

A high-speed photograph of water splashing, creating a crown-like shape in the center. The water droplets are frozen in time, and the background is a soft, out-of-focus blue. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue geometric shape that tapers from the top left towards the bottom right.

# **Byron Township & Gaines Charter Township**

## **2023 Water Quality Report**

We are pleased to report that your drinking water meets and often is better than all state and federal guidelines for safe drinking water.

This report covers the drinking water quality for Byron Township and Gaines Charter Township (WSSN 1023) for the 2023 calendar year.

This information is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you in 2023. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and state standards.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State of Michigan prescribe regulations that limit the levels of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

Federal Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which provide the same protection for public health.

The State of Michigan and the U.S. EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. Our drinking water met all the monitoring and reporting requirements for 2023.

We will update this report annually and will keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year, as they happen. For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, contact Jaime Fleming at **616.261.3572**. For more information about safe drinking water, visit the U.S. EPA at **<http://www.epa.gov/safewater>**. To request a printed copy, contact Byron-Gaines Utility Authority at **616.971.0002**



# Drinking Water Sources

Our source for drinking water is **Lake Michigan**.

Rain, groundwater, rivers, and streams that feed into Lake Michigan, dissolving naturally occurring minerals and sometimes picking up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

Some of the substances that can make their way into Lake Michigan are: viruses and bacteria from animals, agricultural, and human activities, salts, metals, pesticides and herbicides, byproducts of industrial processes and, in some cases, radioactive materials.

Our water source has a moderately high susceptibility to these substances. For a copy of the most current source water assessment of the water system, please call the City of Wyoming at **616.399.6511**.



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 U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline **(800.426.4791)**.

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 systems 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. U.S. EPA/Center for Disease Control 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)**.

The tables below list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the 2023 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2023. The State allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year.

All the data is representative of the water quality, but some are more than one year old.

## Regulated Monitoring at the Treatment Plant

Substance	Units	Range of Detection	Average Level Found	MCL	MCLG	Samples Exceeding	Possible Sources
Fluoride	ppm	0.2-0.8	0.7	4	4	0	Additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate	ppm	0.3-0.5	0.4	10	10	0	Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits
Barium	ppm	N/A	0.025	2	2	0	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge of metal refinements; erosion of natural deposits

## Industrial Waste

Substance	Units	Range of Detection	Average Level Found	MCL	Samples Exceeding	Possible Sources
PFNA	ppt	ND	N/A	6	0	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; Breakdown of precursor compounds
PFOA	ppt	ND	N/A	8	0	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; Stain-resistant treatments
PFHxA	ppt	ND	N/A	400,00	0	Firefighting foam; Discharge and waste from industrial facilities
PFOS	ppt	ND	N/A	16	0	Firefighting foam; Discharge from electroplating facilities; Discharge and waste from industrial facilities
PFHxS	ppt	ND	N/A	51	0	Firefighting foam; Discharge and waste from industrial facilities
PFBS	ppt	ND	N/A	420	0	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities; Stain-resistant treatments
Gen X	ppt	ND	N/A	370	0	Discharge and waste from industrial facilities utilizing the Gen X chemical process

Substance	Units	Highest Level Found	TT	Samples Exceeding TT	Possible Sources
Turbidity	NTU	0.08	1 NTU	0	Soil runoff and natural sediment

\*100% of turbidity samples were found to be <0.3 NTU

## Regulated Monitoring at the Customer's Tap

Compliance is determined using the 90th percentile, where nine out of ten samples must be below the Action Level. Testing was conducted in 2022.

Substance	Units	Range of Detection	Average Level Found	AL	MCLG	Samples Exceeding	Possible Sources
Copper	ppm	0.0-0.2	0.1	1.3	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of Natural Deposits
Lead	ppb	0-65	2	15	0	1	Lead service lines, corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Our water supply has no known lead service lines and **241** service lines of unknown material out of a total of **12,605** service lines.

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.

Byron-Gaines Utility Authority 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 have a lead service line, it is recommended that you run your water for at least 5 minutes to flush water from both your home plumbing and the lead service line.

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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Infants and children who drink water containing lead 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.



## Regulated Monitoring in the Distribution System

Substance	Units	Range of Detection	Highest Running Annual Average	MRDL	MRDLG	Samples Exceeding MCRDL	Possible Sources
Chlorine Residual	ppm	0.2-1.9	0.9	4	4	0	Used to disinfect drinking water

### Chlorine Byproduct

Substance	Units	Range of Detection	Highest Running Annual Average	MCL	Samples Exceeding MCL	Possible Sources
Haloacetic Acids	ppb	13-45	25	60	0	Formed when chlorine is added to water with naturally occurring organic material
Trihalomethanes	ppb	29-53	50	80	0	Formed when chlorine is added to water with naturally occurring organic material

### Bacteriological

Substance	Detection	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Possible Sources
Total Coliform	0 of 572 Samples	TT	0	No	Naturally present in the environment
<i>E. coli</i>	0 of 572 Samples	Presence of Total Coliform or <i>E.coli</i> in repeat samples; or repeat samples not collected	0	No	Human or animal fecal waste

### Additional Monitoring

Substance	Units	Range of Detection	Average Level Found	Possible Sources
Sodium	ppm	10-12	11	Naturally present in the environment



# Terms and Abbreviations

- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **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.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **N/A:** Not Applicable
- **ND:** Not detectable at testing limit
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** Measurements of minute suspended particles, used to judge water clarity.
- **ppb:** Parts per billion or micrograms per liter
- **ppm:** Parts per million or milligrams per liter
- **ppt:** Parts per trillion or nanograms per liter
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.



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**Gaines Charter Township**  
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Caledonia, MI 49316



**Byron-Gaines Utility Authority**  
1381-84th St. SE  
Byron Center, MI 49315

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. Byron Township meets on the 2nd and 4th Monday of each month at 5:30pm. See their website at [byrontownship.org](http://byrontownship.org) for more information. Gaines Charter Township meetings are the 2nd Monday of each month at 7:00pm. See their website at [gainestownship.org](http://gainestownship.org) for more information.

Esta publicación contiene información importante sobre el agua que usted bebe diariamente. Si no lo entiende, busque a alguien que se lo traduzca o le explique su contenido. Para mas información, llame al **616.530.7389** o visite página electrónica. [www.epa.gov/espanol](http://www.epa.gov/espanol)