

# 2020 Water Quality Report for City of Imlay City

This report covers the drinking water quality for the City of Imlay City for the calendar year 2020. This information is a snapshot of the quality of water we provided to you in 2019. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards.

The City of Imlay City purchases its water from the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA). GLWA operates a water treatment plant north of Port Huron from which we receive our water via a 72" transmission line. Drinking water quality is important to our community and the region. The City of Imlay City and the GLWA are committed to meeting state and federal water quality standards including the Lead and Copper Rule. With the Great Lakes as our water source and proven treatment technologies, the GLWA consistently delivers safe drinking water to our community. The City of Imlay City operates the system of water mains that carry this water to your home's service line. This year's Water Quality Report highlights the performance of GLWA and the City of Imlay City's water professionals in delivering some of the nation's best drinking water. Together, we remain committed to protecting public health and maintaining open communication with the public about our drinking water.

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 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.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations, which 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, which must provide the same protection for public health."

"Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is 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/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)."

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 (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 City of Imlay City 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 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>.

Safe drinking water is a shared responsibility. The water that GLWA delivers to our community does not contain lead. Lead can leach into drinking water through home plumbing fixtures, and in some cases, customer service lines. Corrosion control reduces the risk of lead and copper from leaching into your water. Orthophosphates are added during the treatment process as a corrosion control method to create a protective coating in service pipes throughout the system, including your home and business. The City of Imlay City performs required lead and copper sampling and testing in our community. Water customers also have a responsibility to maintain the plumbing in their homes and businesses, and can take steps to limit their exposure to lead.

The City of Imlay City completed a Preliminary Distribution System Materials Inventory in 2019. The water distribution system consists of 1,164 service lines. Of those service lines, 569 contain neither lead, nor galvanized previously connected to lead. 595 service lines in the system are of unknown materials.

Your source water comes from the lower Lake Huron watershed. The watershed includes numerous short, seasonal streams that drain to Lake Huron. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality 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 a seven-tiered scale ranging from "very low" to "very high" based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry, and contaminant sources. The Lake Huron source water intake is categorized as having a moderately low susceptibility to potential contaminant sources. The Lake Huron water treatment plant has historically provided satisfactory treatment of this source water to meet drinking water standards.

In 2016, the Michigan Department of Environmental, Great Lakes and Energy approved GLWA's Surface Water Intake Protection plans for the Lake Huron water intake. The plan has seven elements: roles and duties of government units and water supply agencies, delineation of a source water protection areas, identification of potential sources of contamination, management approaches for protection, contingency plans, siting of new water sources, public participation and public education activities. GLWA is in the process of updating the plan which should be completed by September 2021. If you would like to know more information about the Source Water Assessment report please, contact GLWA at (313 926-8102).

The City of Imlay City and the Great Lakes Water Authority are committed to safeguarding our water supply and delivering the highest quality drinking water to protect public health. The State and EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. The City of Imlay City met all the monitoring and reporting requirements for 2020. Every customer will not be mailed a copy of this report. If you would like to know more information about your drinking water or a copy of this report please, visit our website [www.imlaycity.org](http://www.imlaycity.org) or contact your water department (810) 724-2135, Ed Priehs, [epriehs@imlaycity.org](mailto:epriehs@imlaycity.org)

## 2020 Lake Huron Regulated Detected Contaminants Table

### 2020 Inorganic Chemicals - Annual Monitoring at Plant Finished Tap

Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Fluoride	3-10-2020	ppm	4	4	0.72	n/a	no	Erosion of natural deposit; Water additive, which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	3-10-2020	ppm	10	10	0.30	n/a	no	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	5-16-17	ppm	2	2	0.01	n/a	no	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.

### 2020 Disinfection Residual - Monitoring in the Distribution System

Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MRDLG	Allowed Level MRDL	Highest Level RAA	Range of Quarterly Results	Violation	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Total Chlorine Residual	2020	ppm	4	4	0.77	0.70-0.85	no	Water additive used to control microbes

### 2020 Disinfection By-Products - Stage 2 Disinfection By-Products Monitoring in the Distribution System

Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Highest Level LRAA	Range of Quarterly Results	Violation	Major Sources in Drinking Water
(TTHM) Total Trihalomethanes	2020	ppb	n/a	80	39.2	n/a	no	By-product of drinking water chlorination
(HAA5) Haloacetic Acids	2020	ppb	n/a	60	15	n/a	no	By-product of drinking water chlorination

### 2020 Turbidity - Monitored Every 4 Hours at the Plant Finished Water Tap

Highest Single Measurement Cannot Exceed 1 NTU	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Turbidity Limit of 0.3 NTU (minimum 95%)	Violation	Major Sources in Drinking Water
0.10 NTU	100%	no	Soil Runoff

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Regulated Contaminant	Treatment Technique	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Organic Carbon ppm	The Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal ratio is calculated as the ratio between the actual TOC removal and the TOC removal requirements. The TOC is measured each quarter and because the level is low, there is no requirement for TOC removal.	Erosion of natural deposits

### Radionuclides - Monitored at the Plant Finished Tap in 2014

Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Violation	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Combined Radium Radium 226 and 228	5/13/14	pCi/L	0	5	0.86 ± 0.55	no	Erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper Monitoring at the Customer's Tap in 2020									
Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MCLG	Action Level AL	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value*	Number of Samples Over AL	Range of Individual Samples Results	Violation	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Lead	2020	ppb	0	15	0	0	0 - 3	no	Lead services lines, corrosion of household, plumbing including fittings and fixtures; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	2020	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.1	0	0.0 – 0.1	no	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

\* The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value means 90 percent of the homes tested have lead and copper levels below the given 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value. If the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile value is above the AL additional requirements must be met.

2020 Special Monitoring						
Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Detected	Source of Contaminant
Sodium	3-10-2020	ppm	n/a	n/a	4.91	Erosion of natural deposits

*These tables are based on tests conducted by GLWA in the year 2020 or the most recent testing done within the last five calendar years. GLWA conducts tests throughout the year only tests that show the presence of a substance or require special monitoring are presented in these tables. 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 of the data is representative of the water quality, but some are more than one year old.*

## 2020 Lake Huron Tap Water Mineral Analysis

Parameter	Units	Max.	Min.	Avg.
Turbidity	NTU	0.11	0.05	0.07
Total Solids	ppm	164	53	128
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	138	56	117
Aluminum	ppm	0.242	0.057	0.182
Iron	ppm	0.192	ND	0.112
Copper	ppm	ND	ND	ND
Magnesium	ppm	8.22	6.88	7.50
Calcium	ppm	30.6	24.7	27.3
Sodium	ppm	5.94	4.39	4.92
Potassium	ppm	1.11	0.91	1.00
Manganese	ppm	ND	ND	ND
Lead	ppm	ND	ND	ND
Zinc	ppm	ND	ND	ND
Silica	ppm	2.4	1.7	2.1
Sulfate	ppm	24.3	17.9	19.9

Parameter	Units	Max.	Min.	Avg.
Chloride	ppm	11.9	7.9	9.4
Phosphorus	ppm	1.23	0.12	0.51
Free Carbon Dioxide	ppm	8.2	4.2	5.5
Total Hardness	ppm	106	96	100
Total Alkalinity	ppm	82	70	75
Carbonate Alkalinity	ppm	ND	ND	ND
Bi-Carbonate Alkalinity	ppm	82	70	75
Non-Carbonate Hardness	ppm	30	22	25
Chemical Oxygen Demand	ppm	4.1	ND	1.5
Dissolved Oxygen	ppm	13.0	8.2	10.5
Nitrite Nitrogen	ppm	ND	ND	ND
Fluoride	ppm	0.87	0.60	0.71
pH		7.57	7.30	7.44
Specific Conductance @ 25 °C.	µohms	265	201	221
Temperature	°C	23.9	5.5	13.9

## Key to the Detected Contaminants Table

Symbol	Abbreviation	Definition/Explanation
AL	Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
°C	Celsius	A scale of temperature in which water freezes at 0° and boils at 100° under standard conditions.
>	Greater than	
HAA5	Haloacetic Acids	HAA5 is the total of bromoacetic, chloroacetic, Dibromoacetic, dichloroacetic, and trichloroacetic acids. Compliance is based on the total.
Level 1	Level 1 Assessment	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in the water system.
Level 2	Level 2 Assessment	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
LRAA	Locational Running Annual Average	The average of analytical results for samples at a particular monitoring location during the previous four quarters.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level	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.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRLDG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
n/a	not applicable	
ND	Not Detected	
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units	Measures the cloudiness of water.
pCi/L	Picocuries Per Liter	A measure of radioactivity
ppb	Parts Per Billion (one in one billion)	The ppb is equivalent to micrograms per liter. A microgram = 1/1000 milligram.
ppm	Parts Per Million (one in one million)	The ppm is equivalent to milligrams per liter. A milligram = 1/1000 gram.
RAA	Running Annual Average	The average of analytical results for all samples during the previous four quarters.
SMCL	Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level	An MCL which involves a biological, chemical or physical characteristic of water that may adversely affect the taste, odor, color or appearance (aesthetics), which may thereby affect public confidence or acceptance of the drinking water.
TT	Treatment Technique	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
TTHM	Total Trihalomethanes	Total Trihalomethanes is the sum of chloroform, bromodichloromethane, dibromochloromethane and bromoform. Compliance is based on the total.
µohms	Microohms	Measure of electrical conductance of water