

TALK OF THE TOWNSHIP

News You Can Use from Port Huron Township

Spring 2011

www.PortHuronTownship.org

Volume 10 Issue 1



TOWNSHIP OFFICE

3800 Lapeer Road
Port Huron, MI 48060
(810) 987-6600
Fax: 987-6712
Office Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

BOARD MEETINGS

Public Welcome

Township Board
1st & 3rd Monday 7:00 p.m.

Park Commission
1st Wednesday 7:00 p.m.

Planning Commission
1st Thursday 7:00 p.m.

TOWNSHIP OFFICERS

Robert G. Lewandowski, Jr.
Supervisor

Benita E. Davis
Clerk

Nancy G. Collins
Treasurer

Trustees
Bill Johnson
Frank L. Colby, Jr.
Mark T. Reilly
Peter Shonka

SUPERVISOR'S MESSAGE

It sure has been a long winter. Let's hope that spring is on its way very soon, I think everybody is looking forward to it this year! Here are a few items of interest currently happening within the Township:

The MDOT Project – I-69 / I-94 Corridor Reconstruction Project: This project will result in intermittent exit and entrance ramp closures. For up to date information, visit www.michigan.gov/drive. Although this construction will result in temporary inconveniences, the new configuration will be a benefit to the Township. As part of the project, the Township will be getting new water and sewer mains across the expressway. This sewer main upgrade will increase capacity at no cost to the Township, resulting in updated infrastructure at a savings of approximately \$180,000.

Bakers Field: With funding help from a grant from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources Trust Fund, construction is scheduled to begin in late May or early June. The scope of this project has been scaled back due to budget constraints but will still include the canoe and kayak launch, boat launch, fishing piers and walking paths.

Fire Millage: Thank you to all the supporters of the fire millage. We had cut 10% from the fire budget before taking this to the voters. This millage accomplishes three main goals:

1. It will relieve the strain on the general fund budget;
2. It helps keep the Township running to a standard that our residents expect, and
3. The millage money, while a much appreciated sacrifice, stays within and contributes to our community.

As always, the Township is continuously exploring ways to save money while maintaining the same level of service for all of our residents. Wishing you all a safe and enjoyable summer.

CLERK'S MESSAGE

In March I successfully completed my second year of the Michigan Association of Municipal Clerks Basic Institute. This week of classes consisted of : Michigan FOIA, Electronic Records Management, Workplace Design, Ethics & Values, Risk Management, the Michigan Constitution, Leadership, Michigan Legal System, Human Resource Management, MI Municipal Code of Ethics, Time Management, and MI Open Meetings Act. I appreciate the opportunity to be able to network with other similar communities all facing the same issues of our current economy. Each of these sessions evoked ideas and learning opportunities which help us to serve our communities in the most informative manner. I look forward to next year's sessions and completing the 3-year program.

NEW CEMETERY SOFTWARE

We have purchased and are in the process of implementing Pontem Software's Cemetery Management System. This will expand our current capabilities allowing us to print maps, computer generated certificates, and many useful reports with regard to the Woodland Cemetery. This new software will aid in the many calls for genealogy searches, location mapping for available sites, as well as efficient and accurate information for historical purposes. Most of our data is being converted, and we hope to have things up and running smoothly by June 1st.

TREASURER'S OFFICE

2ND ANNUAL COMMUNITY SALE

Port Huron Township is hosting the 2nd annual community sale on Saturday, July 23, 2011. The sale will be held at Memorial Park at the end of Beach Road in Port Huron Township from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. This year we're planning a craft show and farmers market as well as garage/yard sales and mom to mom sales. Everyone is welcome, so reserve your space early. Your \$20.00 reservation fee goes towards our Thanksgiving Dinner fund for deserving families. All reservation fees are non-refundable. Due to any unavoidable cancellation of the event, all reservations fees will be considered a donation to the Thanksgiving Dinner fund. Call Nancy or Jennifer at 810-987-6600 ext 22 or 23 for more information.

CREDIT CARDS AND DEBIT CARDS NOW ACCEPTED

Credit and debit cards are now being accepted for payments at Port Huron Township. Any credit card transaction is subject to a 2.5% convenience fee, and any debit card used with a pin number is subject to a flat 3.95 charge. These charges will show up on your statement as a separate line item and are charged by, and go directly to, the bank. Because of regulations that prohibit the Township from paying any bank charges related to credit/debit cards, we can only offer this service with the convenience fee. Visa will pay taxes only due to the convenience fee, but Mastercard and Discover will pay taxes, utility bills, permits, cemetery payments, cost recovery, etc. Please contact the Treasurer's office at 810-987-6600 ext 22 or 23 with any questions.

2010 TAX SEASON IS NOW OVER

The 2010 tax season is over. The tax bills you received in July and December of 2010 are considered your 2010 tax bills regardless of when they are due. If your real property taxes are unpaid, they are now due and payable to the St. Clair County Treasurer. To ensure proper payment, please call the Treasurer's office at 810-989-6915 before mailing to get the correct amount. To determine if your bill is a real or personal property tax bill, look at the property number located at the lower right side of your bill. If your property number starts with 74-28-999 – or 74-28-998, that is considered a personal property tax bill and is still collected at our office. Any number other than 999 or 998 is a real property tax bill and is payable to the St. Clair County Treasurer. You can call us at 810-987-6600 ext 22 or 23 for more information regarding real or personal property.

ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Winter is gone and the beauty of spring should start to be visible to us when you get this message. It certainly has been a long and snowy winter.

During the past year, 2010, things certainly didn't improve much in the economy. This year, 2011, finds the value of property, based on the assessed value, at about the level it was in 2002. The taxable value is close to what it was in 2004. This reduction in values is certainly going to affect the budgets and services provided by not only the township but all the other taxing units in the county and state. As an example, the taxes generated on the millage approved in 2008 for police protection and township bus service are not sufficient to cover the charges to the township for these services because of the reduction in taxable values. I expect it will be at least 3-5 years before taxable values will be at the level they were 3 years ago when these millages were approved.

The township has a good web page. It is located at: www.porthurontownship.org

On the site there are updated messages about the township and good links to other informative sites. A good link to use is near the bottom left of the home page. It is noted in blue as "BS&A Software". You can click on that link to go to a site where you can search for information on property in the township. Land, zoning, building sizes, sales, taxes and other important and informative information are available there. Check it out to see if what is there describing your property is correct. Give this office a call or come in if you have any questions. We'll do what we can to answer your questions and if necessary correct any errors that are there.

In the last newsletter I talked about your mortgage and escrow accounts and the township having no idea about the company you may have. With the recent changes in assessment and taxable values be sure to contact the company holding your account. Let them know if the value went up or down. If you had a water/sewer unpaid balance added to your December tax bill, it could affect your escrow. Communicate with your company so they know what's going on. I know it can be challenging talking to someone. Keep it up until you get through either by phone or mail.

Best wishes for a great spring and summer.
Terry Sargent, Assessor

BUILDING DEPARTMENT NEWS

Springtime and building seem to be synonymous terms in the minds of many of us. And as always, we want to remind everyone that Building and/or Zoning Permits are required for items like new additions, decks, sheds and fences. But with springtime there are also other issues that arise that we don't always know how to deal with. The drainage of storm water on our properties becomes a minor problem for most people in the spring, and flooding can even become a major problem for some. And sometimes new building or neighbors that change the grade on their property can cause an increase in the amount of water flooding onto adjacent properties.

That's why it's important to know that permits are also required for any changes in grade or before bringing fill onto a property. This can be something as simple as placing a driveway across a drainage ditch, to the installation of a complex underground drainage system. The permit for a driveway installed in the right of way requires a permit from the County Road Commission and if the grade on a property is being changed by the driveway, or for any other reason, a permit from the Township would be required as well.

While this may seem like an inconvenience, it is critical to controlling drainage, especially in a township that is as flat and wet as ours with poor drainage soils. In order to help alleviate the pain of dealing with bureaucracy, we will review most single family drainage concerns and issue a Zoning Permit for only \$25.00, as long as professional engineering review is not required. We've also tried to benefit the residents by reducing the costs of our Building Permit and Planning Department review fees as well. If you have any concerns or questions, please feel free to call us at the Township office and speak with myself, Kirk Lavigne, or the Building Department Administrative Assistant, Amy Hurd.

CODE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

With Spring just around the corner, many township residents will be cleaning out their garages and utility sheds preparing for the first of many yard sales. Township Ordinance allows each address to hold two yard/garage sales annually. Each sale is limited to a 3 day period. If more than 3 days are needed for the sale, a permit to extend the dates is available at the Administrative Offices. Yard sale signs may not be attached to any utility pole, road sign post or placed anywhere in the road right-of-way. RV's, campers and boats with trailers are allowed to be in the front yard for a 48 hour period for the purpose of loading and unloading. Beyond that, they must be situated alongside of or to the rear of the home. As in years past, uncut grass is sure to be a problem area. Grass taller than six (6) inches constitutes a violation. Please continue to keep a watchful eye on vacant and foreclosed homes in your neighborhood. If you see trespassers, contact the Administrative Office during regular business hours, and the Sheriff's Department after hours. To do nothing invites the criminal element right into your own backyard.

PORT HURON TOWNSHIP DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY



The Port Huron Township DDA would like to welcome two new businesses to the DDA District. Buckland Global Trade is opening at 24th and Howard Streets, and O'Reilly Auto Parts will be opening in the former Campbell Lighting Store on Lapeer Road. Both businesses represent growth and new employees for Port Huron Township, and we're very happy to have them be a part of our community.

Baker College, the largest independent college in Michigan, is celebrating 100 years of preparing students for meaningful employment. In conjunction with that impressive anniversary, the Port Huron Township campus is celebrating 20 years in our community. Since locating in the DDA District, Baker College has been a strong supporter of township sponsored events. Because of the quality education they provide for their students, Baker is a major employer in Port Huron Township, and their students and employees utilize our local businesses and dine at local restaurants. Their contribution to the DDA District and the community at large is invaluable. Congratulations, Baker College, on such a great tenure in education. We look forward to working with you far into the future.

THE MUSEUM BOARD NEEDS YOUR HELP!

The Museum Board is a group of volunteers dedicated to preserving the history of Port Huron Township, and we'd love to have you join us. We meet the third Thursday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Port Huron Township Heritage Museum, which is located behind the Administrative Offices, 3800 Lapeer Road. If you have questions about what we do, or if you'd like more information about becoming a member, please contact Jim Robinson at 810-300-3750.

FIRE DEPARTMENT

Dear Resident,

The Port Huron Township Fire Department has proudly served the community for over 50 years. Part of our mission is to oversee and enforce our township burning ordinance. Recently a change to that burning ordinance has taken place. The Michigan Open Burning Act as enforced by the Department of Natural Resources and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency prohibits any burning of refuse, including yard waste, within 1400 feet of an incorporated village or city.



What this means to Port Huron Township residents is that if you live within 1400 feet of the border with the City of Port Huron or the City of Marysville, you cannot burn yard waste like leaves, grass, brush or other waste. You can still have camp fires or bon fires. Residents who are more than 1400 feet away from the borders of those cities may continue to burn yard waste.

This is a state law that we must enforce. If you are unsure if your property is within the 1400 foot zone, please call the fire station at 982-3543 between the hours of 8am and 8pm. If you call for a permit to burn you will be told you cannot burn leaves or yard waste if you are in the 1400 foot zone. The map of properties located within this zone is available at the Fire Hall or on the Township's website at www.porthurontownship.org

Please remember that if your home is eligible for Township wide trash hauling through Marcotte Disposal, they will pick up your yard waste as part of the contract. If you have questions about their services, please contact Marcotte Disposal at 810-985-9818. We thank you for your understanding on this matter.

Craig E. Miller, Fire Chief

ELECTION INFORMATION

AS OF JULY 31, 2010

2011 Elections scheduled in Port Huron Township are:

SCHOOL ELECTION – MAY 3, 2011
PRIMARY ELECTION – AUGUST 2, 2011

Precinct Locations:

Precinct #1	St. Paul Lutheran Church 3790 W. Water St.
Precinct #2	Twp. D.P.W. Building 4134 W. Water St.
Precinct #3	Twp. Administration Office 3800 Lapeer Rd.
Precinct #4	The Girl Scout Office 2186 Water St.
Precinct #5	Academic Transit Academy 1520 Michigan Rd.

To be eligible to vote, you must be 18 years of age or older and registered 30 days before the election date. If you or anyone you know is interested in working as an Election Precinct Inspector, please contact our office to inquire.

Paula L. Peski, Deputy Elections Clerk

WOODLAND CEMETERY

All winter grave blankets, decorations and artificial Christmas arrangements must be removed from Woodland Cemetery by April 10, 2011. Any remaining items will be removed and disposed.

IT'S TIME AGAIN!

**3rd Annual
Museum Open House
and Flea Market**

Presented by Port Huron Township
Volunteer Heritage Museum Committee

Saturday, May 21, 2011
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
3800 Lapeer Road
 (Behind the Township Administrative Office)

This event features an antique tractor display, entertainment all day long, silent auction, food vendors, 50/50 drawing and, of course, the Malane one-room School House Museum and Grand Trunk Caboose will be open to tour.

Flea Market spaces are available for rent at \$15.00 each. Tax deductible donations are being accepted for the Museum Committee's booth as well. For further information, contact Jim at 810-300-3750.

So many events and so much fun, there isn't room to mention it all! Bring the family and come help support the preservation of Port Huron Township's heritage. We hope to see you there!!

YOU COULD WIN A 32" TV AND AN XBOX 360 WITH KINECT!

Mark your calendars! Raffle tickets go on sale July 23, 2011 at the Port Huron Township Community Yard Sale. This year we are giving away a 32" flat screen TV and an Xbox 360 with Kinect. Tickets are \$1.00 each and all proceeds benefit the 2011 Thanksgiving Dinner Fund. The drawing will be held November 18, 2011 at 3:00 at the Township office, and you need not be present to win. For additional information call 810-987-6600.

EASTER EGG HUNT

Come join us for our annual Easter egg hunt on Saturday, April 16th, 1-3 p.m. in the Central Middle School gymnasium. There will be inflatables, crafts, a magician, raffles, refreshments, and of course, the egg hunt! The Port Huron Township Fire Department and a Deputy from the St. Clair County Sheriff's Department will be there too, along with the guest of honor, the Easter Bunny! With the exception of the raffles and a picture with the Easter Bunny, activities are provided free of charge, and all children are welcome.



WATER OFFICE

WEBSITE

The township's website has changed. The address has remained the same at www.porthurontownship.org but there are several exciting changes coming about. For example, on the home page and at the top of each department page, there is now a section for "Alerts". Information regarding upcoming events, water main breaks, job postings, and other information will be posted here. Under "Department Life" we will showcase township events such as the Thanksgiving Dinner distribution; the Christmas Lights display contest; the Easter Egg Hunt and other events in the Township. We will also be able to update the calendar, update the department pages, and add links that we feel you will find useful. So stop in and take a look around. If you have any suggestions for the website or have ideas that you feel would improve the website please contact the office at (810) 987-6600.

YARD WASTE

Spring is finally here and it's that time of year when residents begin cleaning up their yards. Marcotte Disposal will begin collecting yard waste weekly from April 13th thru December 2nd on your scheduled collection day. Keep in mind that yard waste must be in compostable paper bags or in 33 gallon cans (no lids) and marked with an "X". Branches must be tied and bundled, no longer than 4 feet in length and no larger than 2 inches in diameter.

CONSERVING WATER

Conserving water protects clean drinking water and saves money in water rates. Here are some tips for conserving water:

- Wash cars effectively. At home use a shut-off nozzle and wash your car in small sections. Use the runoff to water landscaping.
 - Water yards wisely. Landscaping benefits most from slow, thorough, infrequent watering. Minimize evaporation by watering in early morning or evening.
 - Mulch to retain water. Plant hardy, water-saving plants, trees and shrubs which are native to the area. Mow less frequently in dry times.
 - Cover pool or spa. Cover pools and spas to reduce evaporation. Reduce water levels to avoid overflows and splashes. Water the landscape with wading pool water.
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NEWSLETTER SUGGESTIONS

Is there a topic you would like to see addressed in the newsletter? If so, please submit your suggestions to cmaxbauer@porthurontownship.org.

DPW

DPW SERVICES

The dedicated employees of the Department of Public Works perform many services to improve the quality of life for the residents of the Township. In addition to maintaining the water tower, booster and pumps stations, they also maintain nearly 63 miles of water mains, 59 miles of sewer mains and 3,500 water meters. DPW services also include the installation and maintenance of water meters, meter reading for billing purposes, investigation of complaints regarding high bills and discolored or bad tasting water, assist the Township Park Commission with the maintenance of township parks and assist the Sexton with the maintenance of Woodland Cemetery.

PLANTING REMINDER

As a reminder, fire hydrants and manholes need to be visible and accessible to township staff and emergency personnel. Please do not to plant shrubs, trees, or other vegetation that will impede their access.

PORT HURON TOWNSHIP'S WATERSHEDS

What is a watershed?

A watershed is another word for a river basin. It is all the land that catches rain or snow and drains to a common body of water, such as a river, lake, or stream. We all live in a watershed. Approximately the northern two-thirds of Port Huron Township is in the Lower Black River Watershed and the southern third of the Township is in the St. Clair River Watershed.

What is stormwater?

Stormwater is the rainfall or snowmelt that flows over our yards, streets, parking lots, and buildings and either enters the storm drain system or runs directly into a lake or stream.

What is a storm drain?

Storm drains are the openings you see along curbs and in streets and parking lots. They carry away rainwater and snowmelt and transport it through the system to nearby lakes and streams. Water and other debris that enter storm drains do not go to a treatment facility.

How does stormwater get polluted?

As stormwater flows over our lawns and driveways, it picks up fertilizers, oil, chemicals, grass clippings, litter, pet waste, and anything else in its path. The storm drain system then transports these pollutants, now in the water, to local lakes and streams. Anything that goes into a storm drain eventually ends up in a river, lake, or stream.

Protecting Our Water . . . It's as Easy as Seven Simple Steps

Did you know that over three million people depend on our lakes and streams for their drinking water? And that in Southeast Michigan there are over 300,000 registered boaters and 3.5 million people visit a local park each year?

With this many people depending on our lakes and streams for drinking water and recreation, we need to be careful how we treat our water. You might not be able to see the stream or lake from your house, but it's there! It might be a small stream or ditch or even a storm drain in the street. All of these lead directly to our lakes and streams. So, what we do at home affects our water!

Here are seven simple steps you can take in your home and yard to protect our lakes and streams.

Help keep pollution out of storm drains. Storm drains lead directly to our lakes and streams. So, never dump oil, pet waste, leaves, dirty water, or anything down a storm drain. Remember, only rain in the drain.

Fertilize caringly and sparingly. Excess fertilizer that gets into storm drains pollutes our lakes by causing large algae blooms and using up oxygen fish need to survive. Sweep excess fertilizer back onto your lawn, use a low or no phosphorus fertilizer, and have your soil tested to see what, if any, fertilizer is needed.

Carefully store and dispose of household cleaners, chemicals, and oil. Instead of putting hazardous products like anti-freeze, motor oil, and pesticides in the trash, down the storm drain, or on the ground, take them to a local hazardous waste collection day.

Clean up after your pet. Whether on a walk or in your yard, promptly clean up after your pet. Not only will be you a good neighbor, you will also protect our water from harmful bacteria.

Practice good car care. Consider taking your car to a car wash or washing your car on the grass.

Choose earth friendly landscaping. Protect your pets, kids, and the environment by using pesticides sparingly. Also, water your lawn only when it needs it and choose plants native to Michigan.

Save water. Overwatering our lawns can easily carry pollution to the storm drains and to our lakes and streams. Consider using a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks and driveways. Direct hoses and sprinklers on the lawn, not the driveway. This will help save our lakes and streams and save you money.

For more easy steps on protecting our lakes and streams, visit www.semco.org. Remember, our water is our future – and it's ours to protect!

PORT HURON CHARTER TOWNSHIP - CALENDAR YEAR 2010
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report • Port Huron Water Treatment Plant
Port Huron, MI 48060 • 810.984.9780

“RIGHT TO KNOW” RULE PASSED

In 1998, a new Federal rule was passed to ensure that consumers of community water supplies receive annual documentation of drinking water quality. The City of Port Huron provides your drinking water and is pleased to present you with this annual water quality report. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable drinking water supply. This report will illustrate that we are achieving this goal.

DRINKING WATER QUALITY RESULTS

The City of Port Huron routinely monitors your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table on the backside of this report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2010, unless otherwise noted. The test results show that your drinking water meets all Federal and State requirements.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Interested citizens and groups are welcome to tour the City’s water treatment facilities, Monday through Friday during regular business hours. Please call the Water Treatment Plant, in advance at 810.984.9780 to make arrangements. Please check The Times Herald or call the Water Plant for details of any special events scheduled throughout the year at the Water Treatment Plant.

QUESTIONS, COMMENTS?

Staff at the Port Huron Water Plant, work around the clock to provide quality water. If you have any questions or comments, or would like to receive more specific information about the Port Huron Water Treatment Plant, please feel free to call 810.984.9780. Water Plant staff will be happy to help you.

INFORMATION ABOUT LEAD

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems in pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Township of Port Huron 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 drinking water you may wish to have it 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>.

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT CONTAMINANTS AND POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS CAN BE OBTAINED BY CALLING THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY’S (EPA’S) SAFE DRINKING WATER HOTLINE AT 800.426.4791

WHERE DOES YOUR WATER COME FROM?

Since 1873, the City of Port Huron’s water has originated from the St. Clair River. This means that the water you drink comes from a surface water supply, not a well. Today, raw water is collected by two 36-inch-diameter intakes. After treatment the water is pumped into the distribution system which has nearly 170 miles of water main with approximately 1,394 fire hydrants. The City of Port Huron also provides water to the townships of Port Huron, Fort Gratiot, Kimball and Clyde, serving approximately 60,000 customers.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The state performed an assessment of our source water in 2004 to determine the susceptibility of the potential for contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a six-tiered scale from “very low” to “high” based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry and contaminant sources. The susceptibility of our source is “highly susceptible” given the land uses and potential contaminant sources within the source water area. A copy of the full report is available.

HEALTH AND SAFETY INFORMATION

Drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk. More information can be obtained by calling EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 800.426.4791. The sources of both tap and bottled drinking water include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials, and can also pick up substances resulting from animal or 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 and residential uses. **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. **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. **All of these contaminants were below the level of concern in Port Huron’s water.** To ensure that tap water is safe, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) establishes limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

INFORMATION FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

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. Federal guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are also available from EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 800.426.4791.

Here are the contaminants that were detected in our water. ALL ARE BELOW ALLOWED LEVELS.
Not listed are the hundreds of contaminants tested for, but not found in our water.

TEST RESULTS FOR 2010

Regulated Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Range of Detection	Sample Dates	Violation Yes / No	Typical source of contamination
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Regulated Inorganic Parameters (monitored at the plant tap)

Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.98	.032 to 1.27	07-19-10	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	ND	na	07-19-10	No	Decomposition of organic matter and surface water runoff
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.02	na	9-25-02	No	Discharge from drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits and discharge from mines
Selenium (ppm)	50	50	1.0	na	9-25-02	No	

Regulated Parameter (monitored at the plant tap)

Turbidity (ntu)	TT	na	0.05	0.05 to 0.06	Daily	No	Soil runoff, suspended matter in river water. Indicator of effective filtration system
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Regulated Organic Parameters (monitored at the plant tap)

Total Organic Carbon	The Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal ratio is calculated as the ratio between the actual TOC removal and the TOC removal requirements. The TOC was measured quarterly and because the level was low, there is no requirement for TOC removal.					No	Naturally Present in the Environment
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Regulated Inorganic Parameters (monitored in the distribution system)

Regulated Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Running Annual Average	Monthly Ratio Range	Sampling Frequency	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	(MRDL) 4	(MRDLG) 4	0.53	0.50 to 0.62	Daily	No	Water additive for disinfection

Regulated Organic Parameters (monitored in the distribution system)

TTHM (ppb) Total Trihalomethanes	80	na	40.5	20 to 50	Quarterly in 2009	No	By-products of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 (ppb) Haloacetic Acids	60	na	14.75	8.7 to 18.0	Quarterly in 2009	No	By-products of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper Testing (monitored in the distribution system at individual taps)

Contaminant Subject to A.L.	Action Level	90 th Percentile	Sample Date(s)	Samples above AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.0	07/03/08 through 07/16/08	0	
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2		0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Special Monitoring and Unregulated Parameters (monitored at the plant tap)

Unregulated Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Date(s)	Typical source of contamination
Sodium (ppm)	na	na	6.0	07-19-10	Erosion of natural deposits

*Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 - December 31, 2010. 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.

DEFINITIONS

Parts per million (ppm) and parts per billion (ppb) - ppm = Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l). ppb = Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l). One ppm can be equated to a single penny in \$10,000. One ppb is a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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 a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The MCL is 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. MCLs are set at very stringent levels by the State and Federal government.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - Means 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) - Means the level of a 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.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (ntu) measures clarity.

Turbidity - The cloudy appearance of water caused by the presence of tiny particles. High levels of turbidity may interfere with proper water treatment and monitoring.

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

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

90th Percentile - This is the value obtained after disregarding 10 percent of the samples taken that had the highest levels.

For example, if 10 samples are taken, the 90th percentile is determined by disregarding the highest result, which represents 10 percent of the samples.

ND - not detected **na** - not applicable/available.