

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)

2023

JCWSD Service Area J
OEPA PWS ID OH4101003

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JEFFERSON COUNTY WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

For Service Area J

(OEPA PWS ID OH 4101003)

Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report For 2023

Section 2: Introduction

The Jefferson County Water and Sewer District (JCWSD) 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.

Section 3: Source Water Information

The JCWSD does not own a water treatment plant. Therefore, it must purchase all the water it delivers to its customers from various suppliers. The vast network of pipelines, storage tanks, and booster pump stations used to distribute water by the JCWSD are divided into different service areas. The 2023 water supplier(s) for Service Area J were:

SERVICE AREA	SUPPLIER
<i>J, Sunshine Park, Jefferson Heights Area</i>	<i>Village of Mingo Junction Water Departments City of Steubenville Water Department</i>

This PWS used water from both Mingo Junction and Steubenville in 2023.

The **Village of Mingo Junction** receives its drinking water from wells which are drilled to a depth of seventy feet. The North Well is located inside the JSW Steel mill complex and the South well is located just west of the marina. EPA had classified the water plant as a surface water plant because of the close proximity to the Ohio River, but in 2004, it was re-classified as a groundwater facility. There is now a permanent connection (on Wilson Avenue near the village corporation limits) through which water is supplied to the Jefferson County “J” water system. Reverse flow (from the county to Mingo) did not occur in 2022.

High Susceptibility PWS Based on High Sensitivity: Ohio EPA had previously completed a study of Mingo Junction’s source of drinking water to identify potential contaminant sources and provide guidance on protecting the drinking water source. According to this study, **the aquifer (water-rich zone), which supplies water to the Village of Mingo Junction has a high susceptibility to contamination.** This determination is based on the following:

- Lack of protective layer of clay/shale/other overlaying the aquifer, and
- Presence of significant potential contaminants in the protection area.

This susceptibility means that under currently existing conditions, the likelihood of the aquifer becoming contaminated is relatively high. This likelihood can be minimized by implementing appropriate protective measures. In order to prevent contamination, the Village of Mingo Junction has joined the Southern Jefferson County Source water protection team in a joint effort with the surrounding communities to protect water supplies and be able to react to any contamination. More information about the source water assessment or what consumers can do to help protect the aquifer is available by calling the water plant at 740-535-9162.



The **City of Steubenville's** public water system uses surface water drawn from the Ohio River. The raw water pumping station and intakes are located at mile marker 65.3 of the Ohio River. This is in the northern part of the City near Alikanna.

Surface waters are by their nature susceptible to contamination and numerous contaminant sources along their banks make them more so. The protection areas around the Ohio River include numerous potential contaminant sources including municipal and industrial water discharges, combined sewer overflows, runoff from urban, residential, mining and agricultural areas, transportation spills related to rail and highway crossings, commercial shipping and recreational boating. As a result, the drinking water supplied to the **City of Steubenville's public water supply system is considered to have a high susceptibility to contamination.**

Historically, the Steubenville public water system has effectively treated this water source to meet drinking water quality standards. The potential for adverse water quality impacts can be further decreased by implementing measures to protect the Ohio River. More detailed information is provided in the City of Steubenville Drinking Water Source Assessment Report, which can be obtained by calling the Steubenville Water Department at (740) 283-6041.

The Ohio EPA has conducted a source water assessment for this source. For information on how to obtain a copy of this report, please contact the Jefferson County Water and Sewer District.

Section 4: What are the sources of contamination to drinking water?

The sources of 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, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by the public water systems. 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 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).

Section 5: Who needs 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 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 for 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).



Section 6: About your drinking water

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The JCWSD, the Steubenville Water System, and the Village of Mingo Junction conducted sampling for bacteria, inorganic and volatile organic contaminants during 2021. Samples were collected for a total of over 57 different contaminants, most of which were not detected in the water supply. 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. Some of the data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

Section 8A: Tables of Detected Contaminants

Listed below is information on those contaminants that were found in the JCWSD Water System as the result of monitoring by the JCWSD, City of Steubenville Water Department, and Village of Mingo Junction. (Contaminants sampled by the JCWSD are marked with an *).

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
Residual Disinfectants *							
Chlorine (as CL ₂) (ppm) *	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	0.844	0.58-1.01	No	2023	Water additive used to control microbes
Disinfectant and Disinfectant By-Products *							
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) *	N/A	60	6.93	3.5-10.8	No	2023	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb) *	N/A	80	53.63	36.20-66.8	No	2023	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Lead and Copper *							
Contaminants (units)	Action Level (AL)	Individual Results over the AL	90% of test levels were less than		Violation	Year Sampled	Typical source of Contaminants
Lead (ppb) *	15 ppb	0	1.4 ppb		No	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
							0 out of 10 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.
Copper (ppm) *	1.3 ppm	0	0.021 ppm		No	2023	Erosions of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosions of household plumbing systems
							0 out of 10 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.



2023 Table of Detected Contaminants City of Steubenville Water Department							
Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
Inorganic Contaminants							
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	1.32	0.71-1.32	No	2023	Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.04	0.87-1.12	No	2023	Water additive, which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.027	NA	No	2023	Discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide (ppb)	200	200	1.0	NA	No	2023	Discharge of steel/metal, plastic, and fertilizer factories.
Radioactive Contaminants							
Alpha emitters pCi/L	0	15 pCi/L	2.06	NA	No	2021	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 pCi/L	0	5 pCi/L	0.0732	NA	No	2021	Decay of natural and manmade deposits
Treatment Techniques							
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	TT	0.320	0.030-0.320	No	2023	Soil Runoff
Turbidity (% samples meeting standard)	NA	TT	100	NA	No	2023	
Total Organic Carbon	NA	TT	1.30	1.06-1.73	No	2023	Naturally present in the environment



2023 Table of Detected Contaminants Village of Mingo Junction							
Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contamination
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.61	0.61-0.61	No	2023	Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrite (ppb)	0.5	2	0.614	0.614-0.614	No	2023	Runoff from fertilizer use; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.97	0.7-1.28	No	2023	Water additive, which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0398	0.0398-0.0398	No	2021	Discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Thallium (ppb)	0.5	2	0.9	0.9-0.9	No	2021	Discharge from electronics, glass, and leaching from ore-processing sites; drug factories.

Section 8B: Table of Operational Water Quality

This table contains water quality parameter data taken by the City of Steubenville's Water Department at the entry point to their system.

Parameter	Sample Year	Average Level Found	Range of Detections	Sample Location
pH	2023	7.52	7.15 – 7.91	Entry point to distribution system
Total Alkalinity	2023	49	32 – 62	
Total Hardness	2023	97	64 - 126	

Section 9: Turbidity

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water and is an indication of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The turbidity limit set by the EPA is 0.3 NTU in 95% of the daily samples and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time. As reported above, the City of Steubenville's highest recorded turbidity result for 2023 was 0.320 NTU and lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%.

Section 10: Violations

The City of Steubenville Water Department had no reporting or monitoring violatons for 2023. The water system did not have violations for any of the following as well: MCL (Maximum Contaminate Level), TT (Treatment Technique), Disinfection Contact Time (CT), Filtration, or Action Level.

The Village of Mingo Junction had no reporting or monitoring violations for 2023.

For 2023, Jefferson County and Sewer District - Service Area J, was in violation of the Ohio Administrative Code (OAC) Rules 3745-81-24 for falling to monitor the drinking water during the Fourth Quarter of 2023 monitoring period and/or report for the following contaminants:



Disinfection By-Products. This violation was issued because the samples were collected in October of 2023, not during the required time frame of November 8th – 14th.

In order to turn to compliance, Jefferson County and Sewer District – Service Area J took the following actions:

- a) Notified their customers via public notice through this CCR (see below).
- b) Promptly collected the next sample according to most recent monitoring schedule between February 8th and February 14th.
- c) Submitted the sample for analysis to certified laboratory.

The potential adverse health effects of Disinfection By-Products are the following:

- Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) - Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- Total trihalomethanes (TTHM) - Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

The NOTICE can be seen below.

Drinking Water Notice

Monitoring requirements not met for Jefferson Co W&S District J

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the Fourth Quarter of 2023 time period we did not monitor for the following contaminants and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time: Disinfection By-Products.

What Should I Do?

This notice is to inform you that Jefferson Co W&S District J did not monitor and report results for the presence of the contaminants listed above in the public drinking water system during the Fourth Quarter of 2023 time period, as required by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency. You do not need to take any actions in response to this notice.

What is Being Done?

Upon being notified of this violation, the water supply was required to have the drinking water analyzed for the above-mentioned parameters. The water supplier will take steps to ensure that adequate monitoring will be performed in the future.

A sample was be collected in the required time frame between 2/8/2024 and 2/14/2024.

Sample results and additional information may be obtained by contacting Jefferson Co W& S District – J at:

Contact Person: Jonathan Sgalla

Phone Number: (740) 283-8577



Mailing Address: 596 State Route 43, Wintersville, OH 43953

PWSID: OH4101003

Section 13: 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. JCWSD, Village of Mingo Junction, and City of Steubenville are 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 800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>

Section 18: License to Operate (LTO) Status Information

The Jefferson County Water and Sewer District's J, Sunshine Park, Jefferson Heights Area Water System has a current, unconditional license to operate our water system.

Section 20: Public Participation and Contact Information

- **How do I participate in decisions concerning my drinking water?**

Public participation and comment are encouraged at regular meetings of the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners which meets every Thursday morning at 9:00 AM at 301 Market Street, Steubenville, Ohio, 43952.

- **Obtaining more information:**

If you would like more information on your drinking water, you can contact Michael S. Eroshevich of the JCWSD at (740) 283 – 8577 or via email at meroshevich@jcwatersewer.com

Section 21: Definitions of some terms contained within this report:

- 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 levels (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 (ppms) 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 (ppbs) or Micrograms per Liter (µg/L) are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.
- Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements, which a water system must follow.
- Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): 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 contaminants.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.



- 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).
- The “>” symbol: A symbol which means “greater than”.