

Switzerland of Ohio Water District

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

2023

The Switzerland of Ohio Water District 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. If you have any questions about this report or any concerns about your water utility, please contact the office at 740-926-1465. Residents are invited to come to the board meeting that typically meets on the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM. For a copy of the Barnesville Consumer Confidence Report please visit www.barnesvilleohio.com.

The Switzerland of Ohio Water District purchases its drinking water from the Barnesville Water Treatment Plant. A source water assessment report is available and can be accessed by calling Roger Deal, (740)-425-1880. The source was determined to have a low susceptibility to contamination.

Switzerland of Ohio Water District had a current, unconditioned license to operate from the Ohio EPA in 2023.

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 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 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).

About your drinking water.

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Switzerland of Ohio Water District conducted sampling for bacteria, trihalomethanes, and halo acidic acids during 2023. Samples were collected for a total of three different contaminants which were not detected in the Switzerland of Ohio Water 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.

Monitoring & Reporting Violations & Enforcement Actions

Switzerland of Ohio Water District had an unconditioned license to operate during the year 2022, this information was not included in last year's Consumer Confidence Report.

The lead 90th percentile reported was incorrect. The correct value for 2022 is 1.4 ppb.

The copper 90th percentile reported was incorrect. The correct value for 2022 is 0.88 ppm.

(neither of these levels exceeds the action levels)

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminants (units)	MCLG	MCL	Max Level Found	Range of Detections	Violations	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminant
Residual Disinfectants							
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG=4	MRDL=4	.92	.7 – 1.2	No	2023	Water additive used to control microbes.
Inorganic Contaminants							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	.96	.77 – 1.05	No	2023	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	.93	.30 - .93	No	2023	
Barium (ppm)	2	2	NA	NA	No	2023	
Radiological Contaminants							
Gross alpha (pCi/L)	0	15	.531	NA	No	2023	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	0	5	.89	NA	No	2023	
Microbiological Contaminants							
Turbidity (ntu)	NA	TT	.21	.04 - .21	No	2023	Soil runoff.
Turbidity % samples meeting standard	NA	TT	100%	100%	No	2023	
Disinfectant Byproducts							
TTHMs (ppb) (Total Trihalomethane)	NA	80	69.4	27-94.6	No	2023	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
HAA5 (ppb) (Haloacetic Acids)	NA	60	24	17.6-34	No	2023	
Unregulated Contaminants							
Nickel (ppb)	NA	NA	1.13	NA	No	2023	
Manganese (ppb)	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	2023	

Lead and Copper Table

Contaminants (units)	MCLG	MCL	Max Level Found	Range of Detections	Violations	Year Sampled	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) 90 th Percentile	0	AL = 15	7.7	<0.6-8.7	No	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits.
0 of 10 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the action level of 15ppb.							
Copper (ppm) 90 th Percentile	1.3	AL = 1.3	0.087	0.013-0.359	No	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits.
0 of 10 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the action level of 1.3ppm.							

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 Switzerland of Ohio Water 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 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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.

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.