

# 2013 Drinking Water Quality Report

## Keeping You Informed!

YCUA provides your drinking water and is pleased to present you with our 16th annual water quality report. This report follows the guidelines set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ). Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable water supply. This report illustrates that we are achieving our goal.

## Source Water Assessment

YCUA obtains your drinking water from the Detroit water system. Your source water comes from the Detroit River, situated within the Lake St. Clair, Clinton River, Detroit River, Rouge River, and Ecorse River watersheds in the U.S. and parts of the Thames River, Little River, Turkey Creek, and Sydenham River watersheds in Canada.

The MDEQ, in partnership with the U.S. Geological Survey, the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department, and the Michigan Public Health Institute, performed a source water assessment in 2004 to determine the susceptibility of potential contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven-tiered scale from "very low" to "very high" based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry, and contaminant sources. The susceptibility of our Detroit River source water intakes were determined to be highly susceptible to potential contamination. However, all four Detroit water treatment plants that use source water from Detroit River have historically provided satisfactory treatment of this source water to meet drinking water standards.

DWSD has initiated source-water protection activities that include chemical containment, spill response, and mercury reduction programs. DWSD, under its National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit discharge program, follows an emergency response management plan. If you would like more information about this report or to receive a complete copy of this report, please contact the Water Quality Division Manager at 313.926.8102 or [semegen@dwsd.org](mailto:semegen@dwsd.org).

## General Information About DWSD

If you wish to learn more about the plants that treat our water or obtain information regarding Detroit Board of Water Commissioners meetings, please visit [www.dwsd.org](http://www.dwsd.org).

## 2013 Water Supply System Improvements

### Charter Township of Ypsilanti and City of Ypsilanti

**Smokler-Textile Subdivision Water Supply Improvements.** Completed during 2013, the scope of work included replacement or installation of approximately 10,500 feet of water main and appurtenances along with repairs to isolated portions of the wastewater collection system. The total project cost is estimated at \$2.14 million and was primarily funded through a Drinking Water Revolving Fund (DWRF) loan program administered by the MDEQ.

**2013 Water Main and Paving Improvements.** Substantially completed during 2013, the scope of utility work included replacement or installation of approximately 15,000 feet of water main and appurtenances along with repairs to isolated portions of the wastewater collection system in the neighborhoods between I-94 and Grove Road west of Rawsonville Road as well as the streets south of Holmes Road between Willow Run High School and Wiard Road. The utility improvements were constructed in conjunction with road and drainage improvements implemented by the Washtenaw County Road Commission (WCRC) on behalf of the Charter Township of Ypsilanti. Total water supply and wastewater related project costs are estimated at \$3.9 million.

YPSILANTI COMMUNITY UTILITIES AUTHORITY

Environmental Leaders

**YCUA**

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

Dedicated to Providing Top Quality, Cost Effective, and Environmentally Safe Water and Wastewater Services to Our Customers

Augusta Charter Township • Pittsfield Charter Township • Superior Charter Township • Township of York  
Charter Township of Ypsilanti • City of Ypsilanti • Southwest Canton Charter Township

## Health and Safety Information

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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

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 source water include:

- *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 storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- *Organic chemical contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- *Pesticides and herbicides*, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Based on testing results during 2012-2013 (see table at right), all of these contaminants were below the level of concern for safe drinking water standards set by EPA.

## Information for People with Special Health Concerns

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800.426.4791).

## Lead In Drinking Water

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. Your local Township Utility Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in private properties. 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 or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## Definitions

*Parts per million (ppm) and parts per billion (ppb)* - One ppm can be equated to one gallon in 1,000,000 gallons (an Olympic-sized pool.) One ppb is like one gallon in 1,000 Olympic-sized pools combined.

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

*Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)* - The MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in the drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible, using the best available treatment technology. MCLs are set at very stringent levels by the State and Federal governments. To understand the possible health effects, a person would have to drink about two quarts of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the associated health effect.

*Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)* - The level of 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.

*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.

*Action Level (AL)* - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other required actions a water system must follow.

*Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (ntu)* - Measures the cloudiness of water.

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

TTHMs - Total Trihalomethanes.

na - Not applicable.

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline: **800.426.4791**

EPA Website: **[www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)**

MDEQ Website: **[www.michigan.gov/deq](http://www.michigan.gov/deq)**



# YCUA Water Quality Test Results for 2013

Your drinking water is continuously monitored above and beyond Federal and State regulations. The table below lists all of the contaminants detected in your drinking water during calendar year 2013. Lead, copper, bacteriological monitoring, and disinfectant by-product rule is performed by each individual community, except as noted. THERE WERE NO BACTERIOLOGICAL DETECTIONS DURING 2013. All other results are for the entire YCUA service area. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate a health risk. This table does not show the hundreds of other contaminants tested for, but not found in your drinking water. The test results confirm that ALL DETECTED CONTAMINANTS WERE BELOW REGULATED LEVELS. THERE WERE NO VIOLATIONS OF STATE DRINKING WATER STANDARDS.

## Regulated Inorganic Parameters (annual monitoring at plant finished water taps)

contaminant	test date	unit	level detected	MCLG	MCL	likely sources
Fluoride	2013	ppm	0.71	4	4	Water additive to promote strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	2013	ppm	0.69	10	10	Fertilizer runoff; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Xylene	2013	ppb	0.1	10,000	10,000	Discharge from petroleum and chemical factories

## Regulated Disinfectant Residuals and Disinfection By-Products (sampled in the distribution system)

contaminant	test date	unit	avg	low	high	MCLG	MCL	likely sources
<i>Charter Township of Ypsilanti, City of Ypsilanti, Southwest Canton Charter Township, and Township of York</i>								
TTHMs	2013	ppb	39	19	43	na	80	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	2013	ppb	15	7	18	na	60	
<i>Augusta Charter Township</i>								
TTHMs	2013	ppb	38	0	33	na	80	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	2013	ppb	3.8	0	3	na	60	
<i>Pittsfield Charter Township</i>								
TTHMs	2013	ppb	33	18	35	na	80	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	2013	ppb	21	8	35	na	60	
<i>Superior Charter Township</i>								
TTHMs	2013	ppb	35	28	32	na	80	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	2013	ppb	17	10	17	na	60	

Samples were collected to test for the disinfection by-products TTHMs and Haloacetic Acids in all YCUA service area communities at the frequencies and times prescribed by Federal regulations, except for YCUA itself when an administrative oversight resulted in the samples that were to have been collected in May instead being collected in June after staff realized the omission. All samples collected throughout the YCUA service area during 2013 met the MCL for disinfection by-products.

contaminant	test date	unit	avg	low	high	MRDLG	MRDL	likely sources
Disinfectant Chlorine	2013	ppm	0.85	0.47	0.88	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes

## Regulated Microbiological Parameters (monitored every 4 hours at the plant taps)

contaminant	test date	unit	highest result	maximum limit	likely sources
Turbidity	2013	ntu	0.17	1.0	Soil runoff

Turbidity measures the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The rules state that turbidity must never exceed 1.0 ntu (see "high"), and must not exceed 0.3 ntu in more than 95% of daily samples in any single month. Because the maximum result was less than 0.3 ntu, we achieved both requirements and remained in compliance.

## Individual Community Regulated Copper and Lead Testing (sampled at individual taps)

contaminant	test date	unit	90th	samples >AL	MCLG	MCL	likely sources
<i>Charter Township of Ypsilanti, City of Ypsilanti, Southwest Canton Charter Township, and Township of York</i>							
Lead	2011	ppb	0	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits
Copper	2011	ppm	0.118	0	1.3	AL=1.3	
<i>Augusta Charter Township</i>							
Lead	2011	ppb	0	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits
Copper	2011	ppm	0.124	0	1.3	AL=1.3	
<i>Pittsfield Charter Township</i>							
Lead	2011	ppb	0	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits
Copper	2011	ppm	0.057	0	1.3	AL=1.3	
<i>Superior Charter Township</i>							
Lead	2011	ppb	1.2	0	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing and erosion of natural deposits
Copper	2011	ppm	0.043	0	1.3	AL=1.3	

Lead and Copper compliance is based on the 90th percentile, where nine out of ten samples must be below the Action Level (AL). State and Federal regulations allow us to monitor for lead and copper every three years, because conditions here are such that concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. All of the data are therefore representative of the current water quality.

**Total Organic Carbon (TOC) Removal** - The TOC removal ratio is the ratio between actual TOC removal and the TOC removal requirements. During 2011, TOC was measured each month and because the level was low, there was no requirement for TOC removal.

## UNREGULATED PARAMETERS (No established EPA drinking water standards)

contaminant	test date	unit	level found	EPA Health Guidance	likely sources
Sodium	2013	ppm	5.54	20	Erosion of natural deposits

5.54 ppm equates to about 1.31 milligrams of sodium per 8-ounce glass of water. EPA Health Guidance is for people restricted to taking in less than 500 mg of sodium per day according to "Drinking Water Advisory: Consumer Acceptability Advice and Health Effects Analysis on Sodium," US EPA, EPA 822-R-03-006, February 2003.



2777 STATE ROAD  
YPSILANTI, MI 48198

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Ypsilanti, MI  
Permit No. 409

# POSTAL CUSTOMER

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ENCLOSED:  
2013 WATER QUALITY REPORT

## General Information About YCUA

YCUA staff works around the clock to provide you with a safe and reliable supply of water. If you have questions about the YCUA water system, please contact Jeff Castro, Director, at [jcastro@ycua.org](mailto:jcastro@ycua.org) or 734.484.4600 extension 116.

Additional information about YCUA is available on [www.ycua.org](http://www.ycua.org). Click on the tab "Publications," and then "DWSD Lab Reports" for more detailed water quality data. This report is also published on our website and additional copies may be obtained by calling YCUA Administration at 734.484.4600 extension 107.

## Did You Know?

YCUA's annual Consumer Confidence Drinking Water Quality Report contains important information about the source and quality of your drinking water. After May 1, 2014, the report will be viewable on our website at [www.ycua.org/waterreport.pdf](http://www.ycua.org/waterreport.pdf). Please call us at 734.484.4600 extension 107 if you are unable to access the Internet and wish to continue having a paper copy of the report delivered to your home.

The Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act, Section 1417 of the Safe Drinking Water Act, was enacted on January 4, 2011 and took effect on January 4, 2014. This act addresses the use and introduction into commerce of lead pipes, plumbing fittings or fixtures, solder, and flux. This amendment now specifies a reduction in the maximum lead content of the wetted surfaces of plumbing products such as pipes, pipe fittings, plumbing fittings, and fixtures from 8.0% to a weighted average of 0.25%.

Two exemptions to this new amendment: those materials used for non-potable water for toilets, bidets, urinals, fill valves, flush-o-meter valves, tub fillers, shower valves, and service saddles and water distribution main gate valves that are 2 inches in diameter or larger.

High-quality YCUA water is an incredible value! An eight-ounce bottled water typically costs 3,000 times more than eight ounces of YCUA water.

## Questions? Comments?

If you have questions specific to your community's water distribution system, please contact the following individuals, or attend your local board meeting:

**Augusta Charter Township:** John Linville, Utilities Management Services: 734.260.9135 or [johnums@gmail.com](mailto:johnums@gmail.com). Website: [www.augustatownship.org](http://www.augustatownship.org). Telephone: 734.461.6117.

**Pittsfield Charter Township:** Craig A. Lyon, Director of Utilities and Municipal Services: 734.822.2109; Utilities Customer Service: 734.822.3105; Water and Sewer 24-hour Emergency Service Line: 734.944.4911. The Township Board meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 pm at the Township Hall, 6201 W. Michigan Avenue. For more information, please call 734.822.3145.

**Superior Charter Township:** Keith Lockie, Director: 734.480.5500. The Township Board meets on the third Monday of the month at 7:30 pm at the Township Hall, 3040 North Prospect Road.

**Township of York:** John Stanowski, Township Supervisor: 734.439.8842 or [jstanowski@twp-york.org](mailto:jstanowski@twp-york.org). The York Township Board meets on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:30 pm at the Township Hall at 11560 Stony Creek Road.

**Charter Township of Ypsilanti, City of Ypsilanti, and Southwest Canton Charter Township:** Jeff Castro, Director: [jcastro@ycua.org](mailto:jcastro@ycua.org) or 734.484.4600 extension 116. YCUA's Board meets the fourth Wednesday of the month at 4:00 pm at the YCUA Eldon P. Ahles Administration Building located at the corner of State and McGregor Roads.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

### ***New Monitoring Requirements for two tests met after one month delay***

*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 our drinking water meets health standards. During May 2013 we did not monitor or test for disinfection byproducts and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.*

**What happened? What is being done?** *In the month of May 2013 we were required to collect 2 samples and have them analyzed for the disinfection byproducts total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and total Haloacetic acids (HAA5s). This was newly required monitoring and due to an administrative oversight, the sampling event was overlooked. The samples were collected and tested as soon as the YCUA staff realized this omission. The results showed full compliance with the drinking water standards for those two contaminants.*

**What should I do?** *There is nothing you need to do. This is not an emergency. You do not need to boil water or use an alternative source of water. We are reporting this to you as required by Federal and State regulations.*

The table below lists the contaminants for which we did not properly test during May 2013:

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	When all samples should have been taken	Date samples were taken
Total Trihalomethanes	2 samples every 90 days	0	05/01/2013 to 05/31/2013	June 25, 2013
Total Haloacetic acids	2 samples every 90 days	0	05/01/2013 to 05/31/2013	June 25, 2013

**The results from the tests in June 2013 are shown below. All met the drinking water standards, as expected.**

### YCUA Drinking Water Stage 2 June 2013 Results

contaminant	unit	June 2013 high value	Max Contaminant Level (Standard to meet)
TTHMs	ppb	37.6	80
HAA5s	ppb	18	60

ppb = parts per billion = micrograms per liter.

For more information, please contact Mr. Jeff Castro at 734-484-4600 x116, or the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality at 517-780-7840.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This notice is being sent to you by the Ypsilanti Community Utilities Authority (YCUA).

CERTIFICATION:

WSSN: 07260

I certify that this water supply has fully complied with the public notification regulations in the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act, 1976 PA 399, as amended, and the administrative rules.

Signature:  Title: Director Date Distributed: June 1, 2014