

## Backflow Prevention & Cross Connection

Ohio Administrative Code Chapter 3745-95 requires SWLCWSD to protect the public water system from cross connections and prevent backflow situations. The District must conduct cross connection control inspections of their water customers' property to evaluate cross connection hazards. Local ordinances or District regulations may also exist and must be followed in addition to state regulations. If a customer is found to have a potential or actual cross connection contamination hazard, the customer will be required to eliminate the hazard and/or install an appropriate backflow prevention device at the service connection and/or at the hazard.

## Definitions:

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

**MCL (Maximum Contamination Level):** The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to MCLG's as possible, using the best available treatment technology.

**MCLG (Maximum Contamination Level Goal):** The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** The level of residual disinfectant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MRDLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**N/A (Non-Applicable):** Does not apply to the item.

**ppb (parts per billion):** or micrograms per liter, are units of measure for the concentration of a contaminant. A ppb is equivalent to 1 second in 31.7 years.

**ppm (parts per million):** or milligrams per liter, are units of measure for the concentration of a contaminant. A ppm is equivalent to 1 second in a little over 11.5 days.

**Public Water System:** A water system with 15 or more service connections or which regularly serves 25 people 60 days out of a year.

Board of Trustees  
Melvin Hite, President  
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Public participation and comments are encouraged at Board Meetings which are held at the District Office the 1st, 2nd, and 4th Tuesday of each month at 1:00p.m. and the 3rd Tuesday at 1:30p.m.

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## Certified Operators

Perry Adkins, Class III      Rick Biniker, Class III  
Al Carrelli, Class II        Chris Adkins, Class I

## General Manager

Donald S. Rector, P.E.

## Office Manager

Rhonda Loomis

If you have any questions regarding the information provided in this report, please call Al Carrelli at 740-928-2178, ext225

For billing inquiries, please call  
740-927-0410

Office hours are Monday through Friday,  
8:00a.m. to 4:30p.m.  
District inspectors are on call 24 hours a day  
for emergencies.

THE SOUTHWEST LICKING  
COMMUNITY WATER AND SEWER  
DISTRICT

*Quality on Tap*

# 2008 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT



The Southwest Licking Community Water and Sewer District has prepared this report to provide information on the quality of water supplied to our customers between January 1 and December 31, 2008. This report is required by the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1996

## Source Water Information

Presently, the Southwest Licking Community Water and Sewer District operates one water treatment facility located at 69 Zellers Lane, which serves Etna Township, Harrison Township, and portions of the City of Pataskala. The treatment facility is capable of producing two million gallons per day. Groundwater is drawn from our well field adjacent to the treatment facility and delivered to the treatment facility by five wells located throughout the well field. The water is treated using Aeration and Oxidation for iron and manganese removal, followed by Gravity Filtration and Ion Exchange to remove hardness and soften the water. Chlorine is then added to the treated water to protect against possible contamination from outside sources. The water system has four elevated water storage tanks (450,000 gallons each) and one one million gallon tank providing system pressure and water storage capacity for fire protection.

The Ohio EPA recently completed a study of the District's source of drinking water to identify potential contaminant sources and provide guidance on protecting the drinking water source. This study concluded, the aquifer (water-rich zone) has a high susceptibility to contamination. This conclusion was based on the following criteria:

- The lack of a protective layer of clay overlying the aquifer
- The shallow depth (less than 10 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer
- The presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area

More information about the source water assessment or what consumers can do to protect the aquifer is available by calling 740-928-2178 and speaking to Perry Adkins at ext 224 or Al Carrelli at ext 225.

### Precautions

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as persons with cancer who are 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

### Health Information

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, radio active 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:

- **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 and farming.
- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile 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.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural and residential uses and runoff, and urban storm water.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring in the ground, or the result of oil and gas production and mining.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration 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 a small amount of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

More information can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

### Lead in Drinking Water

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. SWLCWSD 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 in the line 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

| Contaminants  | Year Tested | Units | MCL         | MCLG  | Detected Level | Range                | Major Sources  | Violation |
|---|-------------|-------|-------------|-------|----------------|----------------------|--|-----------|
| BACTERIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS  |             |       |             |       |                |                      |  |           |
| Total Coliform  | 2008        | +/-   | 1 per month | 0     | 1              | Positive or Negative | Naturally found in the environment. Indicator of other potentially harmful bacteria.                                       | NO        |
| INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS  |             |       |             |       |                |                      |  |           |
| Barium  | 2007        | ppm   | 2.0         | 2.0   | 0.137          | N/A                  | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits                                 | NO        |
| * Lead  | 2008        | ppb   | AL=15.5     | N/A   | <5             | N/A                  | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits   | NO        |
| * Copper  | 2008        | ppb   | AL=1350     | N/A   | 298            | N/A                  | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives                     | NO        |
| * out of 20 lead and copper samples collected, none of them exceeded the action level |             |       |             |       |                |                      |  |           |
| Fluoride (Average)  | 2008        | ppm   | 4           | 4     | 1.02           | 0.788-1.27           | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes healthy teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories | NO        |
| Nitrate   | 2008        | ppm   | 10          | 10    | 0.323          | N/A                  | Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks  | NO        |
| Nitrate-Nitrite   | 2008        | ppm   | 10          | 10    | 0.323          | N/A                  | Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage                                | NO        |
| ORGANIC DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS   |             |       |             |       |                |                      |  |           |
| Bromodichloromethane  | 2008        | ppb   | 3600        | N/A   | 11.2           | N/A                  | By-product of Chlorination   | NO        |
| Chloroform  | 2008        | ppb   | N/A         | N/A   | 18.3           | N/A                  | By-product of Chlorination   | NO        |
| Dibromochloromethane  | 2008        | ppb   | 24          | N/A   | 6.1            | N/A                  | By-product of Chlorination   | NO        |
| Bromoform   | 2008        | ppb   | 80          | 0     | 1.0            | N/A                  | By-product of Chlorination   | NO        |
| Contaminants  | Year Tested | Units | MRDL        | MRDLG | Detected Level | Range                | Major Source   | Violation |
| Total Chlorine  | 2008        | ppm   | 4           | 4     | 1.57           | 0.29-1.57            | Water additive used to control microbes  | NO        |