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## Water Treatment, Distribution & Backflow Departments

### Consumer Confidence Report for 2023

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The City of Marietta wishes to keep you informed of the excellent water and services we strive to deliver to our customers over the past year. We take great pride in providing the highest quality water to every tap. It is our goal to protect our water sources, which is essential to our community, our way of life and the future of our city.

We have a current unconditional Ohio EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) license to operate and maintain a public water system. Our Public Water System License to Operate is OH8400412. Copies of this report are available at: the Marietta Water office at 304 Putnam St., the Mayor's office at 301 Putnam St. or by calling 740-374-6864. This report is also on the City of Marietta web site at [www.mariettaoh.net](http://www.mariettaoh.net).

We encourage public participation and comments at the Water/Sewer Committee meetings. The meetings are announced at the City of Marietta Council meetings. Council meetings are held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month at the Armory. You may also contact the Clerk of Council at 740-374-5501. For more information on your drinking water, contact Steve Eddy, Water Superintendent at 740-374-6864; fax no. 740-376-2002 or by E-mail [wtpm@mariettaoh.net](mailto:wtpm@mariettaoh.net).

**Is my drinking water safe?** Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. Once again, we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

**Where does my water come from?** The City of Marietta's water source is from seven (7) production wells located in a sand and gravel aquifer. Other areas nearby are included in a boundary line approved by the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency to inform the public of lands that might contribute possible contaminants to our water supply due to unwise usage of chemicals or accidental spills. These boundaries are marked by signs and give an emergency number to call to alert officials of situations that might compromise the future availability and quality of our public water supply.

A potential pollution source of lands, homes and businesses within this water supply area has been inventoried and submitted to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency as required. In September of 2015 the Ohio EPA presented a susceptibility analysis in the Drinking Water Source Assessment Report for City of Marietta. This assessment indicates that the City of Marietta's source of drinking water has a **HIGH** susceptibility to contamination because of: (1) the shallow depth (less than 30 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer, (2) the presence of a relatively thin protective layer of soil material overlying the aquifer, (3) the previous detection of organic contaminants (e.g. PCE) in some portions of the aquifer, (4) and the presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area. For more information regarding the Drinking Water Source Assessment Report, email the Water Treatment Plant at [wtpm@mariettaoh.net](mailto:wtpm@mariettaoh.net) or call 740-374-6864.

Present management of our water quality includes the following: (1) monthly monitoring of an existing element called tetrachloroethylene (PCE), which was first discovered in 1986, (2) continuous pumping and aeration of interceptor well #1 to contain and remove PCE from our water aquifer, (3) hourly checks on treatment processes, continuous sampling and testing, (4) boil advisories issued after water main breaks or loss of water service in various parts of our distribution network, (5) hydrant flushing to remove mineral deposits and air pockets that accumulate within the distribution mains, (6) when repairing service lines, all piping discovered to be of lead construction is replaced with new plastic lines, and (7) required backflow prevention devices on all customers service lines. There are approximately 90 miles of water mains in the city's distribution system. We are currently trying to replace one mile per year of water mains based upon age and condition of the main. In 2022 a large section of the 8 & 10-inch water main on Glendale Extension was replaced from Brentwood Drive to Swaney Court and is now in service. Construction of the new 6.0 MGD Reverse Osmosis Treatment Plant is on scheduled to begin in June of 2023. The City of Marietta nominated this project to the Ohio EPA for funding and received 10 million dollars of principal forgiveness towards the project.

**What are sources of contamination to drinking water?** The sources of drinking water both tap water and bottled water includes 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. 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791.



### 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 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.

### About Your Drinking Water



The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The City of Marietta conducted sampling for bacterial contamination (20 samples/monthly), Asbestos, Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC's), Inorganics, Nitrates, PFAS, Total Trihalomethanes; Total Halocetic acids, Fluoride, and Total Chlorine during 2022. Samples were collected for numerous different contaminants most of which were not detected in the City of Marietta 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 our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

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 City of Marietta Water Treatment Plant is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the different types of construction materials used in private plumbing systems. Sampling reveals lead levels in our treated water meet or is less than the levels set by the regulating agency. 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 1-800-426-4791 or <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.



## Help Protect Our Well Field

The City of Marietta relies on ground water resources to provide drinking water to your home, local businesses, medical, and industrial facilities. As a resident or business, please be aware that the actions you take within or near the well head protection area can affect the quality and cost of clean drinking water. Ground water contamination can occur through the improper disposal of chemicals, such as cleaning, automotive, lawn/garden products, motor oil, furniture strippers, and oil and latex based paints, as well as parking vehicles over the top of our aquifer and close to the City's production wells which could leak fluids onto the ground. **Parking is prohibited within a 300 ft. radius of a drinking water well. The City of Marietta has posted Source Water Protection Area signage along with "No Parking" signs by our production wells located on Linwood Avenue by the Marietta Bantam Baseball Fields. All participants for baseball activities are advised to use the Marietta Boat Ramp for parking or be subject to illegal parking fines.** Storm water runoff can carry these pollutants to areas of infiltration, potentially contaminating ground water. Improper disposal methods include: pouring chemicals on the ground, down a sink or toilet that is connected to a septic system, or down a storm drain that drains to ground water through a dry well or drains directly into a nearby stream or river.

**If it goes down there**

**up here**




**It could end**

**here**

Water that enters a storm drain system flows untreated to streams or groundwater.

HOW CAN YOU HELP REDUCE STORMWATER POLLUTION?

- Recycle your used oil.
- Dispose of pet waste in a trash can.
- Wash your car over the lawn so excess water, dirt and chemicals are filtered through grass.
- Contact the Washington SWCD at 740-373-7113 x 129 for more information.

 Washington SWCD   City of Marietta





## **Marietta's Storm Water Runoff.....**

- Occurs during rainfall or snow melt & flows through the City storm drain system of catch basins, pipes, and ditches.
- Discharges “untreated” to the Muskingum River, Davis Creek, or to the Ohio River.
- Has a potential of becoming polluted from: trash; leaked automotive fluids; pet waste; lawn debris; excess salt; sewage; excess pesticides & fertilizers; detergents; bare soil.
- Can adversely affect aquatic life, and potentially affect drinking water supplies.

### **How can you Help?**

- ◆ *Never dump anything down storm drains, properly dispose of wastes.*
- ◆ *Keep lawn debris from entering storm drains.*
- ◆ *Use pesticides & fertilizers sparingly.*
- ◆ *Use salt sparingly on roads & sidewalks.*
- ◆ *Vegetate or mulch exposed soil.*
- ◆ *Keep soil from leaving construction sites. Direct downspouts to “green areas”.*
- ◆ *Wash your personal vehicle at a commercial car wash, or your lawn.*
- ◆ *Wash your commercial vehicles & equipment where wash water is treated.*
- ◆ *Check vehicles for leaks.*
- ◆ *Have your septic tank pumped and system inspected regularly.*
- ◆ *Pick up your pet's waste. Scoop, Bag and Trash it.*
- ◆ *Keep trash covered or bagged.*
- ◆ *For land disturbances of 1 acre or more obtain a storm water permit from the City of Marietta.*
- ◆ *Volunteer with local organizations for clean-up, tree planting, and landscaping activities.*

### **For more Information ...**

Go to: [www.mariettaoh.net](http://www.mariettaoh.net) Search “Storm Water” Follow the links.

Or contact: Kathy Davis, Washington Soil & Water Conservation Storm Water Coordinator, assisting the City of Belpre with their OEPA Storm Water Requirements. 740-885-3312.

## Notice To All Customers Of Marietta City Water & Wastewater

This notice is mailed to our customers in accordance with provisions of Ohio Revised Code Section 4933.19. Tampering With Water Meters Or Water Service Equipment And The Theft Of Water Are Criminal Activities And May Result In Penalties To Offenders. A Person Found Benefiting From Tampering Or An Unauthorized Service Connection Is Presumed To Have Committed The Violation And Will Be Prosecuted.

It is a crime to tamper with or by-pass a water meter, conduit or attachment of a utility. It is also a crime to reconnect a water meter, conduit or attachment of a utility that has been disconnected by the utility. It is a crime to knowingly consume any water, which has not been correctly registered because a meter, conduit or attachment of a utility has been tampered with, or by-passed, or knowingly use service that has been disconnected by a utility and reconnected without the utility's consent.

A felony or misdemeanor conviction for a theft offense can result from a violation of these laws. The person so convicted is subject to the imposition of criminal sanctions including imprisonment and payment of fines and will also be required to make restitution for the costs of repairs, replacement of the meters, conduits or attachments damaged and for the value of the illegally consumed water.

### City of Marietta's Fire Hydrant Usage Policy

In order for the City of Marietta's Water Utility Authority to protect the public safety and security of our water supply, all hydrant connections must be approved by the Water Superintendent and must have a meter and proper backflow protection device installed before any usage. The use of fire hydrants for emergency or temporary water needs is a privilege and the Water Authority will not tolerate abuse of this privilege. Abuse of fire hydrants includes illegal connections, water theft, vandalism, and tampering with the hydrant. A non-metered connection to a fire hydrant constitutes water theft and/or tampering. This is a violation of the Water Authority's conditions of service and is subject to a penalty of \$500.00 for the first offense, and not more than \$1,000.00 or imprisoned not more than three months, or both, for a second or any succeeding offense (Ordinance 927.99 Penalty).

Requests for approval to use a fire hydrant will only be considered after all other alternatives for a water source have been eliminated. Use of a fire hydrant for "mere convenience" will not be permitted. All contractors will be advised to use a preferred means of obtaining a water source on their own.

If approval for use of a fire hydrant is permitted the following usage procedure will apply:

- User must fill out information and sign for the required Hydrant Meter/Backflow Usage Permit.
- Explain what hydrant is to be used for.
- Minimum of 24 hour notice for request.
- If request is during non-work hours a 2 hour minimum call out fee for employee will be added on the invoice.
- A representative from the Water Department will instruct the designated person who is requesting use of the fire hydrant on the proper operation of the hydrant. Improper operation of a fire hydrant can cause several problems including hydraulic shock (water hammer) which can cause water mains to break, discolored water in the surrounding area by stirring up sediments (mineral deposits) inside the water main which has accumulated from normal flow patterns and velocities, and broken hydrant stems making them inoperable in case of a fire.
- The contractor/user of the hydrant will be responsible for any damages and cost to repair the hydrant or metering device due to improper use of the hydrant.
- Hydrant/backflow meter must be protected from freezing temperatures.
- Hoses will not be provided.
- The discharge end of the hose should not be inserted under any circumstances into a tank or container underwater, or laid on the ground to make it lay in its own pool of water. There must be an air gap at all times between the end of the hose and the container.
- The user will call the Water Treatment Plant when done to have personnel remove the Hydrant Meter/Backflow device, secure the hydrant, and terminate the Hydrant Usage Permit.

### Backflow Prevention Requirements

Backflow prevention devices are required to be tested annually to make sure the devices are in proper working condition. It is the customer/property owner's responsibility to install (as per City of Marietta specifications) and have backflow devices tested by a qualified tester; backflow prevention devices are also required on residential service connections. The type of device required will depend on the degree of hazard your service connection exposes to our water system. Our required Test and Maintenance Forms may be obtained on the City of Marietta website at [www.mariettaoh.net](http://www.mariettaoh.net). Please contact the Backflow Dept. at 740-374-6864 if you have any questions. Removing or relocating an existing backflow device without the approval of the City of Marietta Backflow Department will result in the loss of your water services.



## Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State EPA requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants do not change frequently. The City of Marietta sampled 30 water taps in our system for lead and all samples were non-detect.

**TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS**

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
<b>Disinfectant and Disinfectant By-Products</b>							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1.10 mg/L	1.10 - 1.20	No	2023	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	N/A	60	10.1 ug/L	7.40 - 10.1	No	2023	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	N/A	80	42.1 ug/L	25.8 - 42.1	No	2023	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.98 mg/L	0.73 - 1.34	No	2023	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.015 mg/L	NA	No	2022	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	1.79 mg/L	NA	No	2023	Run off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Lead and Copper</b>							
Contaminants (units)	Action Level (AL)	MCLG	Individual Results over the AL	90% of test levels were less than	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical source of Contaminants
Lead (ppb)	15 ppb	0 ppb	0	0	No	2021	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
	0 out of 30 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb						
Copper (ppm)	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	0	0	No	2021	Erosions of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosions of household plumbing systems
	0 out of 30 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm						

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal of 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.

**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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a 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.

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

ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion – or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

ng/L or ppt: Nano grams per liter or parts per trillion – or one ounce in 7,500,000,000 gallons of water.

**Action Level Goal (ALG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

PFAS Compound	Collection Date	Statewide Action Level (ppt)	Range of Levels Detected EP001 Treated Water (ng/L)	Above AL	PFAS: Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of man-made chemicals applied to many industrial, commercial and consumer products to make them waterproof, stain resistant or nonstick. PFAS are also used in products like cosmetics, fast food packaging and a type of firefighting foam called aqueous film forming foam (AFFF) which are used mainly on large spills of flammable liquids, such as jet fuel. PFAS are classified as contaminants of emerging concern, meaning that research into the harm they may cause to human health is still ongoing.
PFOA	2022	>70 single or combined with PFOS	7.45	N	
PFOS	2022	>70 single or combined with PFOA	3.63	N	
GenX	2022	>700	< 25	N	
PFBS	2022	>140,000	7.14	N	
PFHxS	2022	>140	3.19	N	
PFNA	2022	>21	< 2.63	N	

In 2022, our PWS was sampled as part of the State of Ohio's Drinking Water Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Sampling Initiative (Ohio EPA). 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](https://pfas.ohio.gov).