

SWITZER WATER ASSOCIATION

DRINKING WATER CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

For the Year 2023

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Consumer Confidence Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water is obtained mainly from the Village of Clarington from two wells within the village park located on North Market Street. In case of an emergency we are able to supplement our water supply from the Switzerland of Ohio Water District. No emergency connection was used during 2023.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Larry Bailey at 740-486-6423**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on **the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 P.M. at St. John's Church located on German Ridge Road**.

The sources of drinking water both tap and bottled water includes 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 plants treatment, 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, EPA 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.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

The EPA requires sampling to ensure drinking water safety. Samples were collected for several different contaminants most of which were not detected in the Village of Clarington water supply. The Ohio EPA requires us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, are more than one year old.

The aquifer that supplies drinking water to the Village of Clarington has a high susceptibility to contamination, as indicated by the presence of nitrates in the treated water between 1992 and 1999. Additional water samples have been collected since 1999 at the Village of Clarington's water supply and concentrations of nitrates have been below the area of concern. This high susceptibility is also due to the sensitive nature of the aquifer in which the drinking water well is located and the existing potential contaminant sources identified. Future contamination may be avoided by implementing protective measures. More information is available by calling the number for the water department listed in this report.

All 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.

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 infections. 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 microbiological contaminants are available for the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

"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 Switzer Water Association is responsible for providing high quality 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>."

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminant
Inorganic Contaminants							
*Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	1.74	NA	No	2023	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
*Barium (ppm)	2.0	2.0	0.113	NA	No	2021	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.08	NA	No	2021	Erosion of natural deposits; water additives which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Radioactive Contaminants	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	0	AL = 15	1.2	NA	No	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Zero out of ten lead samples exceeded the Action Level of 15 ppb.							
Copper (ppm)	1.3	AL = 1.3	0.093	NA	No	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Zero out of ten copper samples exceeded the Action Level of 1.3 ppm.							
Disinfection By-products							
Total Trihalo-methanes DS201 and DS202 (TTHMs) (ppb)	NA	80	8.0	3.3 – 8.0	No	2023	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Residual Disinfectants							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	0.96	0.86 – 1.06	No	2023	Water additive used to control microbes.

* Sampled by the Village of Clarington. All others sampled by the Switzer Water Association.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water meets all current standards at these levels.

We have a current unconditioned license to operate our water system.

We at Switzer Water Association work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. The Association officials reminds customers that the water system have complied with all EPA regulations to date. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community.

Switzer Water Association purchases water from the Village of Clarington. In 2020 the Village of Clarington 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 the Village of Clarington's drinking water below the action level established by Ohio EPA. Follow up monitoring is being conducted. For more information about PFAS, and to view the latest results please visit pfas.ohio.gov.

Definitions Used:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - (mandatory language) The "Maximum Allowed" is 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - (mandatory language) The "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. The MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The highest level of a disinfectant that is 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.

< = Less than.

Picocuries per Liter (pci/L) – A common measure of radioactivity.

PHAS: 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.