Earnhart Hill Regional Water and Sewer District
Northern Pickaway County/JEDD Service Area
2023 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)
PWSID: OH6542812

Introduction

Earnhart Hill Regional Water and Sewer District (EHRWSD) 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.

Contact Information

If you have any questions concerning our operations or long-term planning, please call our General Manager, Louis McFarland, at (740) 474-3114 Ext 115.

Public participation and comments are encouraged at regular meetings of the EHRWSD Board of Trustees which meets at 7:00 PM on the second Thursday of each month. These meetings are held in our office located at 2030 Stoneridge Drive Circleville, OH.

Source Water Information

EHRWSD purchases water from the City of Columbus for your service area. The water is primarily provided by the Parson Avenue Water Plant (PAWP).

The PAWP source of water is from sand and gravel deposits of the Scioto River Valley. This source of water has a relatively high susceptibility to contamination from spills or releases of chemicals. The ground water pumped at the PAWP is susceptible (compared to other ground water systems) because there is no significant clay overlying the aquifer deposits.

Sources of Contamination

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 the following substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity:

- 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 storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses
- 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
- 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 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 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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1(800) 426-4791.

Special Precautions to be Taken

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 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.

Lead in the Home

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. EHRWSD 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. A list of laboratories certified in the State of Ohio to test for lead may be found at http://www.epa.state.oh.us/ddagw, by calling (614) 644-2752, or by contacting EHRWSD Lab at (740) 474-3114 Ext 119.

Backflow Prevention and Cross-Connection Control

Backflow is the flow of water through a cross-connection from a possible source of contamination back into the drinking water system. It occurs when a cross-connection is created and a pressure reversal, either as backsiphonage or backpressure, occurs in the water supply piping. The concern is all cross-connections pose a potential health risk. Backflow can be a health hazard for your family or other consumers if contaminated water enters your water supply plumbing system and is used for drinking, cooking or bathing. You are legally responsible for protecting your water supply plumbing from backflow that may contaminate drinking water, either your own or someone else’s. This includes complying with the plumbing code and not creating cross-connections.

What are examples of cross-connection and backflow scenarios?

- Soapy water or other cleaning compounds backsiphon into the water supply plumbing through a faucet or hose submerged in a bucket or laundry basin.
- Pool water backsiphons into the water supply plumbing through a hose submerged in a swimming pool.
- Fertilizers/pesticides backsiphon into the water supply plumbing through a garden hose attached to a fertilizer/pesticide sprayer.
- Chemicals/pesticides and animal feces drawn into the water supply plumbing from a lawn irrigation system with submerged nozzles.
- Bacteria/chemicals/additives in a boiler system back siphon into the water supply plumbing.
- Unsafe water pumped from a private well applies backpressure and contaminates the public water supply through a connection between the private well discharge and the potable water supply plumbing.

If you have questions regarding backflow prevention, please call (740) 474-3114 Ext 123 or visit our website at: https://www.ehrwsd.org/backflow/

PFAS Monitoring

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. They are 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. Although it is not required by Ohio EPA, Columbus has been testing for PFAS compounds in your drinking water to be proactive and protective of public health. Several PFAS compounds have been found at very low levels, near the detection limits of the test. All the results to date have been well below the action level established by Ohio EPA and can be found in the Unregulated Contaminants Table below. Currently, USEPA is developing a draft drinking water regulation for two PFAS compounds, PFOS and PFOA. According to the USEPA PFAS Strategic Roadmap, a new MCL should be finalized in 2024. For more information about PFAS, please visit the Ohio EPA PFAS in Drinking Water at https://epa.ohio.gov/monitor-pollution/pollution-issues/per-and-polyfluoroalkyl-substances-pfas .

Drinking Water Information

The Ohio EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety, however, some contaminants are monitored less than once a year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

EHRWSD had a current, unconditional license to operate the public water system in 2023.

Important Drinking Water Definitions

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.

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.

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.

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

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

SMCL = Secondary MCL: A non-enforceable numerical limit set by the USEPA for a contaminant on the basis of aesthetic effects to prevent an undesirable taste, odor or appearance.

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

MG/L = Milligrams per Liter or Parts per Million: A unit of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per million corresponds to one second in approximately 11.5 days.

UG/L = Microgram per Liter or Parts per Billion: A unit of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

NG/L = Nanogram per Liter or Parts per Trillion: A unit of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per trillion corresponds to 1 second in nearly 32,000 years.

US/CM = Microsiemens per Centimeter: A unit of measurement for electrical conductivity. Freshwater is usually between 0 and 1,500 uS/cm, while sea water has a conductivity value of about 50,000 uS/cm.

"<": A symbol that means "less than". For example, a result of "<5" means that the lowest detectable level was 5 and the amount of contaminant in that sample was too low to be detected.

NR = Not Required: Monitoring not required, but recommended

ND = Not Detected

NA = Not Applicable

Primary Drinking Water Standards

Substances we detected	Collection Date	Units	What`s the goal? (MCLG)	What`s Allowed? (MCL)	Level Found	Range	Violation?	Where did it come from?
Disinfectant Residual								
Chlorine Residual, Total	2023	mg/L	2.0	4.0	0.81	0.78-0.81	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2023	ug/L	NA	80	41.9	NA	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2023	ug/L	NA	60	4.7	NA	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Chemicals								
Fluoride	2023	mg/L	2.0	4.0	0.95	0.81-0.98	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth

Lead and Copper

Substances we detected	Collection Date	Units	What`s the goal? (MCLG)	Action Level (AL)	Level Found	Range	Number of sites found above the action level	Violation?	Where did it come from?
Metals									
Lead	2023	ug/L	0.0	15	0.300	ND-0.600	0 out of 6	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper	2023	mg/L	0.0	1.3	0.0645	0.009-0.072	0 out of 6	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of household plumbing systems

Other Water Quality Parameters of Interest

Substances we detected	Collection Date	Units	What`s the goal? (MCLG)	What`s Allowed? (SMCL)	Level Found	Range	Where did it come from?
Hardness, Total (CaCO3)	2023	mg/L	NA	NA	123	121-124	Naturally Occurring
Total Alkalinity	2023	mg/L	NA	NA	41	40-42	Naturally occurring; Treatment process
pH	2023	units	NA	7.0-10.5	7.8	7.8-7.9	Treatment process
Sodium	2023	mg/L	NA	NA	80.0	20.4-100.7	Naturally occurring; Treatment process
Potassium	2023	mg/L	NA	NA	3.6	3.1-6.4	Naturally occurring
Sulfate	2023	mg/L	250 (SMCL)	NA	164.5	144.8-183.7	Naturally occurring; Treatment process
Chloride	2023	mg/L	250 (SMCL)	NA	54.8	49-60	Naturally occurring
Conductivity	2023	uS/cm	NA	NA	697	624-750	Naturally occurring; Treatment process

Unregulated Drinking Water Standards							
Substances we detected	**Collection Date**	**Units**	**What's the goal? (MCLG)**	**What's Allowed? (MCL)**	**Level Found**	**Range**	**Where did it come from?**
Haloacetic Acids 5 (HAA5)							
Dichloroacetic Acid	**2023**	**ug/L**	**NA**	**NA**	**2.2**	**NA**	
Dibromoacetic Acid	**2023**	**ug/L**	**NA**	**NA**	**2.5**	**NA**	**By-product of drinking water chlorination.**
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)							
Chloroform	**2023**	**ug/L**	**NA**	**NA**	**7.4**	**NA**	**By-product of drinking water chlorination.**
Bromoform	**2023**	**ug/L**	**NA**	**NA**	**5.8**	**NA**	**By-product of drinking water chlorination.**
Bromodichloromethane	**2023**	**ug/L**	**NA**	**NA**	**13.3**	**NA**	**By-product of drinking water chlorination.**
Dibromochloromethane	**2023**	**ug/L**	**NA**	**NA**	**15.3**	**NA**	**By-product of drinking water chlorination.**
PFAS Monitoring							
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	**2020**	**ng/L**	**NA**	**NA**	**2.61**	**ND-2.61**	**Manmade chemical; Industrial contamination**
Perfluorohexanoic acid	**2020**	**ng/L**	**NA**	**NA**	**3.26**	**ND-3.26**	**Manmade chemical; Industrial contamination**
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	**2020**	**ng/L**	**NA**	**NA**	**2.80**	**2.18-3.42**	**Manmade chemical; Industrial contamination**
Perfluorooctanoic acid	**2020**	**ng/L**	**NA**	**NA**	**2.76**	**2.27-3.24**	**Manmade chemical; Industrial contamination**