

WATER ADVISORY

Volume 11 Issue 1

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2008 Consumer Confidence Edition

4/01/09

From the Manager's Desk.....

It always amazes me at how fast half truths and rumors can spread throughout a community, especially when things seem to be in a dilemma. This very thing happened to us during the week of the "Ice Storm." (1/26/2009) Rumor had it that Adams County Regional Water District was going to shut the water off on Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. There was no real reason cited. Then we heard that we were about out of fuel for our generator. Although I did have some concerns as we were down to 1500 gallons, Kevin Staten at Community Fuels was not going to let that happen. After his delivery on Wednesday morning we had approximately 3500 gallons of fuel. We were averaging around 25 gallon of fuel per hour so we knew we could make it for close to a week.



In This Issue.....

- Page 1.....Manager's Desk
- Page 1.....Backflow
- Page 2..... Did You Know?
- Page 2.....About Drinking Water
- Page 2.....Who's New at ACRWD
- Page 2...Where Water Comes From
- Page 2.....How Do I Participate?
- Page 2.....Special Precautions
- Page 2.....Definitions of Terms
- Page 2.....For More Information
- Page 3.....Contaminants
- Page 3.....Violations
- Page 3.....Sources of Contamination
- Page 4.....Improvements
- Page 4.....SWAP Information
- Page 4.....Thank You



WATER: Our most precious natural resource!



Winter Wonderland!

Our generators performed exactly as they were supposed to and we had very little trouble keeping our customers in water.

We worked night and day to see that our tank levels were maintained as the icing of the antennas would not let our telemetry system communicate. We had to visit each tank site and read the gauges to make sure the tanks were at normal levels. It's our responsibility to do so.

I would like to thank those who have called me to let me know they knew it was rumor because of my passion to keep customers in water. I really appreciated the calls. It makes you feel as if you have accomplished your job. I do, however, want to say that none of this would be possible without all the excellent employees with whom I work with daily. I have to say thanks to all the District employees. Each one is just as important as the other. All of our employees seem to be prepared to do what it takes in times of trouble to maintain our services to our customers. We strive to "serve the public thirst." It's our motto!

As soon as they were back on the air, Brad and Rosie at C-103Radio helped me to dispel the rumors. Above all, I have to thank God for the times He sees me through.

I will again reiterate that, as manager, it is my desire that there be a water line along every road in the District and that everyone has the opportunity to have a safe, potable source of drinking water. With the escalating prices of everything, it makes it that much harder for my desires to be obtained. I don't know if I will ever realize this desire but will tell you that I will work diligently trying to accomplish it.

Rick Adamson, General Manager

Backflow.....

ACRWD has had a policy for several years now pertaining to backflow events. Some property owners, before purchasing a water tap, had other water resources such as wells or cisterns. Some customers have left these hooked up to use as an auxiliary water source. ACRWD, as a public water system, is obligated and required by laws of the State of Ohio (Ohio Administrative Code § 3745-95) to implement and conduct a backflow prevention program to protect and safeguard customers against the threat of contamination caused from the backflow of contaminants from an alternate water supply into the public water system. If you have such a system in place you are in violation of ACRWD's backflow policy. If you decide to keep an auxiliary water system in place, it must be physically separated from the public water supply lines. ACRWD employees will be inspecting, accounts as specified in Ohio Administrative Code 3745-95-04, that we feel have cross connections. We all have the responsibility to protect the public water system. If you have any questions pertaining to this matter, please call the Business Office.

Did you know?.....

1. According to District by-laws you are responsible to have your own shut off valve as well as a check valve and a pressure reducing valve.
2. The metering equipment in your front yard is the property of the District.
3. If you leave your meter lid off the meter setting in your front yard during freezing temperatures, the equipment inside will freeze and you could be subject to charges for equipment that has been destroyed. Always make sure the lids are on securely.

BE SAFE AND CALL BEFORE YOU DIG!

Hey Ohio!
Call Before You Dig



1-800-362-2764
www.oups.org

About Your Drinking Water:

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Adams County Regional Water District conducted sampling for bacteria, nitrate, nitrite, and THM contaminants during 2006-2007; synthetic organic chemicals in 2008; MCL in-organics, radiological, volatile organic, and lead and copper in 2008. Samples were collected for a total of 183 different regulated contaminants in 2003 -2008. We also tested for 20 different unregulated contaminants during the same years. Most of these contaminants were not detected in the Adams County Regional Water District's 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.

Water Treatment Plant (24/7)
937-549-2339 or 800-252-3454
Business Office (M-F- 8:30-4:30)
937-544-2396 or 800-288-0039

Who's New at ACRWD!



Cory Bess



Johnny Hayslip



Jake Krieger

The Board of Trustees and employees of ACRWD would like to welcome three new employees to the staff. Johnny and Cory are working with the distribution crew. Jake is at the water treatment plant.

Where Does My Water Come From?

ACRWD receives its water from eight wells that are drilled into the Ohio River Aquifer. These wells are approximately 75 feet deep. Ohio EPA considers this source to be ground water. The well field is situated on the south side of US 52 and just west of the Wrightsville area. From these wells ACRWD pumped 736,812,000 gallons of water in 2008. This is an average of 74 gallons per day per person served.

How Do I Participate in Decisions Concerning My Drinking Water?

Public participation and comments are encouraged at regular meetings of the **Board of Trustees**, which meets the second Thursday of each month @ 7:30 pm. Meetings are held at the main office located at 9203 SR 136, West Union, Ohio. For more information call the business office @ 800-288-0039 or 544-2396 between the hours of 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, Monday thru Friday.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline. Please call (1-800-426-4791).

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. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Parts Per Million (ppm) 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 (ppb) or Micrograms Per Liter (ug/L) are units of measure for a 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.

The symbol < as used in this report stands for less than.

BDL: Below Detection Level

For More Information about your drinking water contact Dave Henderson or Larry Bennington at (937) 549-2339 or (800) 252-3454. You can also contact us via e-mail at: acwtp@hughes.net



Contaminants: Listed below is information on those contaminants that were tested for in the ACRWD's water.

Contaminants (Units)	MCGL	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Sample Year	Violation	Typical Source of Contaminants
Inorganic Contaminants							
Nitrate (mg/L)	10	10	.30	n/a	2008	No	Run Off From Fertilizer Use & Erosion of Natural Deposits
Fluoride (mg/L)	4	4	1.03	.83- 1.03	2008	No	Added To Water As An Aid To Dental Hygiene
Chlorine (mg/L)	4	4	1.59	.37-1.59	2008	No	Water Additive to Control Microbes
Nitrite (mg/L)	n/a	1	.30	n/a	2008	No	Run Off From Fertilizer Use & Erosion of Natural Deposits
Lead (ug/L)	n/a	AL= 15	BDL	BDL- 3.1	2008	No	Corrosion of Household Plumbing Systems
Copper (ug/L)	n/a	AL= 1300	691	24.3- 925.0	2008	No	Corrosion of Household Plumbing Systems
Barium (mg/L)	n/a	2	.021	n/a	2008	No	

In 2008 there were 30 lead and copper samples taken in ACRWD's distribution system. Of those 30 samples, no samples were found to be above the action levels.

Volatile Organic Chemicals							
TTHM's (ug/L)	0	80	24.97	n/a	2008	No	By Product of Drinking Water Chlorination
HAA5 (ug/L)	60	60	BDL	n/a	2008	No	By Product of Drinking Water Chlorination

Violations: ACRWD did not have any violations in 2008.

Below is a list of contaminants tested for but were not found or were below detection level in ACRWD's water.

Microbiological							
In 2008, ACRWD tested 180 system samples, which the Ohio EPA requires, for coliform bacteria and E-coli. We also tested 105 special samples which consist of boil advisories and/or new line construction. We also tested 144 samples for the local villages. All samples tested negative for the above specified bacteria.					2008	No	Naturally Present in The Environment
Inorganic Contaminants							
Asbestos (mf/L)	n/a	7	< .2 mf/L	n/a	2004	No	Use of Asbestos/ Cement Distribution Piping

WHAT ARE THE SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION TO YOUR DRINKING WATER?

The sources of drinking water, both tap 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 human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage water 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 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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Adams County Regional Water District
9203 SR 136
P.O. Box 427
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Improvements..... In 2008 we tried to find funding for the Lawshe/Louisville Road project again this year. We upgraded a line on Moores Road from SR 247 to the Seaman Corporation limits to better serve the new hospital as well as the new North Adams Elementary School and to allow for future expansion. We upgraded our billing system software. We also completed restoration on projects from last year. We installed a project on Rosie Lane. We installed some extra water line on SR 73 as part of the Coffee Hollow Project and finalized that project. We painted the Winchester Tank on Eckmansville Road and the red water tank at the water treatment plant. We purchased approximately 130 acres around the well field and plant to assure source water protection. We painted most of the fencing at the business office complex.

In 2009, we plan to upgrade lines on Unity Road and a possible line extension across Ebrite Road to increase volume in the Eckmansville Road area. We plan to upgrade some of our pressure reducing pits. We intend to put a lot of effort into getting the funds for the Lawshe/Louisville Road areas. We may also demolish two tanks that we no longer utilize. We will consider some customer funded line extensions where feasible.

Source Water Area Protection (SWAP)

Ohio EPA has recently completed a study of Adams County Regional Water'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) that supplies water to Adams County Regional Water has a high susceptibility to contamination. This determination is based on the following:

- Lack of a protective layer of clay overlying the aquifer.
- Shallow depth of the aquifer.
- Presence of significant potential contaminant sources in the area

This susceptibility means that under current existing conditions, the likelihood of the aquifer becoming contaminated is relatively high. This likelihood can be minimized by implementing appropriate protective measures.

Some measures that can be utilized are as follows:

- Check your septic system and make sure it is always working properly.
- Dispose of all oil and petroleum products the proper way.
- Keep all junk piles cleaned up as runoff from these can contaminate the source water.
- Maintain vehicles so leaks will not contaminate the source water.
- Report to the Water District anything that looks questionable.

ACRWD has been able to acquire the property adjacent to the plant and well field as Mr. Malcolm Cox is retiring. This property contains approximately 130 acres and will help to keep contamination from future septic systems and other contaminants away from the well field. It is our job to assure that clean drinking water will be available for many generations to come. We feel that this acquisition will help this assurance be a reality as well as give us plenty of room for growth when that need arises.

For more information about SWAP contact Rick Adamson at 937-544-2396 or e-mail: rickadamson@acrwd.com



Thank You..... For allowing Adams County Regional Water District to provide you with a safe, reliable source of potable water. We are dedicated to having licensed professionals operate our system to ensure our customers the best water quality possible. We are also dedicated to the furtherance of education for these professionals. With additional upgrades to our entire system, we expect that water quality will continue to improve and make our customers proud of their water system. *"Adams County Regional Water District is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer."*