



Tri-County
Rural Water
and Sewer District

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ANNUAL
DRINKING WATER

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE
REPORT
REPORTING YEAR 2023



Updated 2024

Tri-County Rural Water and Sewer District

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence

Report For 2023

Tri County Rural Water and Sewer District has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. Included within this report are general health information, water quality test results, how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water and water system contacts. Your drinking water met all Ohio EPA standards during 2023. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually 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.

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.

Please contact Tri-County rural Water and Sewer District with any questions and/or concerns (740)-984-2348

You can view our EPA records on the internet at: <https://tinyurl.com/ybsbbp22>

➤ Source Water Information

Our primary water source is groundwater 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 1,400,000 gallons a day. The treatment process consists of chlorination which is kept above a minimum level of .20 ppm and an ortho poly phosphate blend of 2 mg/l, to reduce lead solubility in the water for household plumbing.

➤ High Susceptibility PWS Based on High Sensitivity.

The aquifer that supplies drinking water to the Tri-County Rural Water and Sewer District system has a high susceptibility to contamination, due to the sensitive nature of the aquifer in which the drinking water well is located and the existing potential contaminant sources identified. This does not mean that this well field will become contaminated, only that conditions are such that the groundwater could be impacted by potential contaminant sources. Future contamination may be avoided by implementing protective measures. More information is available by calling (740) 984-2348.

➤ What are sources 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 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; (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater 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 stormwater 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 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 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 ***Federal Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)***.

➤ **Who needs to take special precautions?**

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 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)***.

➤ **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. Use bottled water or 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. After boiling allow water to cool before use.**

Boil advisory information will be issued through the following sources:

- Website: tricityruralwater.com- *(Sign up to receive alerts via text and Email)*
- **Tri County Rural Water and Sewer District's automated call service- *(Please keep phone numbers up to date for notifications)***

➤ **About your drinking water**

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. Tri County Rural Water and Sewer District conducted sampling for **{bacteria; synthetic organics; nitrates; residual disinfectants; lead and copper}** during **2023**. Samples were collected for a number of contaminants, most of which were not detected in the Tri County Rural Water and Sewer District water supply. 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.

Ohio EPA does not require that Tri-County Rural Water and Sewer District add fluoride to the water.

➤ Table of Detected Contaminants

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the Tri County Rural Water and Sewer District’s drinking water. A list of definitions can be found on the last page of this report.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminant (units)	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL or MRDL	Highest Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation?	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
Inorganic Contaminants							
Nitrate (PPM) (measured as Nitrogen)	10	10	7	4.95 - 10	NO	2023	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (PPM) (measured as Nitrogen)	1	1	.03	.03 - .03	NO	2023	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
BARIUM (PPM)	2	2	.0846	N/A	NO	2022	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion Of natural deposits
FLOURIDE (PPM)	4	4	.125	N/A	NO	2022	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides							
Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (PPM)	0	6	3	N/A	NO	2023	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Residual Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts							
TOTAL CHLORINE (PPM)	4	4	1.154	.97 to 1.42	NO	2023	Water additive used to control microbes.
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (PPB)	N/A	80	15	13.3-15	NO	2023	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids HAA5 (PPB)	N/A	60	5.2	4.5-5.2	NO	2023	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

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Lead and Copper							
Contaminant (units)	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	Individual Results over the AL	90% of the test levels were less than	Violation?	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminants
Lead (ppb)	15 ppb	0 ppb	0	2.7 ppb	NO	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
	0 out of 10 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.						
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	N/A	.854	NO	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
	0 out of 10 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the lead action level of 1.3 ppm.						

PFAS COMPOUND	Statewide Action Level (ng/L)	Your PWS EP001 Treated Water (ng/L) 2022
PFOA	<70 single or combined with PFOS	10.2
PFOS	<70 single or combined with PFOA	<2.54
GenX	>21	<2.54
PFBS	>2100	<2.54
PFHxS	>140	<2.54
PFNA	>21	<2.54

In 2020, our PWS was sampled as part of the State of Ohio's 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 was conducted in 2021 and 2022 and the samples indicated that PFAS was present below the action level at the time. For more information about PFAS, and to view our latest results please visit pfas.ohio.gov.

➤ **Nitrate Educational Information**

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.

➤ **Lead Educational Information**

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. Tri-County Rural 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 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>.

➤ **Copper Educational information**

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

➤ **License to Operate (LTO) Status Information**

In **2023** we had an unconditioned license to operate our water system.

➤ **Public Participation and Contact Information**

How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comments are encouraged at regular meetings of our Board of Directors. Meetings are held the third Monday of each month at 4:00 pm at the **Tri County Rural Water and Sewer District Office, located at 5772 Buchanan Rd, Waterford OH 45786.**

If you have any questions about this consumer confidence report or concerning your drinking water, please contact Billie Huck, General Manager or Monte Rowland, Water Operator at Tri-County Rural Water & Sewer District's Office (740) 984-2348.

➤ **Did You Know and Good to Know**

It's Just a Drip

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.

➤ **Definitions of some terms contained within this report.**

- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (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.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** 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.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** 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.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of 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.
- **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 required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **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.
- **Parts per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per Liter (mg/L)** are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days.
- **Parts per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per Liter (µg/L)** are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.
- **The “<” symbol:** A symbol which means less than. A result of <5 means that the lowest level that could be detected was 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.
- **PWS:** Public Water System
- **N/A:** Not Applicable