

The Village of South Lebanon Public Water System Consumer Confidence Report



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The Village of South Lebanon

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

2019

The Village of South Lebanon 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.

In 2019 The Village of South Lebanon had an unconditioned license to operate.

The Village of South Lebanon receives 100% of our drinking water from *Greater Cincinnati Water Works*. *A copy of Greater Cincinnati Water Works Consumer Confidence Report is attached to this report.*

The sources of drinking water - both tap and bottled - 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 (in some cases radioactive material) and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. As with all surface waters, the Ohio EPA has classified the Ohio River as highly susceptible to potential contamination. The Ohio EPA has also classified our portion of the Great Miami Aquifer as highly susceptible to contamination due to lack of an overlying protective clay layer, the presence of low levels of nitrate in the groundwater, and the presence of nearby potential contaminant sources. Copies of the source water assessment report prepared for *The Village of South Lebanon* are available by contacting *the water dept@ 513-494-2296 ext. 1*.

The Village of South Lebanon also has an *{Auxiliary / Emergency / Back-up}* connection with the *Warren County Water Department*. During 2019 we used 0 gallons from this connection. On average, this connection is used for approximately 0 days each year. This report does not contain information on the water quality received from the Warren County Water Department, but a copy of their consumer confidence report can be obtained by contacting *Warren County Water Department at 513-695-1377*.

What are sources of contamination to drinking water?

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 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 amounts 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).

About your drinking water.

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Village of South Lebanon conducted sampling for *bacteria, Lead and Copper, Chlorine, etc.* during 2019. Samples were collected for a *number of* different contaminants most of which were not detected in the Village of South Lebanon 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, are more than one year old.

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were tested for in the Village of South Lebanon drinking water.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL,TT, or MRDL	Avg. Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
Bacteriological							
Total Coliform positive	NA	TT(<5% positive)	<5%	NA	No	2019	Naturally present in the environment
Disinfection By Products							
(TTHM) ppb Total Trihalomethanes	0	80		30.1 - 81.6	yes	2019	By-Product of drinking water disinfection
(HAA5) ppb Halocetic Acids	0	60		5.5 – 9.4	No	2019	By-Product of drinking water disinfection
Disinfectants							
Chlorine (as CL2) ppm	4.0	4.0	.65 mg/L	.3 to 1.0mg/L	No	2019	Additive used to control microbes
Lead and Copper							
Contaminants (units)	Action Level (AL)	Individual Results over the AL	90% of test levels were less than	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical source of Contaminants	
Lead (ppb)	15 ppb	0	.05	No	2019	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	
	0 out of 20 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.						
Copper (ppm)	1.3 ppm	0	.018	No	2019	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits	
	0 out of 20 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.						

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) Sampling

Contaminant	Average found	Range of Detection	Year
Total Microcystins	85.1	50-150	2018
Anatoxin-A	87.8	50-150	2018
Cylindrospermopsin	90.2	50-150	2018

Turbidity

See Greater Cincinnati Water Works consumer confidence report for turbidity information.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During **November, 2019** we (did not monitor or test {or} did not complete all monitoring or testing) for **Disinfection Byproducts and Bacteria** and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

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. *The Village of South Lebanon* 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 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of The Village of South Lebanon which meets every 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. For more information on your drinking water contact *Phil Kaufman or Amy Butler at 513-494-2296*

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.
- Contact Time (CT) means the mathematical product of a “residual disinfectant concentration” (C), which is determined before or at the first customer, and the corresponding “disinfectant contact time” (T).
- Microcystins: Liver toxins produced by a number of cyanobacteria. Total microcystins are the sum of all the variants/congeners (forms) of the cyanotoxin microcystin.
- Cyanobacteria: Photosynthesizing bacteria, also called blue-green algae, which naturally occur in marine and freshwater ecosystems, and may produce cyanotoxins, which at sufficiently high concentrations can pose a risk to public health.
- Cyanotoxin: Toxin produced by cyanobacteria. These toxins include liver toxins, nerve toxins, and skin toxins. Also sometimes referred to as “algal toxin”.
- Level 1 Assessment is a study of the water system to identify the potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
- Level 2 Assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

- 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 ($\mu\text{g/L}$) 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.
- Picocuries per liter (pCi/L): A common measure of radioactivity.



A Service of The City of Cincinnati

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


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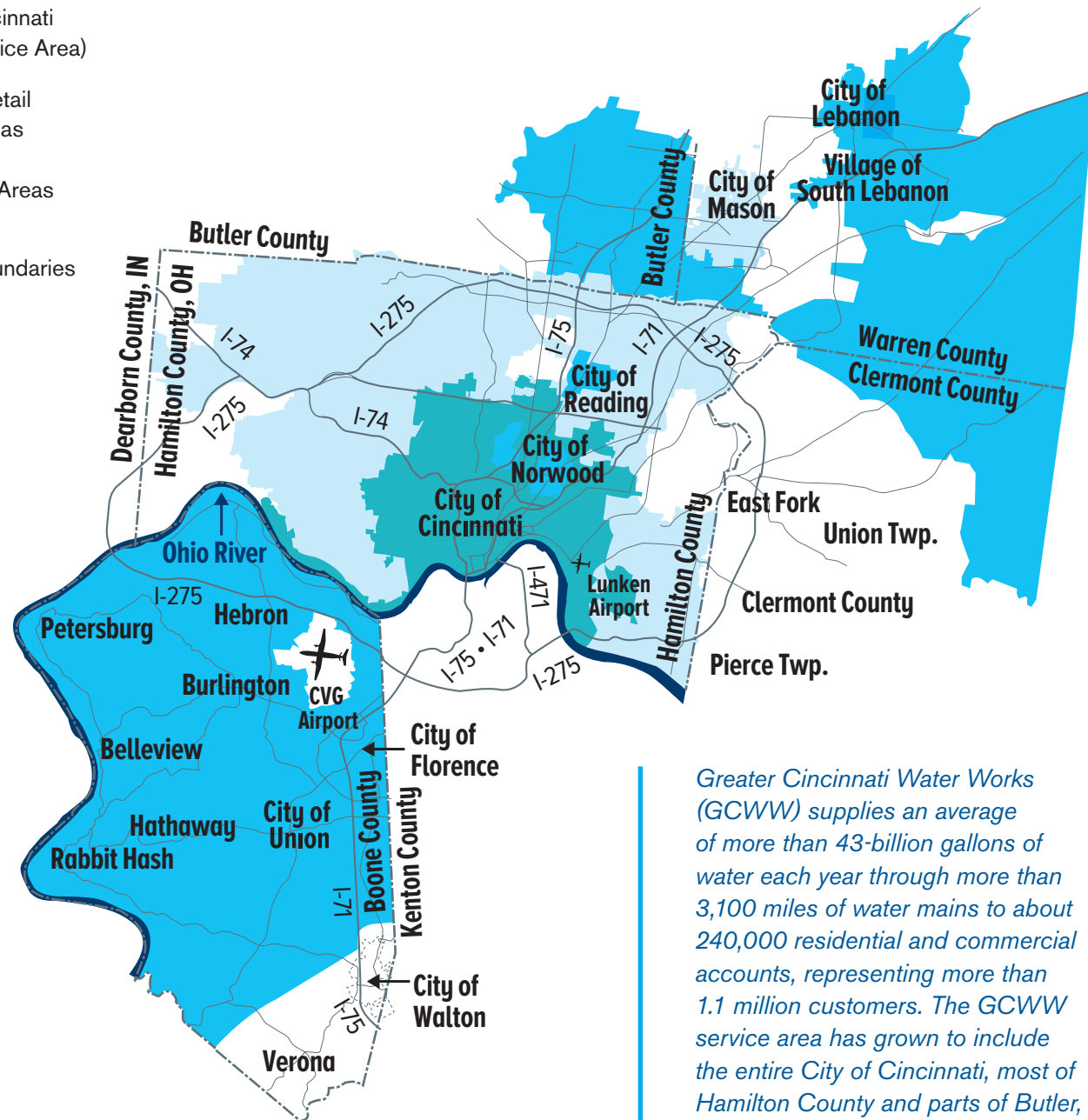
Our Most Essential Resource

Where Your Water Comes From

GCWW supplies water from two sources: the Ohio River and the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer (GMBVA). Surface water from the Ohio River is treated at the Richard Miller Treatment Plant. This plant, located on the east side of Hamilton County, supplies about 88% of drinking water to GCWW's customers. The Charles M. Bolton Treatment Plant treats groundwater from 13 wells in the GMBVA. It is located in the southern part of Butler County and supplies about 12% of drinking water to GCWW customers.

Service Area Map

-  City of Cincinnati (Retail Service Area)
-  GCWW Retail Service Areas
-  Wholesale Areas
-  County Boundaries



Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW) supplies an average of more than 43-billion gallons of water each year through more than 3,100 miles of water mains to about 240,000 residential and commercial accounts, representing more than 1.1 million customers. The GCWW service area has grown to include the entire City of Cincinnati, most of Hamilton County and parts of Butler, Warren and Clermont Counties in Ohio, and Boone County in Kentucky.

Only Your Tap Water Delivers These Protective Benefits

Public Health Protection

A safe water supply is critical to protecting public health. In the United States, water utilities monitor for more than 100 contaminants and must meet close to 90 regulations for water supply and quality.

Fire Protection

A well-maintained water system is critical in protecting communities from the threat of fire. The same system of water mains, pumps and storage tanks transports water to home faucets and fire hydrants.

Spill Protection

GCWW takes great care to protect your water supply from spills into the Ohio River that may contaminate the drinking water supply. GCWW has the ability to shut down intakes and can utilize stored and supplementary water until the spill passes, and uses its advanced treatment system to remove contaminants.

Sources of Your Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water - both tap and bottled - 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 (in some cases radioactive material) and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. As with all surface waters, the Ohio EPA has classified the Ohio River as highly susceptible to potential contamination. The Ohio EPA has also classified our portion of the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer as highly susceptible to contamination due to lack of an overlying protective clay layer, the presence of low levels of nitrate in the groundwater, and the presence of nearby potential contaminant sources.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife;
- 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;
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses;
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which

are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and

- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.



Protecting Your Drinking Water

GCWW actively participates in two regional collaborative source water protection programs:

1. Protection of the Ohio River in the Cincinnati Area

GCWW has partnered with the Northern Kentucky Water District and the Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Commission (ORSANCO) to implement an Ohio EPA-endorsed source water protection program for the Ohio River near Cincinnati. ORSANCO maintains 17 monitoring stations strategically placed along the Ohio River to detect and warn drinking water treatment plants about spills. GCWW participates as one of the monitoring stations for this program.

ORSANCO Monitoring Locations Map



For more information about source water protection or to find out what you can do to help, visit myGCWW.org, email info@gcww.cincinnati-oh.gov, call Greater Cincinnati Water Works at 513.591.7700, or call the Groundwater Consortium at 513.785.2464.

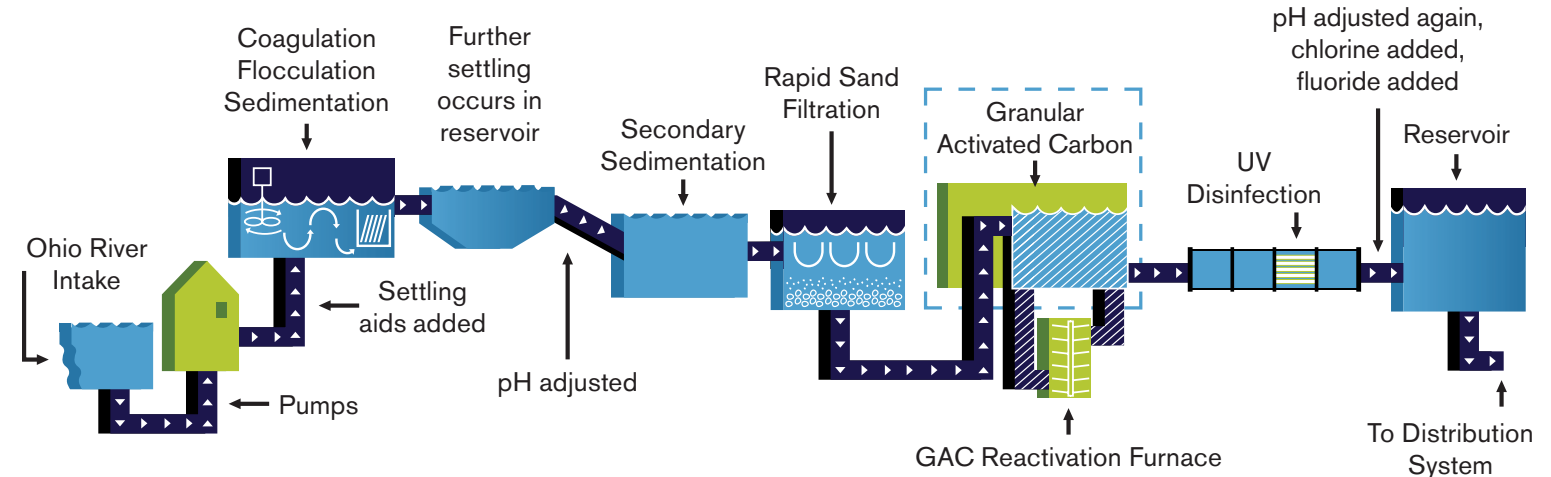
A Leader in Water Quality Treatment and Technology

GCWW uses state-of-the-art water treatment processes that include multiple barriers to protect public health. GCWW treatment processes include Sand Filtration, Granular Activated Carbon (GAC), Powdered Activated Carbon (PAC), and ultraviolet (UV) light to remove and treat for natural and man-made contaminants from our drinking water. It is one of the first in the nation to use a combination of all four treatment methods.

GCWW typically treats 120 million gallons of water a day, and more than 600 daily tests ensure that all the aforementioned treatments are effective.

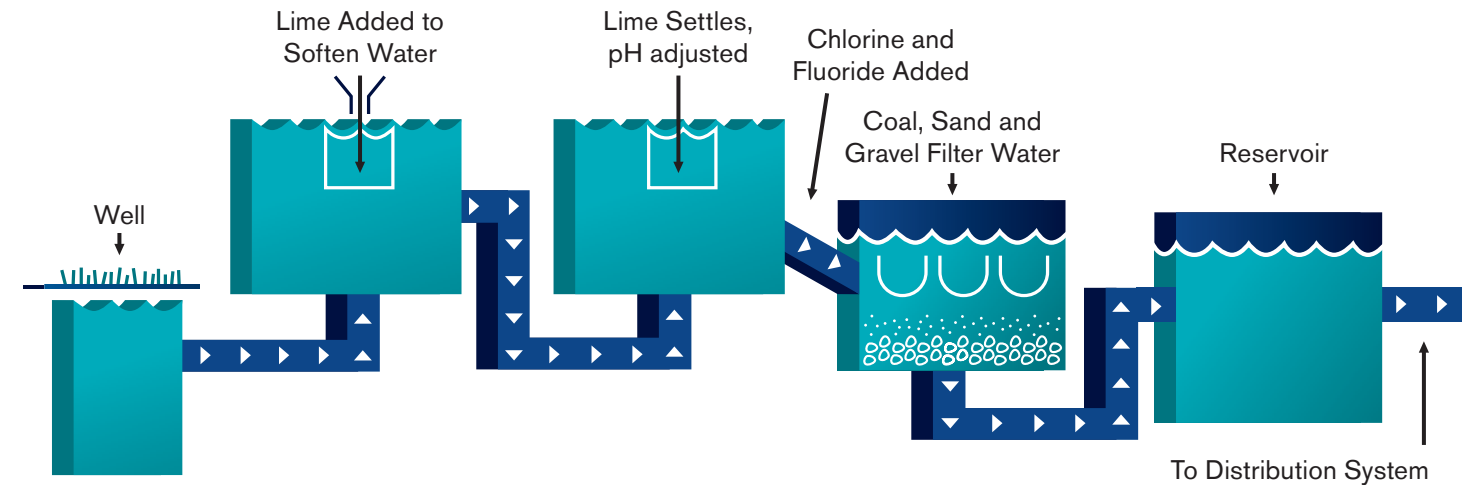
GCWW also treats the drinking water specifically to minimize the amount of lead that may leach into the drinking water — this treatment process is called corrosion control. This process ensures there is no lead in the water as it leaves GCWW treatment plants and minimizes the chance that lead can be picked up from home plumbing. Page 5 illustrates the treatment processes at the Richard Miller and Charles M. Bolton Plants.

Treatment Process at the Richard Miller Plant on the Ohio River



Backwash water from the sand filters and plant recycle water is returned to the beginning of the treatment process.

Treatment Process at the Charles M. Bolton Plant on the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer



Granular Activated Carbon

GCWW's Richard Miller Treatment Plant is one of only a few water treatment plants in the nation that incorporates granular activated carbon (GAC) with on-site reactivation into its water treatment process. This state-of-the-art technology uses granular carbon, which contains numerous microscopic cavities. When water is passed through the GAC, impurities adhere to the carbon and are removed from the water. Benefits of GAC are: barrier against potential chemical spills in the Ohio River; barrier against impurities in raw source water; less chlorine required for disinfection; reduced disinfection-byproducts; and improved control of taste and odor.

Ultraviolet Disinfection

GCWW is the largest water utility in North America to use UV disinfection following rapid sand filtration and GAC adsorption. UV disinfection, which uses rays of intense light to disinfect water, is one of the most effective methods used to protect against microorganisms such as Cryptosporidium. GCWW's rapid sand filtration, granular activated carbon (GAC) and UV treatment processes create a multi-barrier to protect public health.

GCWW Meets or Exceeds All State and Federal Health Standards

GCWW is proud to say that our water meets or exceeds every health standard developed by both the USEPA and Ohio EPA. 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 shall provide the same protection for public health. The tables on pages 6-9 show the substances detected in GCWW drinking water while performing the most up-to-date monitoring required by the EPA. The Ohio EPA requires GCWW to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Because of this, some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old. For a complete listing of GCWW test results and additional water quality information, visit cincinnati-oh.gov/water/water-quality-and-treatment or call 513.591.7700.

Regulated Contaminants (Table A): Substances subject to a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), Action Level (AL), or Treatment Technique (TT). These standards protect drinking water by limiting the amount of certain substances that can adversely affect public health and are known or anticipated to occur in public water systems.

Abbreviations

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter; **ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter; **nr:** not regulated; **na:** not applicable; **NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (used to measure clarity in drinking water); **nd:** not detectable at testing limits; **TTHMs:** Total Trihalomethanes; **HAA5:** Haloacetic Acids

(Refer to pages 8-9 for definitions and footnotes.)

TABLE A: Regulated Contaminants		Miller Water (from the Ohio River)					Bolton Water (from the Great Miami Valley Buried Aquifer)					Typical Source of Contamination
Substance (Unit)	Maximum Allowed (MCL)	MCLG	Highest Compliance Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation	Year Sampled	Highest Compliance Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation	Year Sampled		
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.88	0.75 - 1.10	No	2019	0.88	0.72 - 1.00	No	2019	Additive which promotes strong teeth. May come from erosion of natural deposits.	
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	1.30	0.59 - 1.30	No	2019	1.08	na	No	2019	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits.	
TTHMs (ppb) [Trihalomethanes] ²	80	na	55.0	11.4 - 68.5	No	2019	55.0	11.4 - 68.5	No	2019	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.	
HAA5 (ppb) [Haloacetic Acids] ²	60	na	12.2	5.09 - 16.1	No	2019	12.2	5.09 - 16.1	No	2019	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.	
Turbidity (NTU)	TT1 < 1 NTU Max and TT2 < 0.3 NTU 95% of the time	na na	0.14 100% < 0.3 NTU	0.03 - 0.14	No	2019	nr	nr	No	na	Soil runoff.	
1st Compliance Period (Jan - June)	Lead ² (ppb)	AL = 15 (the 90th percentile must be less than 15 ppb)	0	90th percentile 5.49 ppb	nd - 62.1	No	2019	90th percentile 5.49 ppb	nd - 62.1	No	2019	May come from erosion of natural deposits. There is no detectable lead in our water as it leaves the treatment plants. However, corrosion of household plumbing is a source of lead and copper contamination. GCWW tests water samples collected at customers taps, as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act to ensure safe water.
	Copper ² (ppm)	AL = 1.3 (the 90th percentile must be less than 1.3 ppm)	1.3	(7 out of 156 samples tested during the first compliance period were > the AL) ³				(7 out of 156 samples tested during the first compliance period were > the AL) ³				
2nd Compliance Period (July - Dec)	Lead ² (ppb)	AL = 15 (the 90th percentile must be less than 15 ppb)	0	90th percentile 11.8 ppb	nd - 50.2	No	2019	90th percentile 11.8 ppb	nd - 50.2	No	2019	
	Copper ² (ppm)	AL = 1.3 (the 90th percentile must be less than 1.3 ppm)	1.3	(9 out of 132 samples tested during the second compliance period were > the AL) ³				(9 out of 132 samples tested during the second compliance period were > the AL) ³				
Total Organic Carbon	TT ¹	na	2.22	1.81 - 3.28	No	2019	nr	nr	No	na	Naturally present in the environment.	
Total Chlorine ² (ppm)	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	1.08	0.92 - 1.24	No	2019	1.08	0.92 - 1.24	No	2019	Water additive used to control microbes.	
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.030	na	No	2019	0.016	na	No	2019	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries.	

Unregulated Contaminants (Table B): 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. (Refer to page 7 for abbreviations.)

TABLE B: Unregulated Contaminants		Miller Water (from the Ohio River)				Bolton Water (from the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer)				Typical Source of Contamination
Substance (Unit)	MCLG	Average Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation	Year Sampled	Average Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation	Year Sampled	
Chloroform (ppb) ²	70	11.3	0.54 - 34.0	na	2019	11.3	0.54 - 34.0	na	2019	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection, measured at representative points in the distribution system.
Bromodichloromethane (ppb) ²	0	10.3	3.12 - 17.8	na	2019	10.3	3.12 - 17.8	na	2019	
Dibromochloromethane (ppb) ²	60	12.0	3.30 - 25.7	na	2019	12.0	3.30 - 25.7	na	2019	
Bromoform (ppb) ²	0	6.63	0.68 - 24.6	na	2019	6.63	0.68 - 24.6	na	2019	
Monochloroacetic Acid (ppb) ²	70	nd	nd - nd	na	2019	nd	nd - nd	na	2019	
Monobromoacetic Acid (ppb) ²	na	1.39	nd - 4.11	na	2019	1.39	nd - 4.11	na	2019	
Dichloroacetic Acid (ppb) ²	0	3.57	nd - 11.8	na	2019	3.57	nd - 11.8	na	2019	
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb) ²	20	1.06	nd - 6.78	na	2019	1.06	nd - 6.78	na	2019	
Dibromoacetic Acid (ppb) ²	na	3.07	nd - 6.55	na	2019	3.07	nd - 6.55	na	2019	
Sulfate (ppm)	na	59	42 - 89	na	2019	43	39 - 46	na	2019	Erosion of natural deposits.
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4) Contaminants										
Monobromoacetic Acid (ppb)	na	0.08	nd - 0.46	na	2019	nd	nd - nd	na	2019	In 2019 Greater Cincinnati Water Works participated in the fourth round of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4). The contaminants listed in this section of the Table were detected during this UCMR4 monitoring. These compounds are all byproducts of drinking water disinfection and were found in our distribution system. Additional contaminants were monitored in our distribution system as well as the entry point to our system and were not detected. If you would like additional information on the results of unregulated contaminant monitoring, please call 513.591.7700.
Dichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	0	2.6	0.41 - 5.4	na	2019	2.8	2.2 - 3.7	na	2019	
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	20	0.69	nd - 1.8	na	2019	0.21	nd - 0.83	na	2019	
Dibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	na	2.5	1.1 - 4.7	na	2019	3.3	3.0 - 3.5	na	2019	
Bromochloroacetic Acid (ppb)	na	2.6	0.97 - 4.4	na	2019	3.1	2.7 - 3.5	na	2019	
Bromodichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	na	0.85	nd - 1.4	na	2019	0.82	0.71 - 0.95	na	2019	
Chlorodibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	na	0.91	0.57 - 1.4	na	2019	1.2	1.1 - 1.3	na	2019	
Tribromoacetic Acid (ppb)	na	1.8	nd - 4.7	na	2019	2.4	nd - 5.2	na	2019	
Total HAA5 (ppb)	na	5.9	2.7 - 8.9	na	2019	6.3	5.6 - 7.5	na	2019	
Total HAABr6 (ppb)	na	8.7	3.9 - 16	na	2019	10.9	7.5 - 14	na	2019	
Total HAA9 (ppb)	na	12.0	4.3 - 20	na	2019	13.8	10 - 17	na	2019	

Definitions

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.

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 or AL: The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded,

triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system shall follow.

Treatment Technique or TT: A method for treating water to achieve acceptable levels of the contaminants in lieu of establishing a maximum contaminant level.

Maximum Residual Disinfection Level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal or 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.

Turbidity: Utilities who treat surface water are required to report on turbidity as an indication of the effectiveness of the filtration system. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. The turbidity limit set by the EPA is 0.3 NTU in 95% of the samples analyzed each month, and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time. As reported in the table, GCWW's highest turbidity result for

2019 was 0.14 NTU (Miller Water) and lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%.

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.

Lead Threshold Level: The concentration of lead in an individual tap water sample. The lead threshold level is exceeded at 0.015 milligrams per liter (15 ppb) concentration of lead in an individual tap water sample.

Footnotes: 1. 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 greater than one (1) indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements. A value of less than one (1) indicates a violation of the TOC removal requirements. 2. Miller and Bolton were considered as one distribution system for regulatory purposes by Ohio EPA during 2019. Data listed for each system represents the combined distribution system. 3. 7 out of 156 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead threshold level of 15 ppb during the first compliance period of 2019 (Jan-June): 3 results between 15-20 ppb; 1 result between 20-30 ppb; 2 results between 30-40 ppb; 1 result between 60-70 ppb. 9 out of 132 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead threshold level of 15 ppb during the second compliance period of 2019 (July-Dec): 4 results between 15-20 ppb; 3 results between 20-30 ppb; 1 result between 30-40 ppb; 1 result between 50-60 ppb.

Frequently Asked Questions

1 **If there are reported contaminants, how can my water be safe?**

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

However, 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 infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800.426.4791.

2 **What is *Cryptosporidium*?**

Cryptosporidium (Crypto) is a microscopic organism, that when ingested, can result in diarrhea, fever and other gastrointestinal symptoms. Crypto is found in surface waters and comes from animal and human waste.

GCWW routinely tests for Crypto and did not detect it in our finished water in 2019. GCWW also tested for Crypto in the Ohio River surface water and it was detected in 2 of 12 samples during 2019. USEPA/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 800.426.4791.

3 **Why is fluoride added to my water?**

Fluoride is added to the water to protect teeth as required by state law passed in 1969. According to

the American Dental Association, persons who drink fluoridated water have a 20% to 40% reduction in the amount of cavities that would have occurred without fluoride. Some home filtration devices remove fluoride. Bottled water may not contain fluoride.

4 **What is the amount of sodium added to my water?**

GCWW has tested for sodium in treated water as it leaves the treatment plants and has found 30 mg (milligrams) per liter in the Richard Miller Water and 30 mg per liter in the Charles M. Bolton Water. There are approximately four cups in a liter.

5 **Is there lead in my water?**

There is no detectable lead in drinking water as it leaves the treatment plants. 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. GCWW 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 3 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.

A list of laboratories certified in the State of Ohio may be found at epa.ohio.gov/ddagw or by calling 614.644.2752. 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 epa.gov/safewater/lead.

GCWW offers lead information online at Lead.myGCWW.org or call the lead hotline 513.651.LEAD. Our lead program is being used to meet a portion of the notification requirements in OAC Rule 3745-83-02.

6 **Sometimes my water is reddish-brown. Is this safe?**

The reddish-brown color can be caused by rust from corrosion in GCWW's pipes, the pipes in your home or from corrosion in your home's water heater. If you have rusty water, try running cold water for several minutes.

If you have questions or your laundry is stained from rusty water, call GCWW at 513.591.7700. We will deliver a laundry aid to remove the rust. Do NOT put stained laundry in the dryer.

7 **Why does drinking water sometimes look cloudy?**

Cloudy water that clears quickly from the bottom up is caused by tiny air bubbles in the water similar to gas bubbles in soda. After a while, the bubbles rise to the top and disappear. This cloudiness

occurs more often in the winter when drinking water is cold. Air does not affect the safety of water.

8 **How hard is GCWW's water?**

Hard water is water that contains more minerals, such as calcium and magnesium. Water from GCWW's Richard Miller Plant has an average hardness of 124 mg per liter or 7 grains per gallon. Water from the Charles M. Bolton Plant averages 130 mg per liter or 8 grains per gallon. Hardness does not affect the safety of water.



For More Information About...

Lead Awareness

Website: lead.myGCWW.org

Phone: 513.651.LEAD (5323)

USEPA Safe Drinking Water

Website: epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water

Safe Drinking Water Hotline:
800.426.4791

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA)

Website: fda.gov

Phone: 888.463.6332

NSF International

Website: nsf.org

Phone: 800.673.6275

Contact GCWW

For more information about water quality, customer billing, or to request additional copies or submit comments about this report, call 513.591.7700 or visit myGCWW.org.

Attend the Following Meetings to Participate in Water Decisions:

City of Cincinnati Council

Website: cincinnati-oh.gov

Phone: 513.352.3246

ORSANCO

Website: orsanco.org

Phone: 513.231.7719

OKI Regional Council of Governments Groundwater Committee

Website: oki.org

Phone: 513.621.6300

Educational Resources

Two online Teacher Resource areas are available for teachers, students and parents. These sites are full of educational resources, videos, activity ideas, links, and more -- schedule a group tour of the Water Museum or Historic Old River Station online as well!

Water Quality

Website: cincinnati-oh.gov/water/about/teacher-resources

Stormwater

Website: cincinnati-oh.gov/stormwater/teacher-resources



This report meets the Ohio and USEPA's National Primary Drinking Water Regulation for Consumer Confidence Reports. GCWW has a current unconditioned license to operate.