

## 2009 BCRWA Water Quality Report

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detection	Violation	Typical Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic</b>						
Barium (ppm) (2008)	2	2	< 0.30	< 0.30	NO	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.868	nd - 0.868	NO	Runoff from fertilizers, erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.01	0.906 - 1.10	NO	Water additive that promotes strong teeth.
<b>Organic</b>						
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	0	80	28.6	nd - 28.6	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	na	60	< 6.00	< 6.00	NO	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
<b>Unregulated</b>						
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	0	na	5.63	nd - 5.63	NO	EPA regulations require us to monitor these contaminants while EPA considers setting limits on them. The contaminants are by-products of drinking water chlorination.
Bromoform (ppb)	0	na	9.45	nd - 9.45	NO	
Chloroform (ppb)	na	na	1.54	1.54	NO	
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	60	na	12	nd - 12.0	NO	
<b>Lead and Copper (2008)</b>		<b>AL</b>	<b>90th percentile</b>	<b># of sites found above the AL</b>	<b>Range of detections</b>	
Lead (ppb)	0	15	< 5.0	1 of 30	nd - 15.40	NO Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Copper (ppb)	1.3	1.3	0.05	0 of 30	nd - 0.05	NO Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
<b>Radionuclides (2008)</b>						
Alpha particles (pCi/L)	0	15	< 3	< 3	NO	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals.
<b>Residual Disinfectants</b>						
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	0.64	0.33 - 0.93	NO	Water additive used to control microbes.
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>						
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	2 or > per month	1	0	NO	Naturally present in the environment.

Our Commitment	Definitions and Abbreviations
<p>We are pleased to present to you the Water Quality Report, a summary of the quality of water provided to you in 2009. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. We are proud to report to you that our drinking water is safe and meets all federal and state requirements. We want our customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more about our water treatment plant, please contact our office. Our annual meeting is held on the last Friday in March and is open to our customers. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Dan Sarbach Brown County Rural Water Association (BCRWA) 3818 US 52 Ripley, Ohio 45167 Phone: (937) 375-4106 ext. 224 E-mail: bcrwa@verizon.net www.bcrwa.com</p>	<p><b>MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):</b> 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.</p> <p><b>MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):</b> 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 technology.</p> <p><b>MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):</b> 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.</p> <p><b>MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):</b> 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.</p> <p><b>AL (Action Level):</b> The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements a water system must follow.</p> <p><b>TT (Treatment Technique):</b> A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.</p> <p><b>ppb (parts per billion):</b> micrograms per liter (ug/l).</p> <p><b>ppm (parts per million):</b> milligrams per liter (mg/l).</p> <p><b>pCi/L:</b> picocuries per liter.</p> <p><b>na:</b> not applicable.</p> <p><b>nd:</b> not detectable.</p>

**Water Source**

Ohio EPA recently completed a study of Brown County Rural Water Association's source of drinking water to determine its susceptibility. According to this study, the aquifer (water saturated zone) that supplies drinking water to the Brown County Rural Water has a high susceptibility to contamination. This determination is based on the following: the nature of the aquifer in which the drinking water wells are located, presence of a relatively thin protective layer of clay overlying the aquifer, the shallow depth (less than 40 feet below ground surface) of the aquifer, and the presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the protection area, including periodic serious flooding of the Ohio River. This susceptibility rating means that under currently existing conditions, the potential of the aquifer to become contaminated is relatively high. This potential can be minimized by implementing appropriate protective measures. More detailed information about the source water assessment or what consumers can do to help protect the aquifer is available by calling BCRWA at (937) 375-4106 ext. 224.

**What's in the Water?**

The sources of drinking water include surface water (rivers, lakes, reservoirs) and groundwater (aquifers, springs). As water moves over the surface of the land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals, including radioactive minerals, and it can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activities. Contaminants that may be present in the source water include: inorganic contaminants (storm water runoff, farming), organic contaminants (petroleum products, storm water, septic systems), pesticides and herbicides (agricultural), radioactive contaminants, and viruses and bacteria (septic systems, livestock).

BCRWA routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. Unless otherwise indicated, the data presented in the table (preceding page) show the results of our monitoring during 2009. Certain contaminants are not expected to vary from year to year and the state requires us to monitor those contaminants less than once per year.

**Health Concerns**

All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amount of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. 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 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

**Information about 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. BCRWA 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 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 @ <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.