Little Walnut Water System
Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report
For 2024

The Little Walnut Water System 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.

Source Water Information

The Little Walnut Water System receives its drinking water from one underground aquifer, located in Bloom Township, adjacent to the treatment facility. The underground supply is delivered to the treatment facility by wells located throughout the wellfield.

Source Water Assessment

The aquifer that supplies drinking water to Fairfield County's Little Walnut wellfield has a moderate susceptibility to contamination, due to the moderately sensitive nature of the aquifer in which drinking water wells are located and the existing potential contaminant sources identified. This does not mean that the aquifer will become contaminated; only that conditions are such that the ground water could be impacted by potential contaminant sources. Future contamination of the aquifer can be avoided by implementing protective measures. Fairfield County has implemented, and will continue to implement protective measures to prevent contamination of the drinking water sources. Please contact the Chief Water Operator at 614.322.5200 or Ohio EPA at 614.644.2752 for more information.

Health Related Information

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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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.

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).

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 Little Walnut Water System 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 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Required Lead Service Line Inventory Statement:

Our distribution system has no lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown service lines. To determine this we used the following source:

Construction of the Little Walnut Water Treatment Plant began in 2001. All construction and plumbing codes of that period were followed, including the 1986 ban on lead pipes that was put into place by the USEPA.

About Your Drinking Water

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Little Walnut Water System conducted sampling for bacteria, fluoride, haloacetic acids, total trihalomethanes, as well as lead and copper. The sample collected for nitrate-nitrogen, was below detectable limits in 2024. 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.

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

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the Little Walnut drinking water.

REGULATED HEALTH RELATED STANDARDS: This table provides health related information about the quality of the water supplied to the water system in 2024 by the Utilities Department. This information is intended to assist our customers in making informed decisions regarding the consumption, protection and conservation of the water supply.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS	MCLG	MCL	LEVEL FOUND	RANGE OF DETECTION	SAMPLE YEAR	ARE WE IN COMPLIANCE	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS
			LITTLE WALNUT WATER				
FLUORIDE (ppm)	4	4	1.12	0.985-1.21	2024	YES	WATER ADDITIVE WHICH PROMOTES STRONG TEETH
CHLORINE (ppm)	MRDLG =4	MRDL =4	1.26	0.64-1.45	2024	YES	ADDED TO DISINFECT THE WATER
BARIUM (ppb)	2	2	0.044	N/A	2023	YES	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
LEAD (ppb)	0	AL=15	<2.0	<2.0	2024	YES	CORROSION OF HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING SYSTEMS
	0 out of 10 samples was found to have lead levels in excess of the action level of 15 ppb						
COPPER (ppm)	1.3	AL =1.3	0.900	.011-1.10	2024	YES	CORROSION OF HOUSEHOLD PLUMBING SYSTEMS
	0 out of 10 samples was found to have copper levels in excess of action level of 1.3 ppm.						
COPPER LEVEL IN DRINKING WATER MAY BE ELEVATED WHEN COPPER SERVICE LINES ARE USED IN A HOUSE OR BUSINESS. ADDITIONALLY, IF YOUR RESIDENCE HAS AN IMPROPER ELECTRICAL GROUND, COPPER LEVELS IN THE DRINKING WATER MAY INCREASE. FOR MORE INFORMATION ON COPPER IN DRINKING WATER, PLESE CONTACT THE WATER DIVISION.							
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS							
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (ppb)	NA	80	15.3	9.6-15.3	2024	YES	BYPRODUCT OF DRINKING WATER CHLORINATION
HALOACETIC ACIDS (ppb)	NA	60	<6.0	<6.0	2024	YES	BYPRODUCT OF DRINKING WATER CHLORINATION
NON-REGULATED SECONDARY STANDARDS: Non-Mandatory Water Quality Standards							
IRON (ppm)	N/A	N/A	0.006	N/A	2024	IRON IS NOT A HEALTH RELATED STANDARD BUT IS AESTHETICALLY UNPLEASANT FROM ITS YELLOWISH TO BROWNISH COLOR AND STALE TASTE	
MANGANESE (ppm)	N/A	N/A	0.005	N/A	2024	MANGANESE IS NOT A HEALTH RELATED STANDARD BUT IS AESTHETICALLY UNPLEASANT DUE TO ITS ABILITY TO CAUSE BLACK STAINS	
HARDNESS (ppm)	N/A	N/A	132	100-168	2024	PRIMARILY MADE UP OF CALCIUM AND MAGNESIUM SALTS. SOFT WATER CREATES SUDS EASIER. WATER TOO SOFT CAN BE CORROSIVE. THE HARDER THE WATER, THE MORE RESIDUAL DEPOSITS. OEPA RECOMMENDS HARDNESS IN THE RANGE OF 120-160 mg/l	
PHOSPHATE (ppm)	N/A	N/A	0.75	0.51-1.01	2024	ADDED TO HELP PREVENT LEACHING OF COPPER OR LEAD INTO THE WATER AND SEQUESTER ANY RESIDUAL IRON OR MANGANESE	
SODIUM (ppm)	N/A	N/A	117	96.8-138	2024	INFORMATION FOR THOSE WHO MAY BE ON A SODIUM RESTRICTED DIET	

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings Fairfield County Commissioners, which meets weekly on Tuesdays in the second floor of the Fairfield County Courthouse, 210 East Main Street, Lancaster, Ohio at 10 am.

For more information on the Little Walnut Water System drinking water contact Chief Water Operator at (614) 322-5200.

Definitions of some terms contained within this report

Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatments or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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.

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 (ug/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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) The highest residual disinfectant level allowed.

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

N/A: not applicable.