Buchtel Water District

2017 Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

The Consumer Confidence Report:

The consumer confidence report is a requirement as part of the Safe Drinking Water Act Reauthorization of 1996. This report contains information about the water source, water quality test results and general health information.

Contact Information

Treatment Plant-

- 740.593.7146
- Monday-Friday 6am to 2:30pm
- Call regarding low pressure, water breaks, sewer problems, or water quality questions.

Utility Billing-

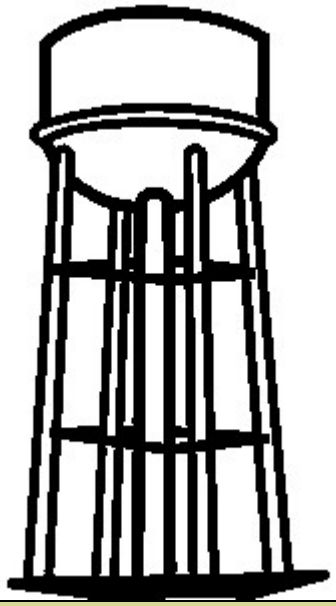
- 740.797.3235
- Monday-Friday 7am to 4pm
- Call regarding billing questions.

After Hour Emergencies-

- 740.797.3235
- Call to receive emergency number and instructions.

HOW CAN YOU PARTICPIATE?

Public participation and comments are encouraged at regular meetings of The Athens County Commissioners which meet on Tuesdays at The Athens County Courthouse Annex building. You can also make an appointment by calling 740-592-3219.



LICENSE TO OPERATE:

We have a current, unconditional Ohio EPA license to operate our public water system. This means that the appropriate Ohio EPA fees have been paid and there are no on-going violations or conditions that need to be met by our water system.

SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION TO DRINKING WATER:

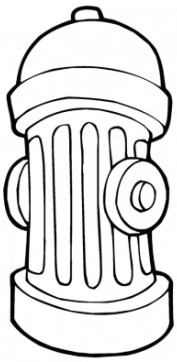
The sources of drinking water, both tap water and bottled water, include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (a) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife; (b) Inorganic 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 run-off, and residential uses; (d) Organic chemical production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm 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, EPA prescribes regulations which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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. The Athens County Water and Sewer District 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 two minutes before using the water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information can be found online at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



Who Needs to Take Special Precautions:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised person such as persons with cancer and undergoing chemotherapy treatment, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune disorders, some elderly and infants may also be 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

Source Water:

The Buchtel Water District purchases its potable water from The City of Nelsonville Water Treatment Plant. Nelsonville currently has three water wells located along the Hocking River providing an adequate source of water to be treated. The treatment plant is designed for 1.41 million gallons per day. Their present average daily flow is 784,000 gallons.

The Ohio EPA recently completed a study of Nelsonville'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 the Nelsonville Water System has a high susceptibility to contamination. This determination is based on the following:

- Lack of a protective layer of clay overlying the aquifer;
- Shallow depth (less than 20 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer;
- Presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area;
- The presence of man- made contaminants in treated water.

This susceptibility means that under currently existing conditions, the likelihood that the aquifer may become contaminated is relatively high. This likelihood can be minimized by implementing appropriate protective measures. More information about the source water assessment or what consumers can do to help protect the aquifer is available by calling 740.753.1314.

Did You Know...?

Water makes up about 70% of a human's body weight.

In one year, the average American residence uses over 100,000 gallons.

By the time you feel thirsty, your body has lost more than 1% of its total water.

About 6,800 gallons of water is required to grow a day's food for a family of 4.

Approximately 80% of your brain tissue is made of water, which is about the same percentage of water found in a living tree.

Approximately 400 billion gallons of water are used in the United States per day.

About Your Drinking Water

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure water safety. The City of Nelsonville Water Treatment Plant conducted sampling for bacteria, inorganic, radiological, synthetic organic, and volatile organic contaminants. The Ohio EPA requires monitoring for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of this data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Detection Date	Level of Detection	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids	2017	18.58	6.0-31.6	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethanes	2017	79.90	27.6-148	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Inorganic Compounds	**Collection Date**	**Level of Detection**	**Range of Levels Detected**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Units**	**Violation**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Fluoride	2017	0.958	0.650-1.02	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2017	0.64	n/a	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	2011	0.06	n/a	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	2011	8.2	n/a	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.

The EPA requires additional sampling after the potable water is purchased from the City of Nelsonville. Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in The Buchtel Water District drinking water. The Buchtel Water District samples chlorine levels on a daily basis to endure drinking water safety. We are also required to sample one bacterial sample monthly with results in 2017 being safe.

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Detection Date	Highest Level of Detection	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids	2017	14.0	9.7-14.0	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethanes	2017	80.9	34.8-80.9	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Lead and Copper	**Collection Date**	**90th Percentile**	**# of Samples Over AL**	**MCLG**	**Action Level (AL)**	**Units**	**Violation**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Copper	2016	0.556	0	1.3	1.3	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2016	0.005	1	0	15	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Inorganic Contaminants	**Collection Date**	**Level**	**# of Samples**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Range of Detection**	**Violation**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Total Chlorine Residual	2017	0.6	12	4MRDLG	4MRDL	0.6-0.8	N	Drinking water chlorination.

Definitions of Terms:

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: 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.

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

ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

Action Level Goal or ALG: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: 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.