

SOUTHWEST REGIONAL WATER DISTRICT

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

In accordance with EPA regulations, Southwest Regional Water District has prepared this report to provide information about the quality of the drinking water we serve. Water treated and distributed by SWRWD met all EPA standards in 2023 and operated on an unconditioned license. This record reflects the hard work by our dedicated staff to deliver water that meets or exceeds all regulatory standards.

2023

3640 Old Oxford Rd. Hamilton, OH 45013 • 513.863.0828 • www.swwater.org

*SWRWD Board of Trustees
meet in public session
on the fourth Tuesday of
each month at 6pm*

Where Your Water Comes From (Source Water Information)

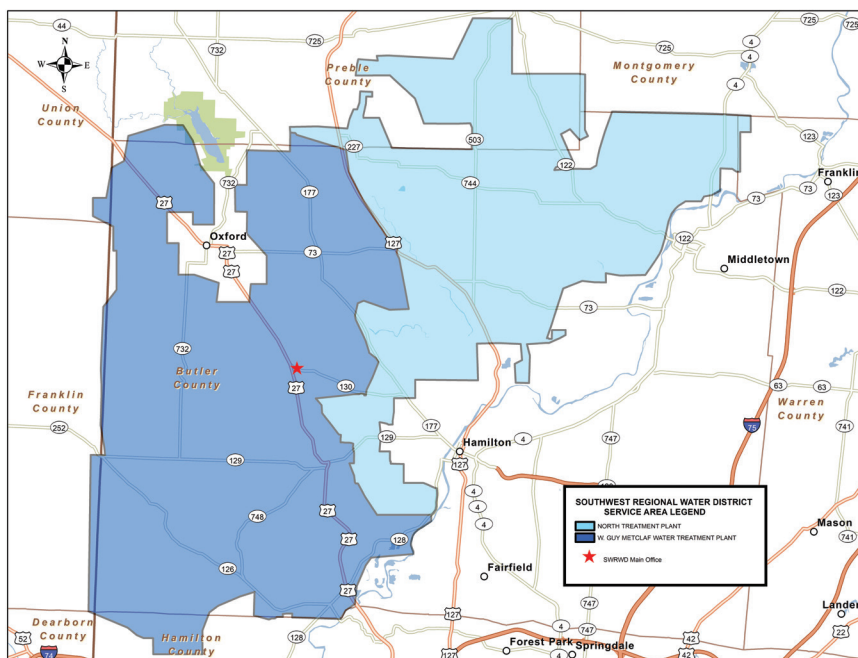
SWRWD supplies water from a single source, the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer (GMBVA). Groundwater is then treated at the District's two water treatment facilities.

The W. Guy Metcalf Water Treatment Plant, located in Ross Township, has a capacity of producing 3.6 MGD treating water from three production wells. In 2023, the plant produced 730 million gallons of water servicing approximately 8,600 customers under normal conditions.

The North Water Treatment Plant, located in St. Clair Township, has a capacity of producing 6 MGD treating water from four production wells. In 2023, this plant produced 616 million gallons of water servicing approximately 7,200 customers under normal conditions.

The average District household uses about 150 gallons of water per day.

The District has emergency supply connections with the City of Hamilton, Middletown and Trenton. During 2023 the District purchased 6,700 gallons from the emergency interconnection with the City of Hamilton.



SWRWD Water Service Area

2023 Water Quality Data Table

			NORTH TREATMENT PLANT			W.GUY METCALF TREATMENT PLANT				
Substance Found (Units)	MCL or MRDL (level allowed)	MCLG or MRDLG (Ideal goal)	Level	Range of Detection	Is this a Violation?	Level	Range of Detection	Is this a Violation?	Sample Year	Typical Source
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	1.67	n/a	No	2.05	n/a	No	2023	Fertilizers, sewage, and natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.99	0.87-1.16	No	0.96	0.86-1.10	No	2023	Naturally present; added during treatment
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0166	n/a	No	0.033	n/a	No	2023	Drilling wastes, metal refineries and natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	0.2	0.2	0.002	n/a	No	0.002	n/a	No	2023	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	1.285	1.06-2.21	No	1.2725	1.08-2.15	No	2023	Water additive used to control microbes

DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Substance Found (Units)	MCL or MRDL (level allowed)	MCLG or MRDLG (Ideal goal)	Level	Range of Detection	Is this a Violation?	Sample Year	Typical Source
TTHMs - Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	n/a	11.6	10.6-11.6	No	2023	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

Substance Found (Units)	Action Level (AL)	Individual Results Over AL	90% of Tests Levels were Less Than	Is this a Violation?	Sample Year	Typical Source
Lead (ppb)	AL = 15	Yes	1.5 (One (1) sample exceeded action level - 24.9ppb)	No	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing and natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	AL = 1.3	n/a	0.743 (no samples exceeded action level)	No	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing and natural deposits

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE - FIFTH ROUND (UCMR5)			NORTH TREATMENT PLANT		W.GUY METCALF TREATMENT PLANT			
Substance Found			Level	Range of Detection	Level	Range of Detection	Sample Year	Typical Source
PFBS (ppb)			ND	n/a	0.00309	n/a	2023	Chemical compound used as a surfactant or wetting agent in industrial processes

TERMS TO KNOW

MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level – Highest allowed level of a contaminant in drinking water.	pCi/L	Picocuries per liter is a measure of radioactivity in water. A Picocurie is 10–12 curies and is the quantity of radioactive material producing 2.22 nuclear transformations per minute.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – Level of a contaminant below which there is no known or expected health risk.	AL	Action Level (for lead and copper) The 90th percentile detection level must exceed the AL before action is required.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level – Highest allowed level of a disinfectant.	<	Less than.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal – Level of disinfectant below which there is no known or expected health risk.	NA	Not Applicable.
mg/L	Milligrams per liter or parts per million (ppm). About one inch in 16 miles or one penny in 10 thousand dollars.	ND	Non-Detect.
ug/L	Micrograms per liter or parts per billion (ppb). About one inch in 16,000 miles or one penny in 10 million dollars.		

Source Water Protection

In 2003, Ohio EPA determined that the GMBVA was a very productive aquifer, has a high susceptibility to contamination, owing to sensitivity of the aquifer itself and to the presence of potential contaminant sources. The high susceptibility is confirmed by the presence of nitrates in our treated water. This indicates manmade influence, but the concentrations are well below the federal and state drinking water standard of 10 parts per million. For more information about the District’s Source Water, please call our Operations and Maintenance Manager, Dustan Marshall, at (513) 863-0828.

The District is a member of the Hamilton to New Baltimore Ground Water Consortium. Along with Butler County Water & Sewer Dept., the cities of Hamilton, Fairfield and Cincinnati, Molson-Coors Brewery, and Southwestern Ohio Water Company, we share the costs associated with monitoring and protecting the aquifer and our wells.

Consortium members have worked very hard to develop and implement a comprehensive Source Water Protection Plan to help prevent contaminants from entering the aquifer. The plan contains an education component, source water protection strategies, and a contingency/emergency plan. The Consortium’s website has more information at www.gwconsortium.org.

The District belongs to the National Rural Water Association, and the Ohio Rural Water Association, both of which represent water systems on issues with the EPA and other governmental entities that regulate and protect water supplies and finished water quality. District employees maintain individual memberships with the American Water Works Association.

Potential Sources of Drinking Water Contamination

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 and, in some cases, radioactive material. It 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 the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) prescribes regulations which 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 USEPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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 healthcare providers. Environmental Protection Agency and Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Water Quality Monitoring Information

During 2023 the District performed all water quality monitoring required by the Ohio EPA under the Ohio Administrative Code. Since 2001 we have conducted testing required by USEPA to monitor for several currently unregulated contaminants. We test raw water in our own labs daily for hardness, alkalinity, pH, chlorides and fluoride. For finished water we conduct the same daily tests plus iron, stability, coliform bacteria and chlorine. You may make arrangements to review any of our testing data by calling Dustan Marshall, Operations and Maintenance Manager at 513-863-0828.

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. Southwest Regional 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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

In 2023 the District conducted sampling of lead and copper at 30 residences throughout the system totaling 30 samples. One sample indicated an elevated lead level (24.9 ug/l). Zero out of 30 samples were over the action level for Copper. Results are included on pages 2-3 of this document.

Backflow

You can help to prevent water contamination by eliminating all cross connections on your property and by using an approved backflow prevention device where required. For more information about SWRWD's Backflow Program, visit our website at https://www.swwater.org/water_quality/backflow_prevention.php.

To report a suspected or known cross connection call 513-863-0828 and ask to speak with someone about backflow.

Water Theft is Illegal

Under Ohio Revised Code 4933.19, each water-works company is required to notify its customers, on an annual basis, that tampering with or bypassing a meter constitutes a theft offense that could result in the imposition of criminal sanctions.

Your Involvement with Water Decisions

We encourage public comment on decisions affecting drinking water. The Southwest Regional Water District Board of Trustees' meetings are open to the public and are typically held the fourth Tuesday of each month. Please call 513-863-0828 for details.

If you have questions or comments about this report or other water issues, please contact us by mail, website (www.swwater.org) or by phone at 513-863-0828.

Please share this report with renters or others who do not receive water bills. Additional copies of this report are available on request.

If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter to us by mail at U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

License Status

Southwest Regional Water District has a current, unconditioned license to operate.