted.

Electric and water thieves take money from your pocket. These losses must eventually be passed onto you, the innocent consumer. Therefore, if you know or suspect someone is tampering with a water or electric meter, call 734-2243.

Village Office

Hours: 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday through Friday

734-2243 –or– 734-2244

Utilities after hours: 734-2243 ext. 25

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report for 2015

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of 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 process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water is purchased at a bulk rate from Tate-Monroe Water Association. This report contains information on the water quality received from Tate Monroe Water Association.

We are pleased to report that the water we provide to our customers is safe and meets federal and state requirements. The following report shows our water quality and what it means.

The Village of Bethel Water Department and Tate Monroe Water routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table shows the results of the monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st 2015. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Drinking Water Hotline at 1 (800) 426-4791.

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 sources of 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 as a result of 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.

Drinking Water Source

Tate Monroe Water's drinking water is received from the Ohio River Valley Aquifer. Eleven (11) vertical wells and one (1) collector well are located along the Ohio River at Clermontville and near Moscow.

The aquifer that supplies drinking water to the Tate Monroe Water Association has a high susceptibility to contamination, due to the nature of the aquifer in which the drinking water wells are located and the existing potential contaminant sources identified. This does not mean that this well field will become contaminated; only that conditions are such that the groundwater could be impacted by potential contaminant sources. Future contamination may be avoided by implementing protective measures. Please dispose of hazardous chemicals in the proper manner. Protecting our drinking water source is the responsibility of all area residents. By working together we can ensure an adequate safe supply for future generations.

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 infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA and the Center for Disease Control 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).

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 Village of Bethel provides 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.gov/safewater/lead*.

We have a current, unconditional license to operate our water system.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the 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.

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	MCLG	Detection Range	Year Sampled	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants - *tested by Tate-Monroe*							
Copper (ppm)	N	0.15	1.3	N/A	2013	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of wood preservatives
	0 of 30 samples found to have copper in excess of copper action level of 1.3ppm						
Lead (ppb)	N	2.6	0	N/A	2013	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of wood preservatives
	1 of 30 samples found to have lead in excess of the lead action level of 15ppb						
Flouride (ppm)	N	1.10	4	0.97 to 1.17	2015	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	N	0.77	10	0.19 to 0.77	2015	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminates - *tested by Tate-Monroe*							
TTHMs (ppb)	N	24.3	0	5.4 to 43.2	2015	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb)	N	4.8	0	BDL to 9.6	2015	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Residual Disinfectants - *tested by Tate-Monroe*							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	N	1.4	4	0.5 to 1.4	2015	4	Water additive used to control microbes
Residual Disinfectants - *tested by Village of Bethel*							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	N	1.5	4	0.5 to 1.5	2015	4	Water additive used to control microbes
Organic Contaminates - *tested by Village of Bethel*							
TTHMs (ppb)	N	57.9	0	51.0 to 57.9	2015	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants - *tested by Village of Bethel*							
Copper (ppm)	N	0.317	1.3	N/A	2015	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of wood preservatives
	Action level was not exceeded on any samples						
Lead (ppm)	N	.009	0	N/A	2015	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching of wood preservatives
	Action level was not exceeded on any samples						

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant	Average (ppb)	Range of Test Values (ppb)
Organic Contaminates [1]		
Chloroform	5.5	1.3 to 9.7
Bromoform	2.7	0.7 to 4.7
Bromodichloromethane	8.1	1.7 to 14.4
Dibromochloromethane	8.1	1.7 to 14.4
Dibromoacetic Acid	2.2	BDL to 4.4
Dichloroacetic Acid	1.6	BDL to 3.2
Monobromoacetic Acid	0	BDL
Monochloroacetic Acid	0	BDL
Trichloroacetic Acid	1	BDL to 2.0
UCMR3 Compliance [2]		
Chlorate	205	BDL to 870
Chromium (Total)	0.04	BDL to 0.24
Chromium-6	0.007	BDL to 0.037
1,4-Dioxane	0.09	BDL to 0.31
Molybdenum	1.6	BDL to 2.5
Strontium	146	97-180

The data presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations. The Ohio EPA requires us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants do not change frequently.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards.

TTHM = Total Trihalomethanes
HAA5 = Haloacetic Acid
ppm = parts per million corresponding to one minute in two years
ppb = parts per billion corresponding to one minute in 2,000 years
AL = Action Level, the concentration of a contaminate, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level, the highest level of contaminate that is allowed in drinking water.
MCLG = Maximum Contaminate Level Goal, the level of a contaminate in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
BDL = Below Detection Limit
< (Less than symbol)

1 - **Unregulated contaminants** do not have a set MCL or MCLG limit. The unregulated contaminants listed in the table above are unregulated separately but are included in the first table as TTHMs and HAAs. The typical source for the listed unregulated contaminates, as noted in the first table, is a by-product of drinking water chlorination.

2 – **The Third Unregulated Contaminant Rule (UCMR3)** for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect. Please call our office if you have any questions.

Energy Assistance Program

If you need some help paying your winter heating bills, the State of Ohio offers programs that can assist you. Eligible customers can receive financial assistance and may be able to get energy efficiency improvements for their homes or apartments, just by filling out one application. The Ohio Energy Assistance Programs application will be available beginning in August, and throughout the winter season.

Households containing elderly or disabled members may receive financial assistance from both federal and state sources.

Where can you obtain HEAP applications?

HEAP applications are available at:

- Call HEAP toll-free at 1 (800) 282-0880
- Local Libraries
- County Departments of Jobs and Family Services
- Area Agencies of Aging

What else is required to be mailed with your completed and signed application?

- Proof of Income for the past twelve (12) months
- A copy of a recent fuel/utility bill
- The ***signed*** application

Mail to:

HEAP
PO Box 1240
Columbus, OH 43216

For additional information, call HEAP toll-free at (800) 282-0880 during the regular business hours of 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Monday through Friday. For the hearing impaired, call the toll-free TTD line at (800) 686-1557. Fax to (614) 728-6832.

Mayor's Office:	*734-2243 ext 17*
Police Department:	*734-2256*
Officer on Duty:	*734-2256 x26*
Emergency:	*911*
• *Police*	
• *Fire*	
• *Hospital*	
Utilities Office:	*734-2243 ext 4*
After-hours Help Line:	*734-2243 ext 25*
Rumpke:	*(877) 786-7537*
Zoning:	*734-2243 ext 10*
Code Enforcement:	*734-2243 ext 10*

Reservation Fees

Please schedule all reservations through the Village Utilities office.

Bethel Community Center: 135 N. Union Street
Full Day Fee is $100 Resident / $170 Non Resident + $50 refundable deposit if cleaned up to the Village's satisfaction. Half Day Fee is $50 Resident / $85 Non Resident + $50 refundable deposit. Fee is non-refundable.

Burke Park: S. Ash Street

	Resident	Non-Resident
Shelter House	$50.00	$85.00
Pavilion	$50.00	$85.00
Pioneer Stage	$50.00	$85.00
All Three	$150.00	$255.00

Fees are non-refundable

Grant Memorial Building: 235 W. Plane Street
Full Day Fee is $50 Resident / $100 Non Resident +$50 refundable deposit. Half Day Fee is $25 Resident / $50 Non Resident + $50 refundable deposit. Fees are non-refundable

Rates listed are daily rates. Alcoholic beverages are NOT permitted at any facility. Facilities are designated non-smoking. For more information, please contact the Village Utilities office, 120 N. Main Street, 734-2243 ext 4.

Village of Bethel
120 N. Main Street
Bethel, OH 45106