

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report for 2010

Introduction

EHRWSD has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included within this report is general health information, water quality test results, how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water and water system contacts.

If you have any questions concerning our operations or long term planning, please call our General Manager, Dennis Williams, at 740-474-3114.



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District Improvements

The **Wellhead Protection Program (WHPP)** was passed into law by the US Congress as part of the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1986. The objective of the WHPP is to protect the health of people using groundwater as a public drinking water source by providing a focus zone around public wells or well fields to prevent, detect, and remediate groundwater contamination.



The Ohio EPA currently requires public water suppliers to commit to the development of a WHPP as a condition for issuing a permit for a new public water supply well. The WHPP does not apply to private or industrial water suppliers. The Ohio EPA endorsed EHRWSD's WHPP in November of 2003. EHRWSD also received a Certificate of Recognition from the Ohio EPA for our efforts taken to protect our sources of drinking water.

Water Source Information

EHRWSD receives its drinking water from 4 wells that draw from what is commonly referred to as the Teays Aquifer.

In 2002, the Ohio EPA completed a study of EHRWSD's source of drinking water to identify potential contaminant sources and provide guidance on protecting the drinking water source. According to this study, the aquifer that supplies water to EHRWSD has a high susceptibility to contamination. This determination is based on the following:

1.) The presence of a relatively thin protective layer of clay overlaying the aquifer; 2.) Shallow depth (less than 50 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer; 3.) The presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area; and 4.) A documented contaminant plume containing low levels of 1,4-dioxane exists in the buried valley aquifer southeast of the wellfield. Hydraulic containment of the plume has been established and the EHRWSD wells have not been affected.

Implementing appropriate protective measures has minimized the risk of future contamination. More information about the source water assessment or what consumers can do to help protect the aquifer is available by calling our Plant Superintendent, Brent Hayes, at 740-474-3114.

Special Precautions to be Taken

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 infection. 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 (1-800-426-4791).



Sources of Contamination

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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 the following substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. 1) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; 2) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; 3) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; 4) 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems; 5) 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 that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead in the Home

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. EHRWSD 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. A list of laboratories certified in the State of Ohio to test for lead may be found at <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw> or by calling (614) 644-2752. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Public Participation Information

Public participation and comments are encouraged at regular meetings of EHRWSD Board of Trustees which meets at 7:00 PM on the second Thursday of each month. The meetings are held in our office located at 2030 Stoneridge Drive, Circleville.

Drinking Water Information

The Ohio EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. EHRWSD conducted sampling for bacteria, nitrate and arsenic during 2009. The Ohio EPA requires us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.



**EHRWSD has a current, unconditioned license to
operate our public water system.**

Contaminant Information

| Contaminants (Units) | MCLG or MRDL G | MCL TT or MRDL | Level Found | Range of Detections | | Violation | Sample Year | Typical Source of Contaminants |
|--|----------------|----------------|-------------|---------------------|------------------------|-----------|--|---|
| | | | | Low | High | | | |
| Inorganic Contaminants | | | | | | | | |
| Arsenic (ppb) | 0 | 0.010 | <0.003 | NA | | No | 2006 | Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 1.32 | 0.73 | 1.23 | No | 2010 | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories |
| Barium (ppm) | 2 | 2 | 0.469 | NA | | No | 2010 | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate [Measured as Nitrogen] (ppm) | 10 | 10 | 0.13 | NA | | No | 2009 | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| Volatile Organic Contaminants | | | | | | | | |
| TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb) | NA | 80 | 14.40 | NA | | No | 2010 | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Synthetic Organic Contaminant including Pesticides and Herbicides | | | | | | | | |
| Alachlor (ppb) | 0 | 2 | 0.1 | NA | | No | 2008 | Runoff from herbicide used on row crops |
| Atrazine (ppb) | 3 | 3 | 0.1 | NA | | No | 2008 | Runoff from herbicide used on row crops |
| Simazine (ppb) | 4 | 4 | 0.05 | NA | | No | 2008 | Herbicide runoff |
| Microbiological Contaminants | | | | | | | | |
| Total Coliforms [positive samples/month] (mg/L) | 0 | 1 | 1 | NA | | No | 2009 | Naturally present in the environment |
| | | | | | | | | |
| Contaminants (Units) | MCLG | AL | Your Water | Sample Date | # Samples Exceeding AL | Exceeds | Typical Source | |
| Inorganic Contaminants | | | | | | | | |
| Lead—action level at consumer taps (ppb) | 0 | 15 | 8.3 | 2009 | 0 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits | |
| Copper—action level at consumer taps (ppm) | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.176 | 2009 | 0 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits | |

Unit Descriptions

ppm: Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive.

NA: Not applicable.

ND: Not detected.

NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.



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Important Drinking Water Definitions

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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.

TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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

Variations and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal: 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.

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level: 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.

MNR: Monitored Not Regulated

MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level