

WATER ADVISORY

Volume 12 Issue 1

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2009 Consumer Confidence Edition

4/01/10

From the Manager's Desk.....

We will be starting a much needed project this year in the Lawshe/ Louisville roads area. We have been applying the past few years for funding for this project from several different resources. This year it seems to have all come together. This is a 2.1 million dollar project that includes approximately 28 miles of pipeline. The project will consist of 6", 4", and 3" water lines as well as flushing hydrants and valves.

Funding for the project comes from several sources. From OPWC we received a \$325,000, 0% interest loan and a \$100,000 grant, a \$500,000 grant from CDBG along with a \$100,000 grant for Economic Development to use for eligible low income customers, a \$50,000 CDBG local grant, a \$250,000 ARC grant, and a \$736,000 USDA loan at 2 3/8 %. ACRWD has also added some local funds. →

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WATER: Our most precious natural resource!



Locust Grove Tank Demolished !

We are expecting to serve at least 120 households but hope for many more. We also hope to keep water on the lines as we install them. If so we may be able to start adding customers more quickly. This would also let us keep lines flushed and cleaned as we progress so as not to use a lot of water all at once, thus taxing the system.

We have heard some stories as to the quality and quantity of water that one can expect from the wells in the area. ACRWD, in collaboration with the Adams County Health Department, sampled several wells in the area and found them contaminated. Some wells also contain a high level of hydrogen sulfide which creates a "rotten egg" smell.

The roads that will be served are Lawshe Road, Nichols Ridge Road, Church Road, Ira Gustin Road, Louisville Road, Loudon Road, Ward Road, Guy Road, Big Run Road, Robin Road, Dotson Road, Shelby Road, Malcolm Road, Smalley Road, Old SR 32, Nelson Road, Savage Road, Frump Road, and Thomas Road. →

If you have any questions concerning this project, please contact us at the business office.

We are also going to be installing some of our first AMR (automatic meter reading) meters this year. We have two routes picked out in which we will be running a pilot study. If things work out, we will be installing AMR meters in other parts of the county.

We feel that the AMR system has a lot of advantages for both the customer and the District. It would eliminate estimated meters when the snow is too deep to read meters. It also has data logging features to help us pinpoint leaks and perhaps to be able to determine when a leak started on a customer's private water line. The system will also streamline our use of fuel for meter reading vehicles as well as save the wear and tear on the vehicles that daily reading causes.

Once the system is upgraded, however, we all will have to be more careful about leaving lids off in the winter and such as the equipment is somewhat expensive. If something happens to the equipment because of customer negligence, we will have no option than to bill the customer for the replacement equipment.

Once again I want to thank all of our customers for being a part of the District and for being so understanding with issues that may arise.

Rick Adamson, General Manager

Vicious Animals.....

Our meter readers and some of our maintenance employees have been faced with the dilemma of vicious animals while trying to do their job. We would never interfere with your right as a property owner to own a dog. We just ask that whenever we are scheduled to be on your property, you restrain your dog for that time. We do have a few steps that we are taking to protect our employees. This is the order we will use them. First is a letter to the property owner. Next we have armed our employees with devices to protect themselves. Next would be a visit from the dog warden, and finally your service **will be disconnected** until we receive results.

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!

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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, TTHM & HAA5 contaminants during 2009; synthetic organic chemicals in 2008; MCL in-organics, radiological, volatile organic, and lead and copper in 2008. Samples were collected for a total of 185 different regulated contaminants in 2004 -2009. 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

Improvements.....

In 2009 we were able to find partial funding for the Lawshe/Louisville Road and continue to move forward. We did demolish the Old State Road Tank and the Locust Grove Tank. We no longer used these tanks. We also installed line extensions on Rosie Lane with a booster pump, Holcolmb Boulevard, Duffey Road, Parker Road, and Robinson Hollow Road. We installed a solar powered controller on a pit at Tater Ridge, a lightning and surge protection system at the water treatment plant and well field, a porch and guttering addition at the business office, a stainless steel drop pipe for well # 6, and purchased three meter reading vehicles.

In 2010, we plan to finish getting the funding for Lawshe/Louisville Road project. Other possible projects may include line extensions on Ebrite Road and Horner Chapel Road and upgrades to Unity Road, Amason Road, and SR 41 South line. We also want to upgrade the West Union Master Meter Pit and the Murphin Ridge Pressure Reducing Pit. We plan to inspect the Decatur and Pumpkin Ridge tanks, upgrade some of our telemetry system at the water treatment plant, and install a trial AMR system (automatic meter reading).

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 717,000,000 gallons of water in 2009. This is an average of 79 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@verizon.net



Contaminants: Listed below is information on those contaminants which were tested 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 | .340 | n/a | 2009 | No | Run Off From Fertilizer Use & Erosion of Natural Deposits |
| Fluoride (mg/L) | 4 | 4 | 1.07 | .81- 1.07 | 2009 | No | Added To Water As An Aid To Dental Hygiene |
| Chlorine (mg/L) | 4 | 4 | 1.29 | .36-1.29 | 2009 | No | Water Additive to Control Microbes |
| Nitrite (mg/L) | n/a | 1 | .340 | n/a | 2009 | 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 | Drilling Waste, Metal Refineries, and Erosion of Natural Deposits |

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 | 22.89 | n/a | 2009 | No | By Product of Drinking Water Chlorination |
| HAA5 (ug/L) | 60 | 60 | 8.583 | n/a | 2009 | No | By Product of Drinking Water Chlorination |

"We have a current, unconditioned license to operate our water system."

Violations: ACRWD did not have any violations in 2009.

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

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|---|-----------|-----|------|----|---|
| Microbiological | | | | | | | |
| In 2009, ACRWD tested 210 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 192 samples for the local villages. All samples tested negative for the above specified bacteria. | | | | | 2009 | 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
West Union, Ohio 45693-0427

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Lead...what you need to know.....

“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. Adams County Regional Water District 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 at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.”

Source Water Area Protection (SWAP)

In 2003, Ohio EPA 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.
- Avoid creating junk piles open to the rain, as runoff and infiltration from these piles can contaminate source water.
- Maintain vehicles so leaks will not contaminate the source water.
- Report to the Water District anything that looks questionable.



ACRWD has acquired the property adjacent to the plant and well field. 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.

ACRWD has also completed a source water protection plan that has been endorsed by Ohio EPA. You can read more about source water area protection (SWAP) on our website at www.acrwd.com/id54.html. You may also pick up a brochure at the business office and at all Adams County Public Library Branches.

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.”*