

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## East China and China Charter Townships

### Water Quality Report for 2015

On August 6, 1996, the reauthorized and amended Federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was signed into law. Because of this, the SDWA and Michigan Department of Environmental Quality now require each water supplier, including townships, to inform their customers of the water quality through an annual report.

This is the 17th Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Our goal is to provide you with a safe, dependable, and adequate supply of water. We want you to understand the efforts that are made to continually improve the water treatment system. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

We are fortunate to have the St. Clair River for our water source for the East China Township Water Treatment Plant. It provides us with an excellent quality and unlimited supply of raw water. Unfortunately, because of occasional chemical spills, the plant is shut down until the danger passes our intake. A Source Water Assessment was completed in 2004 to determine the susceptibility of the relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven-tiered scale from “very low” to “high” based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry, and contaminant sources. The susceptibility of our source is high given land uses and potential contaminant sources.

Significant sources of contamination include commercial and industrial discharges, storm water drainage, and agricultural runoff.

To find out about current spills, watch Cable Channel 6, or call the Township Hall at (810) 765-8879 and a message will be on the answering machine if there is a problem.

The Water Plant utilizes membrane micro-filtration to filter dirt and bacteria out of your drinking water. This technology, we feel, is the best method available to us to meet the ever-changing regulations set forth by the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality and The United States Environmental Protection Agency.

The Water Plant has been online since July of 2001.

We have the capabilities of producing sufficient water to meet the needs of our customers. The plant is also easily expandable to meet future needs.

**Zenon Environmental Systems**, a Canadian company, manufactured the filtration process. It is made up of 600,000 hollow fibers, about 10ft long. Water is drawn through these fibers and the unwanted particles, dirt, viruses, and bacteria are removed. To make absolutely sure the water is safe, a small amount of chlorine is added, and bacteria samples are taken daily before it is sent to the distribution system. Then, samples are taken three times a week from the distribution system to make certain the water is of good quality.

#### **WATER PLANT FACTS**

- \* 3.2 million gallon per day maximum capacity.
- \* 6,500 square foot facility designed to allow future expansion.
- \* State of the art microfiltration treatment technology.
- \* First application of Zenon microfiltration in the Midwest.
- \* Powdered activated carbon system for taste and odor control.
- \* Use of long-lasting, low maintenance materials throughout the plant.
- \* State of the art laboratory for on-site analysis and quality control.

The Water Department routinely monitors your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table on the inside of this report shows the test results for the monitoring period of January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 unless otherwise noted.

**The test results show that we have met or exceeded all State and Federal requirements.**

**Required Additional Information:** To ensure that tap water is safe, the EPA implements 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.

**Contaminants that may be present in source water:**

**All** sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man-made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All 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 the water poses a health risk.

**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 may be naturally occurring or result from urban 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, 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 may 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.

**Some** people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons whom have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may 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 microbiological and other microbiological contaminants are available from:

**Definitions:** In the table on the next page, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the following definitions:

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

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The "Goal" is the highest level in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The "Maximum Allowed" is 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 evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant, to 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.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** Nephelometric Turbidity is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU, is just noticeable to the average person.

**N/A:** Not applicable / available:

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l):** One part per million corresponds to a single Dollar in \$ 1,000,000.

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter:** One part per billion corresponds to a single Dollar in \$1,000,000,000.

**RAA:** Recent Annual Average

**LRAA:** Locational Running Annual Average

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

## **For More Information**

We invite public participation in decisions that affect drinking water quality. Township Board meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of each month. Please feel free to attend.

If there are any questions about your water or this report, you can contact Dwayne Loper at the Water Filtration Plant telephone number listed below.

### **Online Water Resources**

[www.deq.state.mi.us/](http://www.deq.state.mi.us/)

Michigan Department of Environmental Quality

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

American Water Works Association

[www.epa.gov/ogwdw/](http://www.epa.gov/ogwdw/)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

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

Michigan Rural Water Association

### **Important Phone Numbers**

Water Filtration Plant	810-765-4647
East China Township Office	810-765-8879
China Township Office	810-765-1145
St. Clair County Health Department	810-987-5300
MDEQ Southeast Michigan Office	586-753-3760
EPA Drinking Water Hotline	800-426-4791

## 2015 Test Results

### Sampled from the ( Distribution System )

Microbiological Contaminants		MCL	MCLG	Number Detected	Violation Yes/No	Typical Sources of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	1 positive monthly sample (5% of monthly samples positive)	0	0	0	NO	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and E. coli	Routine and repeat sample total coliform positive and one is also fecal or E.coli positive	0	0	0	NO	Naturally present in the environment

Regulated Microbiological Parameters ( sampled at the plant tap )			Violation	Major Source	Measure of the clarity of water.
Highest Single Measurement Cannot Exceed 1.0 NTU	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Turbidity Limit of 0.5 NTU (minimum 95%)		Yes / No		
0.05			NO	Soil runoff	

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

### Sampled from the ( Distribution System )

Contaminant	Test date	Units	MCLG	MCL	Highest Detected	Range Detected	Violation	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Total Trihalomethanes TTHM	2015	ppb	na	80	61.0	26.0 55.0	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids	2015	ppb	na	60	23.0	12.0 27.0	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine Residual	2015	ppm	MRDLG	MRDL	1.23	0.55 1.35	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination

### Regulated Inorganic Parameters ( sampled in the water filtration plant tap )

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	Level Detected	Sample Date	Violation Yes / No	Typical sources of contaminant
Fluoride ( ppm )	4.0	4.0	0.76	2015	NO	Water additive which promotes strong teeth. Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum.
Nitrate ( ppm )	10.0	10.0	0.7	2015	NO	Run off from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits.
Barium ( ppm )	2.0	2.0	0.020	2009	NO	Discharge from drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries, discharge from mines.
Special Monitoring and Unregulated Contaminant **	Level Detected		Sample Date		Typical Source of Contaminant	
Sodium ( ppm )	9.0		2015		Erosion Source of natural deposits	

### Sampled from the ( Distribution System )

Contaminants Subject to AL		Action Level		90 % of Samples < This Level			Number of Samples Above AL	
Contaminant	Test Date	Units	Health Goal MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th % Value	# samples > AL	Violation Yes/No	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead	Jul-15	ppb	0	15.0	5.0	1	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits. See figure * 3 below
Copper	Jul-15	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.24	0	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits

\*\* Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking standards. Monitoring helps the EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

(\* 1 ) Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. It is monitored to determine the effectiveness of our filtration treatment process. The requirement for turbidity is that all samples be below 1.0 NTU's and that 95% of the samples must be lower than 0.50 NTU's. 100% of our samples were below 0.50 NTU's.

(\* 2 ) The most recent sampling period for lead and copper was June 1st through September 30th 2015. We are required to monitor once every three years for lead and copper. One sample from the Consecutive System of China or East China exceeded the Action Level for lead or copper.

**MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health affects described in this report for the many required contaminants detected, 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 affects.**

(\*3) **Lead** : 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. SCRS&WA 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>.

Chlorine or Chloramines	Previous Year 2014											
	Ja	Fe	Mar	Apr	May	Ju	Jl	Au	Se	Oc	No	De
Bact Sample Site # 1				1.18	1.15	1.34	1.11	0.98	0.88	1.13	1.00	1.08
Bact Sample Site # 2				0.95	1.01	1.14	1.08	0.89	0.55	0.80	1.56	1.15
Bact Sample Site # 3				1.04	1.06	1.33	1.00	0.93	0.71	1.08	1.03	1.03
Average of all measurements taken in the month	N/A for RAA in year covered by the CCR			1.06	1.07	1.27	1.06	0.93	0.71	1.00	1.20	1.09
RAA calculated quarterly of 12 monthly averages								1.09				1.00
Chlorine or Chloramines	Year covered by the CCR 2015											
Bact Sample Site # 1	1.21	1.24	1.29	1.20	1.29	1.00	0.94	1.11	0.96	1.03	0.95	1.11
Bact Sample Site # 2	1.20	1.35	1.35	1.08	1.23	1.18	0.94	0.84	0.88	0.55	1.05	1.13
Bact Sample Site # 3	1.04	1.23	1.28	1.25	1.22	1.03	1.06	1.03	0.95	0.79	0.95	1.08
Average of all measurements taken in the month	1.15	1.27	1.31	1.18	1.25	1.07	0.98	0.99	0.93	0.79	0.98	1.11
RAA calculated quarterly of 12 monthly averages				1.23				1.07				0.95

TTHM	Previous Year 2014			YEAR Covered by the CCR 2015			
	2nd Qrt	3rd Qrt	4th Qrt	1st Qrt	2 nd Qrt	3rd Qrt	4th Qrt
Sample site #1-DBP2	0.044	0.080	0.085	0.035	0.036	0.043	0.055
Sample site #2-DBP2	0.042	0.059	0.050	0.026	0.054	0.043	0.053
			DPB1 LRAA	0.061	0.059	0.050	0.042
			DBP 2 LRAA	0.044	0.047	0.043	0.044

HAA-5	Previous Year 2014			YEAR Covered by the CCR 2015			
	2nd-Qrt	3rd Qrt	4th Qrt	1st Qrt	2 nd Qrt	3rd Qrt	4th Qrt
Sample site #1-DBP2	0.018	0.006	0.039	0.017	0.020	0.017	0.027
Sample site #2-DBP2	0.018	0.022	0.030	0.012	0.020	0.016	0.022
			DPB1 LRAA	0.020	0.021	0.023	0.020
			DBP 2 LRAA	0.021	0.021	0.020	0.018

Lowest to the Highest Residual  
Lowest to the Highest TTHM  
Lowest to the Highest HAA-5