

**Earnhart Hill Regional Water and Sewer District**  
**2016 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)**  
**PWSID: OH6500812**

***Introduction***

Earnhart Hill Regional Water and Sewer District (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.

***Contact Information***

If you have any questions concerning our operations or long term planning, please call our General Manager, Dennis Williams, at (740) 474-3114 Ext 114.

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

***Source Water Information***

The source of our water is ground water taken from sand and gravel deposits of the Scioto River Valley.

This source of water has a relatively high susceptibility to contamination from spills or releases of chemicals. This source is susceptible (compared to other ground water systems) because there is no significant clay overlying the aquifer deposits. There is a presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the well head protection area.

A documented contaminant plume containing low levels of 1,4-dioxane exists in the buried valley aquifer southeast of our wellfield. Remediation wells are providing hydraulic containment and simultaneous cleanup of the plume. EHRWSD's four production 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 Operations Manager, Louis McFarland, at (740) 474-3114 Ext 115.

## ***Sources of Contamination***

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:

A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife; B) 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; C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; D) 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; E) 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, USEPA 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.

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 1(800) 426-4791.

## ***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.

## ***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. 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>. 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>, by calling (614) 644-2752, or by contacting EHRWSD at (740) 474-3114 Ext 119.

## ***Revised Total Coliform Rule Information***

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2016. All water systems were required to comply with the Total Coliform Rule from 1989 to March 31, 2016, and begin compliance with a new rule, the Revised Total Coliform Rule, on April 1, 2016. The new rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of total coliform bacteria, which includes E. coli bacteria.

The USEPA anticipates greater public health protection under the new rule, as it requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. As a result, under the new rule there is no longer a maximum contaminant level violation for multiple total coliform detections. Instead, the new rule requires water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences to conduct an assessment to determine if any significant deficiencies exist. If found, these must be corrected by the public water system.

## ***UCMR 3 Monitoring***

In 2015, EHRWSD was required to participate in the third Unregulated Contaminant Rule 3 (UCMR 3). Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

## ***Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control***

Backflow is the flow of water through a cross-connection from a possible source of contamination back into the drinking water system. It occurs when a cross-connection is created and a pressure reversal, either as backsiphonage or backpressure, occurs in the water supply piping. The concern is all cross-connections pose a potential health risk. Backflow can be a health hazard for your family or other consumers if contaminated water enters your water supply plumbing system and is used for drinking, cooking or bathing. You are legally responsible for protecting your water supply plumbing from backflow that may contaminate drinking water, either your own or someone else's. This includes complying with the plumbing code and not creating cross-connections.

### ***What are examples of cross-connection and backflow scenarios?***

- Soapy water or other cleaning compounds backsiphon into the water supply plumbing through a faucet or hose submerged in a bucket or laundry basin.
- Pool water backsiphons into the water supply plumbing through a hose submerged in a swimming pool.
- Fertilizers/pesticides backsiphon into the water supply plumbing through a garden hose attached to a fertilizer/pesticide sprayer.
- Chemicals/pesticides and animal feces drawn into the water supply plumbing from a lawn irrigation system with submerged nozzles
- Bacteria/chemicals/additives in a boiler system back siphon into the water supply plumbing.
- Unsafe water pumped from a private well applies backpressure and contaminates the public water supply through a connection between the private well discharge and the potable water supply plumbing.

If you have questions regarding backflow prevention please call 740-474-3114 Ext 123.

## *Drinking Water Information*

The Ohio EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety, however, some contaminants are monitored less than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

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

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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 contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level:** The highest residual disinfectant level allowed.

**MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal:** The level of residual disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

**SMCL = Secondary MCL:** A non-enforceable numerical limit set by the USEPA for a contaminant on the basis of aesthetic effects to prevent an undesirable taste, odor or appearance.

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

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

**MG/L = Milligrams per Liter or Parts per Million:** A unit of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in approximately 11.5 days.

**UG/L = Micrograms per Liter or Parts per Billion:** A unit of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

**"<":** A symbol that means "less than". A result of "<5" means that the lowest detectable level was 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.

**NR = Not Required:** Monitoring not required, but recommended

**ND = Not Detected**

**NA = Not Applicable**

| Primary Drinking Water Standards   |       |                         |                       |             |             |            |   |
|--|-------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|------------|---|
| Substances we detected   | Units | What`s the goal? (MCLG) | What`s Allowed? (MCL) | Level Found | Range       | Violation? | Where did it come from?   |
| Chlorine Residual, Free<br>Collection Dates:<br>01/01/2016-<br>12/31/2016      | mg/L  | 2.0                     | 4.0                   | 0.95        | 0.67-1.39   | N          | Water additive used to control microbes   |
| Haloacetic Acid (HAA5)<br>Collection Dates:<br>03/01/2016-<br>12/05/2016       | ug/L  | No goal set             | 60                    | <6.1        | <6.0-7.4    | N          | By-product of drinking water chlorination.  |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)<br>Collection Dates:<br>03/01/2016-<br>12/05/2016 | ug/L  | No goal set             | 80                    | 10.8        | 4.47-30.4   | N          | By-product of drinking water chlorination   |
| Barium<br>Collection Date:<br>03/01/2016                                       | mg/L  | 2.0                     | 2.0                   | 0.657       | 0.657-0.657 | N          | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits. |

**Primary Drinking Water Standards**

| Substances we detected  | Units | What's the goal? (MCLG) | What's Allowed? (MCL) | Level Found | Range     | Violation? | Where did it come from?   |
|---|-------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------|------------|---|
| NO3 (Nitrate)<br>Collection Dates:<br>06/07/2016-<br>07/05/2016 | mg/L  | 0.08                    | 10.0                  | 0.14        | 0.13-0.15 | N          | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |

**Other Water Quality Parameters of Interest**

| Substances we detected   | Units | What's the goal? (MCLG) | What's Allowed? (MCL) | Level Found | Range     | Where did it come from?     |
|--|-------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------|-----------|-----------------------------|
| Hardness, Total (CaCO3) - mg/l (Hardness, Total)<br>Collection Dates:<br>01/01/2016-<br>12/31/2016 | mg/L  | No goal set             | No set level          | 183         | 80-418    | Naturally Occurring         |
| Iron mg/L<br>Collection Dates:<br>01/01/2016-<br>12/31/2016  | mg/L  | 0.10                    | 0.30                  | 0.02        | 0.00-0.09 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Mn (Manganese mg/L)<br>Collection Dates:<br>01/01/2016-<br>12/31/2016                              | mg/L  | 0.04                    | 0.05                  | 0.03        | 0.00-0.09 | Erosion of natural deposits |