

The Charter Township of Redford

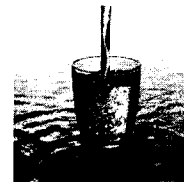
Annual July 2017 Issue

(year 2016 test results )

# Drinking Water Quality Report

Water &amp; Sewer Department

12200 Beech Daly, Redford MI 48239 (313) 387-2670



## Dear Water Customer,

Drinking water quality is important to our community and the region. Redford Township and the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) are committed to meeting the 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. Redford Township 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 Redford Township 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. Additional copies of this report are available at the Public Services Building, 12200 Beech Daly or the report can be viewed on Redford Township's website at [www.redfordtwp.com/pubserv-water.php](http://www.redfordtwp.com/pubserv-water.php). If you would like to view water quality data for other communities throughout Michigan or the United States it is available at [www.waterdata.com](http://www.waterdata.com).

**Where does Redford Township's drinking water come from?** Your source water comes from the Detroit River, situated within the Lake St. Clair, and several watersheds within U.S. and Canada. The Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in partnership the Detroit Water and Sewerage Department and several other governmental agencies performed a source water assessment in 2004 to determine the susceptibility or relative potential of contamination. The susceptibility rating is on a seven-tiered scale from "very low" to "very high" based primarily on geologic sensitivity, water chemistry, and contamination 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.

GLWA initiated source-water protection activities that include chemical containment, spill response, and a mercury reduction program. GLWA participates in a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit discharge program and has an emergency response management plan. GLWA voluntarily developed and receive approval in 2016 for a source water protection program (SWIPP) for the Detroit River intakes. The programs includes seven elements that include the following: roles and duties of government units and water supply agencies, delineation of a source water protection area, identification of potential of source water protection area, management approaches for protection, contingency plans, siting of new sources and public participation and education. If you would like to know more information about the Source Water Assessment report or a complete copy of this report please, contact your Redford Township Water Department at (313) 387-2670 or you can visit the Great Lakes Water Authority website at [www.glwater.org](http://www.glwater.org).

**How can the public participate?** We encourage public interest and participation in our community's decisions affecting our drinking water. The Redford Township Board of Trustees also serves as your Water Commission. Township Board meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, unless cancelled for a holiday or other special reason, at Town Hall, 15145 Beech Daly, Redford, Michigan. The public is always welcome to attend and participate. Call the Redford Township Clerk's office at (313) 387-2750 if more specific meeting times and dates are needed.

## Health & Safety Information

The following information is mandatory language provided by the Environmental Protection Agency regarding contaminants reasonably expected to be found in drinking water [§141.153(h)(1)(i) through (iv)].

**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, the 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.

**Warning about the vulnerability of some populations to contaminants in drinking water (§151.154(a)).**

"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)."

**Health Information About 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 in your home or business. The Township of Redford performs required lead and copper sampling and testing in our community. Water consumers also have a responsibility to maintain the plumbing in their homes and businesses, and can take steps to limit their exposure to lead.



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).

**2016 Key to Detected Contaminants Tables**

In the following tables you will find many terms and abbreviations that might be unfamiliar to you. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Symbol	Abbreviation for	Definition/Explanation
>	Greater Than	
AL	Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
HAA5	Haloacetic Acids	HAA5 is the total of bromoacetic, chloroacetic, dibromoacetic, dichloroacetic, and trichloroacetic acids. Compliance is based on the total.
LRAA	Locational Running Annual Average	
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. MRDLG'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	
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.
µmhos	Micromhos	Measure of electrical conductance of water
°C	Celsius	A scale of temperature in which water freezes at 0° and boils at 100° under standard conditions.

**An Explanation of the Water Quality Data Table**

The tables show the results of our water quality analyses. Every regulated contaminant that we detected in the water, even the minutest trace, is listed here. The table contains the name of each substance, the highest level allowed by regulation (MCL), the ideal goals for public health, the amount detected, the usual sources of such contamination, footnotes explaining our findings and a key to units of measurement. Definitions of MCL and MCLG are important.

**Variations and Exemptions:** State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions. The data presented in this report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations. No variations requested.

**Explanation of Violations:** (NO VIOLATIONS) Although we ran many tests, only the listed substances were found. They are all below the MCL required. The Great Lakes Water Authority provides Redford Township with its water.

**Cryptosporidium Monitoring:** Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water. Cryptosporidium was detected once, during a twelve-month period at our Detroit River intake plants. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

**National Primary Drinking Water Regulation Compliance:** This report was prepared by the Redford Township Water & Sewer Department using data supplied by our water provider, the Great Lakes Water Authority, and the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality. This report has been provided to you to ensure compliance with the Michigan Safe Drinking Water Act (1976 PA 399, as amended) by 1998 PA 56. This Act was passed to ensure compliance with the Federal Clean Water Act and the rules promulgated by the United States EPA dealing with this law. Some of the specific language within this report is required and, as such, cannot be altered. If we can be of any assistance in explaining anything within this report, please feel free to call us at (313) 387-2670. We hope you find this report useful. Look for future reports to come by July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### Springwells Water Treatment Plant 2016 Regulated Detected Contaminants Tables

The Great Lakes Water Authority monitored for Cryptosporidium in our source water (Detroit River) from our Southwest Water Treatment Plant during 2016. Cryptosporidium was detected twice in our source water samples. A follow-up water sample was collected from the treated water and Cryptosporidium was not found to be present. Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes Cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of Cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immunocompromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immunocompromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

**Inorganic Chemicals – Monitoring at the Plant Finished Water Tap**

Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Fluoride	5-10-16	ppm	4	4	0.50	n/a	no	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive, which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	5-10-16	ppm	10	10	0.34	n/a	no	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

**Disinfection By-Products – Monitoring in Distribution System, Stage 2 Disinfection By-Products**

Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MCLG	Allowed Level MCL	Highest LRAA	Range of Detection	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2016	ppb	n/a	80	57	22-57	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Halooacetic Acids (HAA5)	2016	ppb	n/a	60	32	1.2-32	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection

**Disinfectant Residuals – Monitoring in Distribution System by Treatment Plant**

Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MRDLG	Allowed Level MRDL	Highest RAA	Quarterly Range of Detection	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Total Chlorine Residual	Jan-Dec 2016	ppm	4	4	0.74	0.67-0.81	no	Water additive used to control microbes

**2016 Turbidity – Monitored every 4 hours at Plant Finished Water**

Highest Single Measurement Cannot exceed 1 NTU	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Turbidity Limit of 0.3 NTU (minimum 95%)	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
0.33 NTU	99.7 %	no	Soil Runoff

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

**January – March 2016 Microbiological Contaminants – Monthly Monitoring in Distribution System**

Regulated Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Highest Number Detected	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	Presence of Coliform bacteria > 5% of monthly samples	0	NO	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli Bacteria	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal or E.coli positive.	0	NO	Human waste and animal fecal waste.

## Springwells Water Treatment Plant 2016 Regulated Detected Contaminants Tables

2014 Lead and Copper Monitoring at Customers' Tap								
Regulated Contaminant	Test Date	Unit	Health Goal MCLG	Action Level AL	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value*	Number of Samples over AL	Violation yes/no	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Lead	2014	ppb	0	15	0 ppb	0	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	2014	ppm	1.3	1.3	39.9	0	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.

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

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 was measured each quarter and because the level was low, there is no TOC removal requirement	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected	Source of Contamination
Sodium (ppm)	n/a	n/a	4.66	Erosion of natural deposits

**Information about 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. Redford Township 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>.

### Outdoor water use done wisely will help control water rates for everyone in Redford

The cost for water Redford purchases from the Detroit Water & Sewerage Department is partially based on how much water is used during Redford's peak use hours the previous year. Any increase in our cost is then passed on to our consumers. Peak demand during the spring and summer months is usually 5 am to 9 am and again from 5 pm into the evening. By watering your lawn, garden and flowers at times when there is less demand (between 9 am and 5 pm) you will help us keep our rates down. Also, remember to check hoses and outdoor faucets for leaks. Even a small leak in a garden hose may waste as much as 700 gallons (almost 1 unit of water) per day.

### Monitoring & Reporting Requirements

The State & EPA require us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. In 2015 we completed lead and copper testing. We update this report annually and will also keep you informed of any problems that may occur throughout the year as they happen. Additional copies of this report are available at the Department of Public Services Building at 12200 Beech Daly. Throughout the year you will also find this report on our website at [www.redfordtwp.com/pubserv-water.php](http://www.redfordtwp.com/pubserv-water.php).

For more information about your water, or the contents of this report, contact the Redford Township Water & Sewer Department at (313) 387-2670 or contact us online at the Township website listed above. Additional information about safe drinking water can be found by visiting the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater).

### Important Notice About Sewer Backups

In compliance with Public Act 222, be advised of the following: Any resident experiencing an overflow or backup of a sewage disposal system or storm water system should **immediately upon discovery, or in the exercise of reasonable diligence should have discovered**, contact the Water & Sewer Department at (313) 387-2670. If it is after normal business hours, you should contact the Redford Township Police Department at (313) 387-2553 and they will contact the Water & Sewer Department foreman.

You should also file a written claim with the Redford Township Water & Sewer Department, 12200 Beech Daly, Redford, MI 48239, **within 45 days of discovery of the overflow or backup**. Failure to provide the required notice will limit your rights under the law. A claim form is available by calling the Water & Sewer Department at (313) 387-2670. **PLEASE NOTE: In order for a claim to be viable, the source of the problem must be the Municipal sewer. Problems caused by your property's plumbing or in your home's sewer lead are your responsibility.**

### Are your downspouts illegally connected to the sewer system?

It is a violation of State law and Redford Township's ordinances for homeowners or businesses to have their downspouts connected to the sewer system. While your downspouts carry storm water away from your home, the problem is that when they are directly connected to the sewer system it causes all of the storm water to flow directly into our lakes and rivers which contributes to flooding, eroding banks and degradation of fish and wildlife habitat. Take a walk around the outside of your home and make sure yours are not connected. Failure to disconnect can result in fines or penalties.

### Water & Sewer Department Frequently Asked Questions

**My drinking water often looks cloudy when first taken from a faucet and then it clears up. Why is that?** Cloudy water is caused by tiny air bubbles in the water similar to the gas bubbles in beer and carbonated soft drinks. If you let it sit for a while, the bubbles will rise to the top and dissipate. Cloudy water occurs most often in the fall and winter months when the water is colder.

**What causes water to sometimes appear discolored or rusty?** In some cases, rusty or dirty water may come from the distribution system as a result of a water main break or fire hydrant use. It may take several hours for stirred up sediments to settle. In the event of a main break or disturbance, it is best to wait until the problem is fixed before running your water. Then periodically run a cold water faucet for 3-5 minutes at the lowest point in your house (usually the basement) until the water runs clear. If it is still rusty or dirty, wait 1-2 hours and then try again. **Do not run your hot water, as this will draw the discolored water into your hot water tank and may discolor clothing if you are using your washer.** Another cause of discolored water could be from rusting in galvanized pipes in home plumbing systems. Also, remember that every year, during the months of September thru November, Redford Township conducts its hydrant flushing program which may cause rusty or dirty water in areas being flushed.

**Why do I have a sewer odor in my basement?** Water that normally remains in your plumbing fixture traps or basement floor drains may have evaporated and sewer gases are entering your home. To remedy this situation, pour half a bucket of water down the floor and sink drains. Also remember to fill any shower drains in seldom used bathrooms.

**Why is the sewage charge on my bill higher than the previous bill?** The charge for sewage disposal is based on the number of units of water you are billed for. This amount will vary on each bill if your water usage also varies. If you lower your water consumption, you will also lower your sewage disposal charge. During summer months, when your water usage is higher, you will especially see higher charges for sewage disposal.

**Whose sewer is it?** The Water & Sewer Department cleans and maintains main line sanitary sewers that are generally located within the public right-of-ways. The sanitary sewer lateral line that runs from your home or building to the Township's main line is installed and maintained in its entirety by the property owner per Township ordinance.

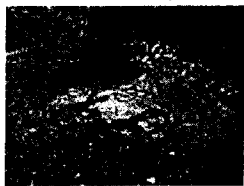
**Who do I call to clean my sanitary sewer lead?** We recommend that you call three drain cleaner specialists to compare prices. Ask a friend if they know someone or look in the phone book. Redford Township cannot endorse any drain cleaning company. When you call, ask each of them what the minimum cost will be? How many feet of sewer cleaning this includes? How much for each additional foot? Do they offer a warranty? If so, how long and what does it include? If one bid is extremely low, you may want to ask for references (Better Business Bureau or previous customers of the company). Once they have opened up the drain, ask them to clean it with the largest cleaning tool they can safely use.

### Storm Water Information

Did you know that more than one-third of the pollution in the Rouge River and its tributaries comes from storm water runoff? As rainwater flows over land it picks up a variety of pollutants, including eroded soil, trash, fertilizers and pesticides. Automobile fluids, including motor oil, antifreeze, gasoline and brake fluid, contain trace metals and poisons that often leak from vehicles onto streets and parking lots. These pollutants may make their way into storm sewers and ultimately into our Rouge River.

Redford Township is entirely located within the Rouge River Watershed, and all creeks and streams within the community flow into the Rouge River. Redford Township is committed to protecting water quality and is working with other communities in the Watershed to develop proactive methods of controlling water pollution. The Rouge River Watershed, in which Redford Township is located, was once considered one of the most polluted rivers in the Nation. However, great strides have been made in cleaning up the Rouge at a cost of many millions of dollars. Despite advances in technology, environmental clean-up costs continue to increase every year. Redford Township has already spent millions of dollars with many more millions to be spent. Preventing pollution is much easier and less costly to implement than trying to correct environmental damage after it has occurred. With a little preventative care on everyone's part the pollution of our waterways can continue to be improved.

Educational materials are available to residents and business owners on the Township's website at [www.redfordtwp.com](http://www.redfordtwp.com) or in the lobbies of Town Hall, the Public Services Building and the Community Center relating to Using Pesticides & Controlling Garden Pests; Pet Care & Animal Waste Disposal; Natural Mulches & Compost; Landscaping Near the Water's Edge; Using Fertilizers & Maintaining Healthy Lawns, Shrubs & Trees; Maintaining Septic Systems; Our Actions Affect the Rouge River; and Catch Basin Care. Additional information is also available from the Friends of the Rouge at [www.therouge.org](http://www.therouge.org) or by calling them at (313) 792-9900 or from the Alliance of Rouge Communities at [www.allianceofrougecommunities.com](http://www.allianceofrougecommunities.com).



**Tips for Saving Money on Your Water Bill**

**Dripping faucets, fixtures or hoses increase your water bill and cost you money. Don't waste it!**

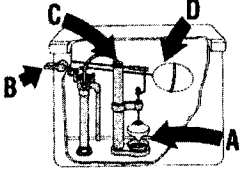
A dripping faucet or fixture can waste 3 gallons of water a day or a total of 1095 gallons a year. The chart at the right shows how much water can be wasted depending on the size of the leak. Currently Redford's water is billed to its consumers at a total fee of \$8.97 per unit, which includes water, sewer, CSO fees, etc. (1 unit = 748 gallons) In addition, if you lower your water consumption you will also be lowering the sewer charge on your water bill.  
**Note: Redford's water rate is subject to change on July 1<sup>st</sup> of every year.**



**A continuous leak from a hole the size below, at 60 psi water pressure, over a 3 month period results in the waste listed:**

•	1/32"	64,000 gallons	9,850 cubic feet
•	1/16"	296,000 gallons	39,400 cubic feet
•	1/8"	666,000 gallons	89,031 cubic feet
•	1/4"	1,181,500 gallons	158,000 cubic feet

**Toilet leaks, undetectable to the naked eye or human ear, can add \$25 or more to your monthly bill**



This type of leak tends to get larger and cost you more the longer you wait. You can test your toilet by simply removing the cover to your tank and adding a few drops of food coloring or a dye tablet to the water. Do not flush the tank. Leave the dye in the tank for several hours (overnight if possible). If the dye appears in the toilet bowl, you have a leak! In most cases, the leak is caused by the flapper in the tank not sealing properly (A).

Other causes of the leak may be the flushing handle is stuck or the flushing arm and lift chain in the tank are not working properly (B); the water level in the tank is too high and spills into the overflow tube (C); or the float rod, ballcock and/or float ball are corroded (D). Replacement parts are available at local hardware and plumbing supply stores or consult a local plumbing professional. Remember to also check your basement toilet. Many times it is the basement toilet (which is not used often) that causes the problem.

**More ways to conserve water and reduce your bills**

- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. First turn off all taps and appliances that use water. Write down the digital read of the water meter or note where the red dial arrow has stopped. Check it again in 30-60 minutes. If the meter's digital read has increased or the dial has moved, you have a leak somewhere.
- Repair leaky faucets, toilets, outdoor spigots, hoses, automatic sprinkler system heads/lines and set sprinklers so they are not watering the street or sidewalk.
- Adjust your lawnmower to a higher setting. A taller lawn will shade roots and holds soil moisture better than if cut shorter.
- Plant drought-resistant plants / trees
- Don't leave the water running while brushing teeth or shaving
- Limit showers to five minutes
- Install flow restrictors in showerheads and faucets
- Replace 5-gallon per flush toilets with newer low-flow toilets
- Repair all faucet leaks – even ones with "just a little drip"
- Run the washing machine and dishwasher only when fully loaded
- Instead of using a garbage disposal compost organic waste

**Do you know that**

- An average person uses 50 - 100 gallons of water a day
- Flushing a low flow toilet uses 1.6 – 3.2 gallons of water
- Flushing a regular toilet uses 5 gallons of water
- The average 5 minute shower uses 25-50 gallons of water
- Washing a load of clothes can use 30-32 gallons of water
- A dishwasher load uses 9-12 gallons of water & hand washing 10-20 gallons
- Outdoor automated irrigation sprinkler systems can account for 60 percent of your water use
- Running an outdoor sprinkler for 1 hour is estimated to use 700 gallons of water which is almost 1 unit of Redford water (748 gallons)
- A case of 24 count 16.9 oz. bottles of water is the equivalent of 3.17 gallons of water and costs \$2.99 - \$4.99 a case
- One unit of Redford's water (including sewer, CSO) is 748 gallons at a cost of \$8.97
- The sewer cost on your bill is based on how much water you use and when you use less water you will pay less for sewer charges

**2017 Water Quality Report for The Charter Township of Redford**

Public Services Department  
 Charter Township of Redford  
 12200 Beech Daly  
 Redford, Michigan 48239

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**Redford Township Residents**  
**2017 Water Quality Report**  
 (note to Businesses: Please post in your Redford workplace)