

**WESTERN WATER COMPANY
2024 WATER QUALITY REPORT**

IS MY DRINKING WATER SAFE?

Water quality is the first priority at Western Water Company. Constant testing by the dedicated staff of certified operators and laboratory personnel ensure the highest standards for drinking water quality are being met at all times. The test results for 2024 show Western Water Company's water to be of the highest quality. If you have any questions about water quality, please contact Jim Swearingen at the Water Treatment Plant, weekdays at (513)722-1682 between 8:30 A.M. and 5:00 P.M.

WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF MY WATER?

Western Water Company's water comes from an aquifer along the Little Miami River in Warren County. Western Water also purchases water from other water systems and then distributes the various supplies to their customers.

	Percent	Source
Western Water Company	51%	Little Miami River Aquifer Warren County
Cincinnati Water Works	49%	Ohio River, and Great Miami Aquifer

WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY WATER?

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 at (800)426-4791.

WHAT ARE SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION TO DRINKING WATER?

The sources of drinking water both tap and bottled water includes rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surfaces of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and in some cases radioactive materials. The water can also 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 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.

SUSCEPTIBILITY ANALYSIS

One source of treated drinking water for Western Water Company is the Greater Cincinnati Water Works. Cincinnati has two sources of raw water, one being the Ohio River and the other is the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer.

As with all raw water sources, water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground. It dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal or human activity. As with all surface waters the Ohio EPA has classified the Ohio River as highly susceptible to potential contamination. The Ohio EPA has also classified their portion of the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer as highly susceptible to contamination due to the lack of an overlying protective clay layer, the presence of low levels of nitrates and the presence of nearby potential contamination sources.

DO I NEED 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 chemo therapy, 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800)426-4791.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OUR OPERATIONS?

In 2021, our PWS was sampled as part of the State of Ohio's Drinking Water Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Sampling Initiative. Results from this sampling indicated PFAS were detected in our drinking water below the action level established by Ohio EPA. Follow up monitoring is being conducted. For more information about PFAS, and to view our latest results, please visit pfas.ohio.gov.

In 2024 Western Water Company had an unconditional license to operate our water system.

TURBIDITY

Western Water Company purchases water from other water systems as explained in the source water section. We are required to report on the turbidity as an indication of the effectiveness of their filtration system. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. The limit set by the EPA is 0.3 NTU in 95% of the samples analyzed each month, and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time. As reported in GCWW's Data sheet provided with this CCR GCWW's highest recorded turbidity result for 2024 was .17 NTU at the Miller Water Plant and the lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

Our Water Officials will meet to answer questions each month at the Treatment Plant. Please feel free to participate. Call Jim Swearingen for dates and times at (513)722-1682.

LEAD CAN CAUSE SERIOUS HEALTH PROBLEMS

“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. Western Water Company 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 thirty seconds to two 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. 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> or by calling 614-644-2752. 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 800-426-4719 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>”.

Our distribution system has no lead, galvanized requiring replacement, or lead status unknown service lines. To determine this, we used the following sources: historic records, visual inspections or other documentations that indicate the service line materials. If you would like any additional information, please call the office at (513)722-1682

“THIS INSTITUTION IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER”

WESTERN WATER CO. 2024 WATER QUALITY DATA SHEET							
CONTAMINANTS	YEAR SAMPLE	LEVEL DETECTED	MCL	MCLG	RANGE OF DETECTION	VIOLATION	SOURCE OF CONTAMINANTS
INORGANIC (REGULATED) CONTAMINANTS							
FLUORIDE	2024	1.05 mg/l	4.0 mg/L	4.0 mg/L	0.82-1.27 mg/l	NONE	EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS, WATER ADDITIVE WHICH PROMOTES STRONG TEETH, DISCHARGE FROM FERTILIZER AND ALUMINUM FACTORIES
NITRATES	2020	0.93 mg/l	10.0 mg/L	10.0 mg/L	n/a	NONE	RUNOFF FROM FERTILIZER USE, LEACHING FROM SEPTIC TANKS, SEWAGE, EROSION OF NATURAL DEPOSITS
BARIUM	2019	0.0479 MG/L	2 MG/L	2MG/L	N/A	NONE	Erosion of natural deposits/discharge from drilling wastes and metal refineries
RESIDUAL DISINFECTANTS							
TOTAL CHLORINE	2024	0.99 mg/l	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	.93-1.02 mg/l	NONE	WATER ADDATIVE TO CONTROL MICROBES
ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (REGULATED)							
HALOACETIC ACID 5	2024	12.375 ug/l	60 ug/L	N/A	0-14.70 ug/l	NONE	BY PRODUCT OF DRINKING WATER CHLORINATION
THM'S	2024	45.475 ug/l	80 ug/L	N/A	10.7-81.9 ug/l	NONE	BY PRODUCT OF DRINKING WATER CHLORINATION
LEAD AND COPPER							
LEAD	2024	2.0 ug/l	AL=15.0 ug/l	Zero	<0.30-2.70 ug/L	NONE	CORROSION OF HOUSE-HOLD PLUMBING SYSTEMS
Zero out of 30 samples was found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ug/L (80ug/L)							
COPPER	2024	0.627 mg/l	AL=1.3 mg/L	1.3 mg/L	0.016-1.60 mg/L	NONE	CORROSION OF HOUSE-HOLD PLUMBING SYSTEMS
One out of 30 samples was found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 mg/l							
UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS							
EPA required monitoring to determining where certain substances occur and and whether it needs to regulate them							
CHLOROFORM	2024	12.11 ug/l	na	70 ug/l	3.3-42.7 ug/l	na	
BROMOFORM	2024	6.60 ug/l	na	0	0.80-18.4 ug/l	na	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection
BROMODICHLORO-METHANE	2024	10.29 ug/l	na	0	3.0-17.6 ug/l	na	
DIBROMOCHLORO-METHANE	2024	12.35 ug/l	na	60 ug/l	2.9-22.3 ug/l	na	
KEY TO ABBREVIATIONS							
MCL - MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL - THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF CONTAMINANT ALLOWED IN DRINKING WATER							
MCLG - MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL - THE LEVEL OF CONTAMINANT IN DRINKING WATER BELOW WHICH THERE IS NO KNOWN RISK TO HEALTH							
MRDLG-MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL GOAL;THE LEVEL OF RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT BELOW WHICH THERE IS NO KNOWN OR EXPECTED RISK TO HEALTH							
MRDL-MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL; THE HIGHEST RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL ALLOWED							
AL - ACTION LEVEL - THE CONCENTRATION OF A CONTAMINANT WHICH TRIGGERS A TREATMENT OF OTHER REQUIREMENT WHICH A WATER SYSTEM MUST FOLLOW							
TT- TREATMENT TECHNIQUE-A REQUIRED PROCESS INTENDED TO REDUCE THE LEVEL OF A CONTAMINANT IN DRINKING WATER							
MG/L - MILLIGRAMS PER LITER (PPM)							
UG/L - MICROGRAMS PER LITER (PPB)							
N/R - NOT REGULATED							
PCI/L - PICO CURIES PER LITER, A MEASURE OF RADIOACTIVITY IN WATER							
ND - NOT DETECTABLE AT SAMPLE TIME							
NA - NOT APPLICABLE							
MRDL - MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTION LEVEL							
MRDLG - MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTION LEVEL GOAL							

2024 CCR Data for GCWW Wholesale Customers

Substance	Unit	Maximum Allowed (MCL, AL, T1)	Miller Water			Bolton Water			Typical Source of Contamination
			Highest Compliance Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation	Year Sampled	Highest Compliance Level Detected	Range of Detection	
Fluoride	ppm	4	0.90	0.79-0.86	No	2024	0.95	0.72-1.00	No
Nitrate	ppm	10	0.96	0.47-0.95	No	2024	1.08	na	No
Turbidity	NTU	T1 < 1 NTU Max and T2 < 0.3 NTU 95% of the time	0.17	0.04-0.17	No	2024	na	na	na
Total Organic Carbon ¹	ppm	na	3.11	1.09% < 0.3 NTU	No	2024	na	na	na
Barium	ppm	2	0.04	2.05-3.22	No	2024	0.02	na	na

Unregulated Contaminants: ¹ GCWW collects one sample per year. ² GCWW collects one sample per year. ³ The value reported under "Highest Compliance Level Detected" for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) is the lowest ratio between percentage of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of greater than one (1) indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements. A value of less than one (1) indicates a violation of the TOC removal requirements.

Substance	Unit	MCL ¹	Miller Water			Bolton Water			Typical Source of Contamination
			Highest Compliance Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation	Year Sampled	Highest Compliance Level Detected	Range of Detection	
Chloroform	ppb	70	2.4	na ²	na	2024	na ²	na	2024
Bromochloromethane	ppb	0	3.4	na ²	na	2024	na ²	na	2024
Dibromochloromethane	ppb	60	3.8	na ²	na	2024	na ²	na	2024
Bromoform	ppb	0	<0.5	na ²	na	2024	na ²	na	2024
Sulfate	ppm	na	61	38-88	na	2024	na	na	2024

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (also known as Forever Chemicals)
 For the fifth round of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5), U.S. EPA issued a list of unregulated contaminants that may be present in drinking water, but are not yet subject to U.S. EPA drinking water standards. In 2024, Greater Cincinnati Water Works finished sampling and analysis of Miller Water for the UCMR5. PFAS compounds were not detected in Miller water in the final round of monitoring. In addition to UCMR5 results, the contaminants listed below were analyzed during routine monitoring, please call 513.591.7700. You would like additional information on the results of UCMR5 or routine PFAS monitoring, please call 513.591.7700.

Substance	Unit	MCL ¹	MRL ²	Miller Water			Bolton Water			Typical Source of Contamination
				Average Level Detected	Range of Detection	Violation	Year Sampled	Average Level Detected	Range of Detection	
Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA)	ppt	4.0	2.0	nd	na	na	2024	3.9	2.3 - 5.0	na
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS)	ppt	4.0	2.0	nd	na	na	2024	4.2	2.8 - 5.4	na
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	ppt	10	2	nd	na	na	2024	3	nd - 4	na
Hexafluoropropylene oxide dimer acid (HFPO-DA or GenX)	ppt	10	2	1	nd-6	na	2024	nd	na	na
Perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA)	ppt	10	2	nd	na	na	2024	nd	na	2024
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	ppt	na	na	nd	na	na	2024	3	nd - 4	na
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	ppt	na	5	nd	na	na	2024	na	na	2024

Detected contaminants from the plant tap.
¹ GCWW collects one sample per year.
² The value reported under "Highest Compliance Level Detected" for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) is the lowest ratio between percentage of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of greater than one (1) indicates that the water system is in compliance with TOC removal requirements. A value of less than one (1) indicates a violation of the TOC removal requirements.

Results of GCWW Voluntary Monitoring for Cryptosporidium:
 GCWW has tested for Cryptosporidium (Crypto) in treated water and has never detected it. Crypto is a microscopic microorganism that, when ingested, can result in diarrhea, fever and other gastrointestinal symptoms. GCWW also tested for Crypto in the Ohio River surface water and it was detected in 1 of 4 samples during 2024. The organism is found in surface waters and comes from animal and human wastes when enter the watershed. Crypto is eliminated by an effective combination of treatment including sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection.

Sodium: GCWW has tested for sodium in treated water as it leaves the treatment plants and has found 28 mg (milligrams) per liter in the Miller water and 32 mg per liter in the Bolton Water. There are approximately 4 cups in a liter.

Turbidity: We are required to report on the turbidity as an indication of the effectiveness of our filtration system. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. The turbidity limit set by the EPA is 0.3 NTU in 95% of the samples analyzed each month, and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time. As reported in the table above, GCWW's highest recorded turbidity result for 2024 was 0.17 NTU (Miller Water) and the lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%.

GCWW has a current unconditioned license to operate our water system. GCWW was in compliance with all state primary drinking water rules during 2024. The Miller Treatment Plant uses the Ohio River as its source water. As with all surface waters, the Ohio EPA has classified the Ohio River as highly susceptible to contamination. The Ohio EPA has also classified the portion of the Great Miami Buried Valley Aquifer that the wells fields for the Bolton Treatment Plant as highly susceptible to contamination. It does not have an overlying protective clay layer; the ground water has low levels of nitrate, and there are potential sources of contamination nearby.

Abbreviations
 ppt: parts per trillion or nanograms per liter
 ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter
 ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter
 na: not applicable
 NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure clarity in drinking water
 nd: not detectable at testing limits
 nr: not regulated

Definitions
 Minimum Reporting Level or MRL: The level of a contaminant that can reliably be detected using the specified analytical method.
 Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or 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 or MCL: 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. MCLs for PFAS compounds will be effective in 2026.
 Action Level or AL: The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment technology required to reduce the concentration of the contaminant.
 Treatment Technique or TT: A method for the water system to achieve acceptable levels of the contaminants in lieu of establishing a maximum contaminant level.
 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.