

# 2008 Annual Water Quality Report



**Mansfield  
System #5**  
Serving Walcrest  
PWS ID: OH7004912

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

## A Message from the President

Dear Ohio American Water Customer,

As a trusted leader in the industry, Ohio American Water places a strong emphasis on sharing information with our customers about the quality of the water service we provide.

One way we do this is by reporting to you annually the results of various tests that we conduct. Please review this Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), which outlines information applicable to your local water system for testing completed through December 2008. You'll find that we provide water service that surpasses or meets all federal and state water quality regulations. In fact, we often address regulations well before they go into effect.

Just as important, Ohio American Water makes the necessary investments to maintain and upgrade its facilities so that we can provide quality water service to your home 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Our customers are our top priority. We are committed to providing the highest quality drinking water service possible now and in the years to come. In addition to this written report, you can view information about Ohio American Water and your water system on the website <http://www.oawc.com>. For more information or for any questions about this report relating to your drinking water service, please contact us at (800) 673-5999.

Sincerely,

David K. Little  
President, Ohio American Water

## About Ohio American Water

Ohio American Water is one of the state's largest investor-owned water resource companies, serving more than 200,000 residents in more than 59 communities. Ohio American Water has nearly a century of experience in the state and takes pride in being caretakers of this precious natural resource. We work tirelessly to ensure your water meets all standards of purity and safety. At Ohio American Water our goal is to provide our customers the highest quality of water and service so that they may enjoy and use with confidence.

## About American Water

Founded in 1886, American Water is the largest investor-owned U.S. water and wastewater utility company. With headquarters in Voorhees, N.J., the company employs more than 7,000 dedicated professionals who provide drinking water, wastewater and other related services to approximately 15 million people in 32 states and Ontario, Canada. More information can be found by visiting [www.amwater.com](http://www.amwater.com).

## Investing in Walcrest's Future

Ohio American Water continually invests in improvements to your water system. Ohio American Water believes in its role of good citizenship and proudly contributes a substantial amount in local taxes annually and is a valuable source of revenue to the local community and its services.

## What is a Water Quality Report?

To comply with state and EPA regulations, Ohio American Water issues a report annually describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect your drinking water sources. This report provides an overview of last year's (2008) water quality. It includes details about where your water comes from and what it contains.

If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please call our Customer Service Center at (800) 673-5999.

## Source Water Information

The source of supply for your public water system is ground water obtained from two wells.

## Protecting Your Water Source

Ohio EPA recently completed a study of your public water system's source of drinking water in order to identify potential contaminant sources and provide guidance on protecting the drinking water source.

According to this study, the aquifer (water rich zone) that supplies water to our system has a low susceptibility to contamination. This determination is based on the following:

- Presence of a thick protective layer of clay overlying the aquifer,
- Significant depth (over 70 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer,
- No evidence to suggest that ground water has been impacted by any significant levels of chemical contaminants from human activities, and
- No apparent significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area.

This susceptibility means that under currently existing conditions, the likelihood of the aquifer becoming contaminated is relatively low. This likelihood can be minimized by implementing appropriate protective measures. More information about the source water assessment or what consumers can do to help protect the aquifer is available by calling (800) 673-5999.

## How to Contact Us

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Michael Perriguet at (740) 383-0926. You can also contact Mr. Perriguet by e-mail at [Michael.perriguet@amwater.com](mailto:Michael.perriguet@amwater.com).

For questions about your water bill or service issues, please call our Customer Service Center at (800) 673-5999.

To learn more about Ohio American Water, please visit our web site at [www.oawc.com](http://www.oawc.com).

## Water Information Sources

- **Ohio American Water**  
[www.oawc.com](http://www.oawc.com)
- **Ohio Environmental Protection Agency**  
[www.epa.state.oh.us](http://www.epa.state.oh.us)
- **United States Environmental Protection Agency**  
[www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)
- **Safe Drinking Water Hotline:** (800) 426-4791
- **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention**  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)
- **American Water Works Association**  
[www.awwa.org](http://www.awwa.org)
- **Water Quality Association**  
[www.wqa.org](http://www.wqa.org)
- **National Library of Medicine/  
National Institute of Health**  
[www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus)

## How to Read This Table

Ohio American Water conducts extensive monitoring to ensure that your water meets all water quality standards. The results of our monitoring are reported in the accompanying tables. While most monitoring was conducted in 2008, certain substances are monitored less than once per year because the levels do not change frequently. For help with interpreting this table, see the "Table Definitions" section.

Begin by reading across the table starting with the **Substance** column heading. The **Year Sampled** is usually in 2008 or the prior year. **MCLG** is the goal level for that substance (this may be lower than what is allowed). **MCL** shows the highest level of substance (contaminant) allowed. **Level Found** represents the measured amount (less is better). **Range of Detections** tells the highest and lowest amounts measured. A **Yes** under **Compliance Achieved** means the amount of the substance met government requirements. **Typical Source** tells where the substance usually originates.

Unregulated substances are measured, but maximum contaminant levels have not been established by the government.

## Definitions of Terms Used in This Report

- **AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
- **MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** 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.
- **MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):** 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.
- **MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** 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 contamination.
- **mrem/year:** Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).
- **NA:** Not applicable
- **pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** Measurement of the natural rate of disintegration of radioactive contaminants in water (also beta particles).
- **ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water, or milligrams per liter.
- **ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water, or micrograms per liter.

## Water Quality Statement

We are pleased to report that during the past year, the water delivered to your home or business complied with, or was better than, all state and federal drinking water requirements. For your information, we have compiled a list in the table below indicating what substances were detected in your drinking water during 2008. Although all of the substances listed below are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) set by the EPA, we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.

## Water Quality Results

### Mansfield System #5

Regulated Substances (Measured on the Water Leaving the Treatment Facility)								
Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections (Low-High)	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source	
Arsenic (ppb)	2007	0	10	5	NA	YES	Runoff from glass and electronics productions wastes; Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards	
Barium (ppm)	2007	2	2	0.013	NA	YES	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries	
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	2004	0	50 <sup>1</sup>	4.1	NA	YES	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	
Fluoride (ppm)	2007	4	4	0.3	NA	YES	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
Nickel (ppb)	2007	100	100	30.4	NA	YES	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from electroplating, stainless steel, and alloy products, mining and refining operations	
Nitrate (ppm)	2008	10	10	0.18	NA	YES	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	
Other Compounds (Measured in the Distribution System)								
Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections (Low-High)	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source	
Haloacetic Acids - HAA5 (ppb)	2007	NA	60	1.7	NA	YES	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MRDLG	MRDL	Level Found	Range of Detections (Low-High)	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source	
Chlorine (ppm)	2008	4	4	1.2	0.9 - 1.4	YES	Water additive used to control microbes	
Unregulated Substances (Measured on the Water Leaving the Treatment Facility)								
Substance (units)	Year Sampled		Level Found		Range of Detections (Low-High)		Typical Source	
Sodium (ppm)	2007		52		NA		Naturally occurring	
Sulfate (ppm)	2007		271.9		NA		Erosion of natural deposits	
Tap Water Samples: Lead and Copper Results								
Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCLG	Action Level	90th Percentile	Number of Samples	Number of Samples Above Action Level	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	2008	1.3	1.3	0.2785	5	0	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2008	0	15	3	5	0	YES	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

<sup>1</sup> The MCL for Beta/photon emitters is written as 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L the level of concern for beta emitters.

## Substances Expected to be in Drinking Water

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:

**Microbial Contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

**Inorganic Contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.

**Pesticides and Herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic Chemical Contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

**Radioactive Contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## Lead

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. Ohio American 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 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may also 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 (800) 426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## Radon

Your public water system was monitored for radon in the finished water during 2004. One sample was collected and the radon level was 180 pCi/L (picocuries per liter –a measure of radiation). Radon is a radioactive gas that occurs naturally in some ground water. It may pose a health risk when the gas is released from water into air, as occurs when showering, bathing, or washing dishes or clothes. Radon gas released from drinking water is a relatively small part of the total radon in air. Major sources of radon gas are soil and cigarettes. Inhalation of radon gas has been linked to lung cancer; however, the effects of radon ingested in drinking water are not yet clear. If you are concerned about radon in your home, tests are available to determine the total exposure level. For additional information on how to have your home tested, call (800) 767-7236.

## Special Health Information

**Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may 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 from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. For information regarding cryptosporidiosis (a gastrointestinal disease caused by Cryptosporidium) and how it may impact those with weakened immune systems, please contact our Customer Service Center at (800) 673-5999.**

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. The U.S. 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 the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.