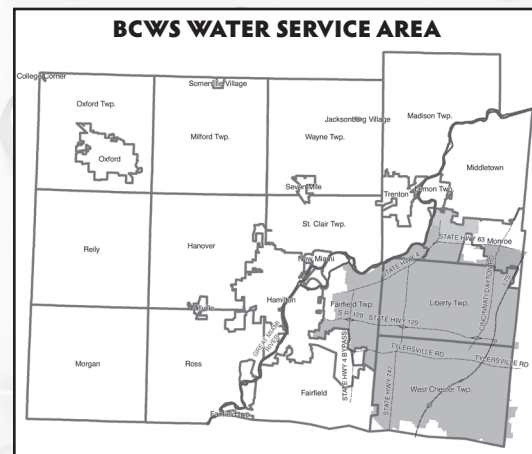


SOURCE WATER INFORMATION

BCWS purchases the treated drinking water that we deliver to you from two suppliers:

- City of Hamilton, which supplies ground water
- Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW), which supplies ground and surface waters

BCWS also protects its system through several interconnections with GCWW, Warren County, and the cities of Hamilton, Mason and Monroe to ensure a supply during emergency conditions.



GROUND WATER PROTECTION

The Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer is one source of our water and while it is a very high-quality aquifer, it is highly susceptible to contamination. OEPA has determined that the aquifer is vulnerable because the aquifer does not have a protective clay layer, the water is shallow, there are potential contamination sources nearby and there are low levels of nitrates in the aquifer. This does not mean that the aquifer is contaminated, only that it is vulnerable to contamination.

BCWS partners with the Hamilton to New Baltimore Groundwater Consortium (www.gwconsortium.org) which administers an award-winning groundwater protection program to prevent contamination from entering the aquifer.

SURFACE WATER PROTECTION

Some of the water we deliver is from the Ohio River. All surface waters, including the Ohio River have been classified by OEPA as highly susceptible because they are open to the environment and pollution may spread quickly with the flow of the river.

Our supplier GCWW, works with the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (www.orsanco.org) and other utilities to monitor contamination in the river. There are several barriers between potential pollution and your tap water such as turning off the intake until pollution passes and altering treatment processes. Another barrier is granular activated carbon used as part of the treatment process which is the best available technology for removing common chemicals found in the Ohio River.

PROTECT YOUR WATER

Individuals play an important role in protecting ground water from contamination and costly cleanup. Help safeguard your water source by properly disposing of materials. For more information on how and where to properly dispose of household hazardous waste, including unused pharmaceutical products, please contact the Butler County Solid Waste District at 513-887-3653. Additional information on source water protection can be found on OEPA's website. http://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/swap_faqs.aspx

SUBSTANCES IN DRINKING WATER

BCWS continues to bring you a plentiful supply of the highest quality water. Your water has consistently met all state and federal health standards for drinking water.

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 storm 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 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 the 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).

LICENSE STATUS

BCWS has a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system.

IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

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).

A FURTHER PROTECTION - WATER SYSTEM SECURITY

Security has always been a priority in providing high quality water to our community. A diligent sampling and monitoring program is part of standard operations throughout the entire water system. BCWS has also implemented a Water Watchers Program, enlisting volunteers who live by water tanks to observe and report any suspicious persons, vehicles, or irregular activities that cause concern. If you see any suspicious activities or know of a threat to any of our facilities, please call 887-3066.

WATER THEFT

Under Ohio law, unauthorized connection to the water or sewer service or tampering with meters or utility equipment is theft, and could result in criminal prosecution.

YOUR INVOLVEMENT IN WATER DECISIONS

We encourage public comment on decisions affecting drinking water. The Butler County Board of Commissioners' meetings are open to the public and are held on Mondays and Thursdays. Call 887-3247 for details.

If you have questions or comments about this report or other water issues, please contact us by mail, through our website at www.butlercountyws.org or by phone at 887-3066.

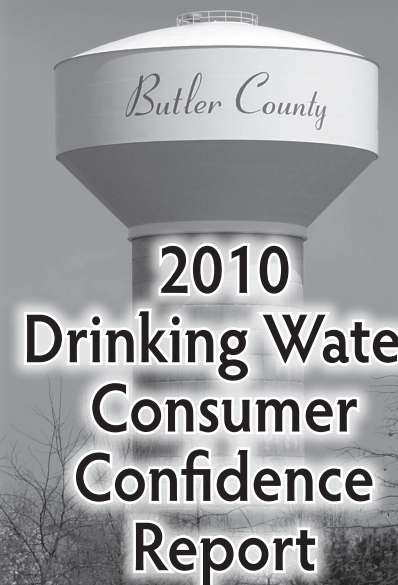
Other sources of drinking water information:

OEPA Division of Drinking Water & Groundwater:
www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw

EPA Safe Drinking Water hotline 800-426-4791
www.epa.gov/safewater

Please share this report with renters or others who do not receive water bills. If you need more copies please contact us.

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In accordance with EPA regulations, BCWS has prepared this report to provide information about the quality of the drinking water we serve. Water distributed by BCWS met all EPA standards for 2010.

Butler County
Water & Sewer Department
130 High Street
Hamilton, OH 45011
513-887-3066

www.butlercountyws.org

Regular testing of the water is necessary to ensure drinking water safety. Numerous tests are taken throughout the year and the majority of these samples have results that are below detectable limits. The chart below shows the water testing results for 2010 which had detectable results and how they compare to federal and state standards. Monitoring requirements vary for BCWS and our water suppliers, depending upon the facility and things such as the size of the system or the type of source water. Some of the data is more than one year old but is still accurate. The Ohio EPA requires monitoring for these substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Regulated Substances which are subject to an action level, MCL or a treatment technique							
Substances Found (units)	MCLG (ideal goal)	MCL (Level Allowed)	Compliance Level	Range of Detections	Is this a Violation?	Sample Year	Typical Sources
Microbiological contaminants							
Total Coliform (% of positive samples)	0	5% of monthly samples in systems collecting 40 or more per month	0.01	0 - 0.009	No	2010	Naturally present in the environment.
Turbidity (NTU)	n/a	TT ¹ <1 NTU max and <0.3 NTU 95% of the time	0.10 100% <0.3 NTU	0.04 - 0.10	No	2010	Soil runoff.
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	n/a	TT ² (value >1 indicates compliance)	2.38	1.74 - 3.11	No	2010	Naturally present in the environment.
Inorganic Contaminants							
Lead (ppb)	0	AL = 15	2.8 (Two of the 51 sites sampled exceeded the AL)	n/a	No	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm)	1.3	AL = 1.3	0.0298 (No sites exceeded the AL)	n/a	No	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.98	0.81 - 1.34	No	2010	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	1.14	<0.10 - 1.14	No	2010	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0382	n/a	No	2010	Discharge of drilling wastes, Discharge from metal refineries, Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	2.34	n/a	No	2010	Erosion of natural deposits, Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries, discharge from mines
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	2.76	n/a	No	2010	Erosion of natural deposits, Discharge from steel and pulp mills
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	n/a	80	26.91	5.38 - 58.89	No	2010	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids HAA5 (ppb)	n/a	60	6.25	2.62 - 17.30	No	2010	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Radioactive Contaminants							
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	0	AL = 50	24	nd - 24	No	2007	Decay of natural and man made deposits
Residual Disinfectants							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	0.82	0.78 - 0.85	No	2010	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide (ppm)	MRDLG = 0.8	MRDL = 0.8	0.4	0.23 - 0.40	No	2010	Water additive used to control microbes.
Chlorite (ppm)	0.8	1.0	0.57	0.52 - 0.66	No	2010	Byproduct of Drinking water chlorination
Unregulated Substances for which EPA requires monitoring							
Substances Found (units)	MCLG (ideal goal)	MCL (Level Allowed)	Average level detected	Range of Detections	Is this a Violation?	Sample Year	
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	0	n/a	3.35	n/a	n/a	2010	
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	60	n/a	7.68	n/a	n/a	2010	
Bromoform (ppb)	0	n/a	8.43	n/a	n/a	2010	
Chloroform (ppb)	70	n/a	2.27	n/a	n/a	2010	
Sulfate (ppm)	n/a	250 (SMCL)	76	n/a	No	2010	

TURBIDITY

TT¹ Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water and is an indication of the effectiveness of the filtration system. The turbidity limit set by the EPA is 0.3 NTU in 95% of the daily samples and shall not exceed one NTU at any time. As reported in the chart, GCWV's highest recorded turbidity result for 2010 was 0.10 NTU and the lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%.

TOC

TT² - The value reported under "highest compliance level detected" for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) is the lowest ratio between percentage of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of >1 indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements. A value of <1 indicates a violation of the TOC removal requirements.

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. BCWS 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

DEFINITIONS

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

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.

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.

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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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 contamination.

n/a (not applicable) There is no set MCL, MCLG or the test is not required.

nd (not detectable) The substance is not detectable at testing limits.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units) A unit of measure for the size and concentration of particles in water.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter) A measure of radioactivity in water.

ppm (parts per million) A unit of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in a little over 11.5 days.

ppb (parts per billion) A unit of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level) These levels are established as guidelines for aesthetic considerations such as taste, color, and odor.

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

< (Less than) A symbol meaning "less than." Example: A result of <5 means that the lowest level that could be detected was 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.

> (Greater than) A symbol meaning "greater than." Example: The Treatment Technique used for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) must be a number greater than 1 to be in compliance.