

Quality on Tap

Tri County Rural Water & Sewer District
Consumer Confidence Report

Volume 1, Issue 16 For Year Ending 2020

Service to Customers in Washington, Morgan, and Noble Counties

- We provide service to water taps 1478
- Over 230.9 miles of water lines in ground
- Water storage capacity of 600,000 gallons
- High Service Pump Capacity to pump 1,900,000 gallons per day
- Ohio Class 1 Water Operator
- Pumped 154,625,000 gallons water in 2020

Your Water Comes from Wells

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make continually to improve the water treatment process and our water resources. We are committed to ensuring that the water we supply is of the highest quality possible.

Our primary water source is ground-water from the Muskingum River Aquifer located on State Route 60, just south of Beverly, Ohio. Tri-County has three production wells which have the pumping capability of approximately 2,160,000 gallons a day. The TREATMENT PROCESS consists of chlorination which is kept at a minimum level of .68 ppm and an ortho poly phosphate blend of 2 mg/l. to reduce lead solubility in the water for household pumping.

We have a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system.

We have an Emergency Contingency Plan which is available to be viewed in the office located at 5772 BUCHANAN ROAD, WATERFORD, OHIO. This plan provides procedures to be used in an emergency.

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water company. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held each month on the third Monday at 7:00 p.m. Tri-County Rural Water & Sewer District Office.

If you have any questions about this consumer confidence report or concerning your water company, please contact Candice A. Armstrong, General Manager or Sam Brooker Water Operator at Tri-County Rural Water & Sewer District's Office.

Phone: (740) 984-2348

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Check Out Our EPA Record on the Web

We're pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements. This report shows our water quality and what it means.

You can view our EPA record on the internet at www.epa.gov/OGWDW/dwinfo/oh.htm. Type in Tri-County for the System Name and Washington for the County, Click on Search. Click on Tri-County's EPA ID number - OH8403112.

We provide this information as part of the Consumers Right to know. Tri-County Rural Water & Sewer District works around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We're on call 24 hours a day.

Sources of Contamination

What are sources of contamination to drinking water? The sources of drinking water (both water and bottled) include rivers, streams, lakes, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and 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 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 system; (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 limit 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 drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose 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 Number.

EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791

Boil Advisory Alert

After a line break or depressurization of the water system in your area, you may experience cloudy or brown water. To alleviate this problem flush service line to clear. Boil any water used for drinking, including water used to make ice, cooking or water used for oral hygiene until further notice.

"Boil water vigorously for 3 minutes at rapid boil"

Boil advisory information will be announced by the following media sources:

Your local newspaper

Television: WTAP TV

Radio: 1050 AM, 1230 AM, 107 FM, 103.1 FM, 102 FM, 100.1 FM, 101 FM, 99.1 FM, 95.1 FM

Immuno-Compromised Persons

MCL's (Maximum Contaminant Levels) are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, 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 effect.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than 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 are appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)

"The human body is about 70% water. We must replace 2.5 quarts each and every day. Water helps us digest food, transport body wastes, lubricate body joints, and keep our temperature stable. Our blood is 80% water. Next to air, water is our most important need!!"

The report provided by Tri-County Rural Water and Sewer District

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If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant woman and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. TRI-COUNTY RURAL WATER & 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 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 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

Thank you

For allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year We ask that our customers help us protect our water source, which is the heart of our community, our way of life and our children future.

Just A Drip

Did You Know:

- 30 drops per minute = 54 gallons per month
- 60 drops per minute = 113 gallons per month
- 120 drops per minute = 237 gallons per month
- .5 inch stream before dripping = 1014 gallons per month
- 1.5 inch stream before dripping = 2202 gallons per minute

Small continuous leaks will waste large amounts of water. In addition, leaks in hot-water lines will waste heat. Keep all valves and faucets tight. When a leak develops, replace faucet washers. If valves or faucets are damaged, replace faucet or valve assembly.

Contaminant Monitoring Definitions: In the Tables you may find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand, we're providing the following definitions

Non-detects (ND)- laboratory analysis indicated that the contaminant not present

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter(MG/L)- one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000

Parts per billion(ppb) or milligrams per liter- one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (picograms/l) – one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l) – one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or a penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)- picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) – measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Million Fibers per liter (mf/l) – million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are no longer that 10 micrometers.

Less Than = < More Than = > n/a = not applicable

Micrograms per liter (ug/l) – 1/1000 parts per million (ppm)

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest residual disinfectant level allowed.

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

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)-nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person

Variations & Exemptions (V&E)- State of EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions. NOT GIVEN IN OHIO.

Action Level (AL) – the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – the “Maximum Allowed” (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL’s are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL) – highest level allowable when measuring secondary contaminants.

PFAS: Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals applied to many industrial, commercial and consumer products to make them waterproof, stain resistant, or nonstick. PFAS are also used in products like cosmetics, fast food packaging, and a type of firefighting foam called aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) which are used mainly on large spills of flammable liquids, such as jet fuel. PFAS are classified as contaminants of emerging concern, meaning that research into the harm they may cause to human health is still ongoing.

PFAS Compound	Statewide Action Level (ng/L)	Your PWS EP001 Treated Water (ng/L)
PFOA	<70 single or combined with PFOS	11.2
PFOS	<70 single or combined with PFOA	<5
GenX	>700	<25
PFBS	>140,000	<5
PFHxS	>140	<5
PFNA	>21	<5

In 2020, our PWS was sampled as part of the State of Ohio's Drinking Water Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Sampling Initiative. Results from this sampling indicated PFAS were detected in our drinking water below the action level established by Ohio EPA. Follow up monitoring is being conducted. For more information about PFAS, and to view our latest results, please visit pfas.ohio.gov.

***Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.**