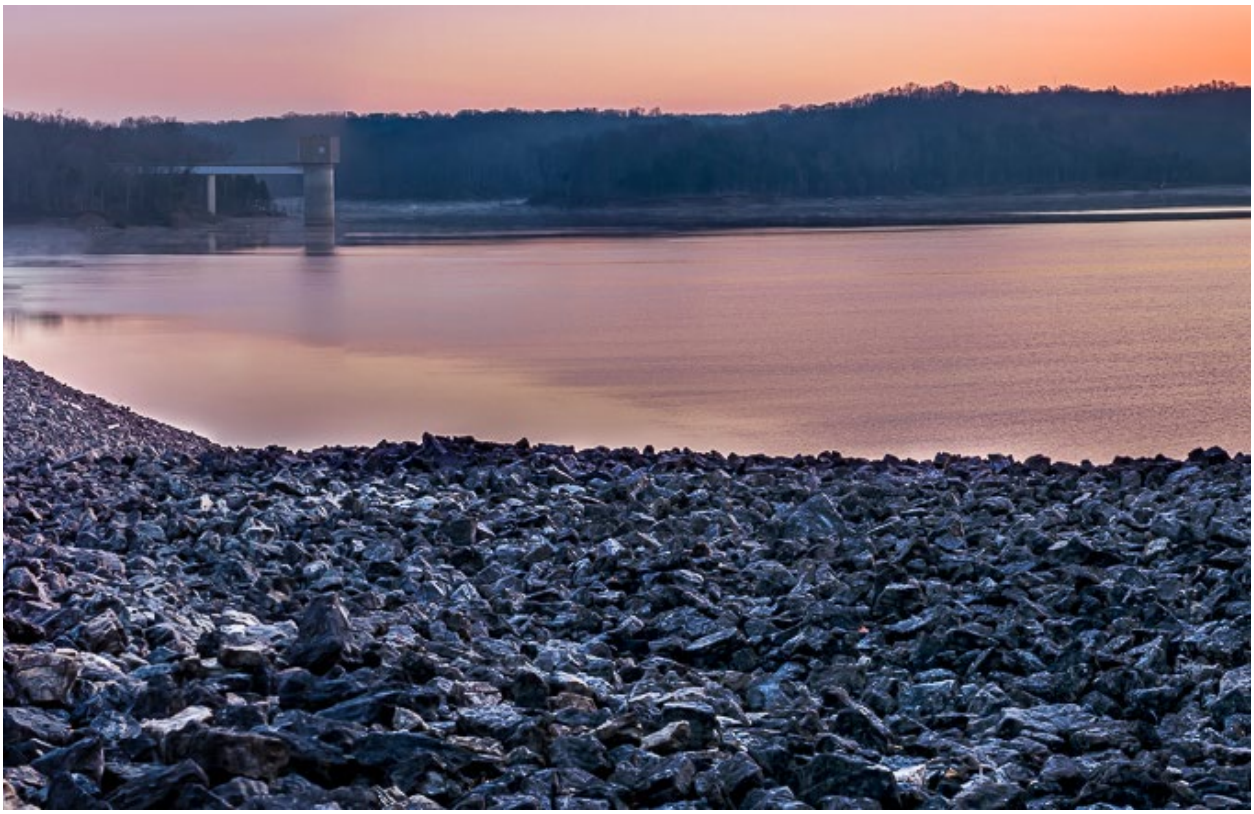

We are pleased to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2025. Since 1955, Clermont County has been dedicated to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users. Questions concerning the Clermont County water system may be directed to Tim Neyer at (513) 732 – 7945.

On October 9, 2024, the Batavia Village Public Water System (PWS 1300011) was combined into the Clermont County Public Water System. This report includes the latest lead and copper results for the Batavia Village Public Water System separate from the Clermont County Public Water System. All other results apply to the entire Clermont County Public Water System including Batavia residents.

Source Water Description

The Clermont County Water System operates three water treatment plants that pump into a common distribution system of pipes serving our customers. The Miami, Goshen, Stonelick (MGS) plant, near Miamiville, draws from wells in the Little Miami River Aquifer. The Pierce, Union, Batavia (PUB) plant is near New Palestine, its wells draw from the Ohio River Valley Aquifer. The Bob McEwen Water Treatment Plant (BMW) is located in Batavia Township and draws surface water from Harsha Lake. Surface water is more susceptible to contamination than groundwater; therefore, frequent and extensive testing of the raw water is conducted. Chemical and bacteriological testing, as well as an evaluation of the biological organisms living upstream of the lake, is used to determine raw water quality and identify areas of concern. More information on the watershed and aquifers is available from Clermont County Water Resources' Source Water Protection Coordinator, Seth Buchholz at (513) 732-7982.

Source Water Assessment

In 2004 the Ohio EPA performed a source water assessment for the MGS wellfield and designated it as highly susceptible to contamination. This is based in part on the geology of the aquifer, which is shallow and has little or no impermeable materials above it. Another factor is the presence of potential sources of pollution in the area. The Ohio EPA also noted the presence of nitrates in the water, which suggests human influences in the aquifer. However, the water continues to meet drinking water standards. It is important to understand that this susceptibility rating does not imply poor water quality, only the system's potential to become contaminated within the assessment area. The wellfield is monitored for contamination and cared for under an Ohio EPA-endorsed Wellhead Protection Plan. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency reviewed and updated the MGS Source Water Assessment in 2025. To learn more, call Seth Buchholz at (513) 732-7982.

A susceptibility analysis of the PUB water sources by the Ohio EPA has determined that this aquifer has a high susceptibility for contamination based on a relatively thin layer of low permeable material overlying it and its relatively shallow depth. Potential pollution sources in the area and a possible hydraulic connection to the Ohio River also contribute to this assessment. However, the Ohio EPA agrees that there is no evidence of existing chemical contaminants. These wellfields are also monitored for contamination and cared for under an Ohio EPA-endorsed Wellhead Protection Plan. In 2025, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency reviewed and updated the PUB Source Water Assessment. To learn more, call Seth Buchholz at (513) 732-7982.

The Ohio EPA completed a source water assessment for BMW in 2004. The protection area around Harsha Lake and the upstream portions of the East Fork of the Little Miami River includes a number of commercial and industrial facilities, but the greater concerns are runoff from agricultural fields, the potential for spills at road and rail crossings, and residential septic systems in the watershed. To learn more, contact Seth Buchholz at (513) 732-7982.

Sources identified in the Potential Pollution Source Inventory include Walter C. Beckjord Generating Station, the PUB Water Treatment Plant, on-site wastewater treatment systems, underground and aboveground fuel storage tanks, the Ohio River, Ten Mile Creek, and transportation routes. The susceptibility ranking for all three plants was high priority. It is important to understand that this susceptibility rating does not imply poor water quality, only the system's potential to become contaminated within the assessment area. Customers may get a copy of the assessment by calling Tim Neyer at (513) 732-7945.

Emergency Water Sources

The Clermont County Public Water System also has emergency connections with three neighboring public water systems. Two connections are with Greater Cincinnati Water Works, two connections with Tate Monroe Water Association and three connections with Western Water Company. During 2024 none of the connections were used to supply water to the Clermont County Public Water system.

What are sources of contamination to drinking water?

The sources of drinking water (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, 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 Federal Environmental Protection Agency's 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).

Ensuring Quality

Clermont County requires all treatment plant operations personnel to become certified as professional operators by the Ohio EPA as a condition of employment. As professional operators, Clermont County treatment plant personnel have demonstrated their competence concerning the treatment of public drinking water to the Ohio EPA. Professional certification is one of the ways Clermont County ensures you receive high-quality water for your personal and business use.

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Clermont County Public Water System conducted sampling for a variety of contaminants during 2025**.** Most contaminants tested for were undetected. The Ohio EPA requires us to monitor 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.

Detected Contaminants

The following table lists contaminant testing results for the Clermont County Public Water System. Remember that a detection does not mean that the water is unsafe to drink. Our goal is to keep all contaminants below EPA recommended levels. Contaminant titles including **Clermont County** apply to the Clermont County Public Water System only. Contaminants including **Batavia Village**, apply to only the Batavia Village Public Water System Only. If no system is identified, the information applies to both public water systems.

TABLE OF DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

Contaminants (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Found	Range of Detections	Violation	Sample Year	Typical Source of Contaminants
Disinfectant and Disinfectant By-Products							
Total Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1.2	1.04 - 1.34	No	2025	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	N/A	60	27.76	2.8 -40.8	No	2025	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	N/A	80	73.32	11.6 - 113	No	2025	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants							
Turbidity (NTU)	TT	N/A	0.342	0.018 - 0.342	No	2025	Soil runoff
Total Organic Carbon	TT	N/A	1.38	1.31 - 1.67	No	2025	Naturally present in the environment
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.029	0.025 - 0.035	No	2025	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium (ppb)	4	4	0.063	ND - 0.1	No	2025	Discharge from metal refineries and coal - burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace and defence industries.
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.99	0.10 - 1.3	No	2025	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	1.32	ND - 1.32	No	2025	Run off from fertilizer use, Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead and Copper							
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), **Clermont County**	15 ppb	0 ppb	N/A	2.1	No	2023	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
	0 out of 52 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.						
Lead (ppb), **Batavia Village**	15 ppb	0 ppb	N/A	0.6	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), **Clermont County**	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	1.51	0.595	No	2023	Erosions of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosions of household plumbing systems
	1 out of 52 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.						
Copper (ppm), **Batavia Village**	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	N/A	0.101	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.						

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 samples analyzed each month and shall not exceed 1 NTU at any time. As reported above, the Clermont County Public Water

System's highest recorded turbidity result for 2025 was 0.342 NTU and lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits was 100%.

Lead 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. Clermont County Water 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 800-426-4791 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Per the Lead and Copper Rules, Public Water Systems are required to develop and maintain a Service Line Inventory. A service line is the underground pipe that supplies your home or building with water. To view the Service Line Inventory, which lists the material type(s) for your location, visit the following web link www.wrd.clermontcountyohio.gov/lead-in-home-plumbing/

Copper

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor.

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

As part of the federal 2024 PFAS drinking water rule, Public Water Systems were required to monitor finished drinking water for PFAS by April 26, 2027. We completed this monitoring by participating in the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 (UCMR 5) program and by collecting additional samples to fully meet the requirements.

For the UCMR 5 results, refer to the next section titled "Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) Sampling". In addition to UCMR 5, we completed our remaining 12 sampling events on May 28, 2025 and December 3, 2025, analyzing for the six regulated PFAS: PFOA, PFOS, HFPO-DA, PFBS, PFHxS, and PFNA. All results were non-detections except the following:

Table of Detected PFAS: PUB Water Plant

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Result
PFOA (ppt)	5/28/2025	4.13
PFOS (ppt)	5/28/2025	1.82
PFBS (ppt)	5/28/2025	1.78
HFPO-DA (ppt)	5/28/2025	1.73
PFOA (ppt)	12/3/2025	3.75
PFOS (ppt)	12/3/2025	3.41
PFBS (ppt)	12/3/2025	1.92

Table of Detected PFAS: MGS Water Plant

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Result
PFOA (ppt)	5/28/2025	3.69
PFOS (ppt)	5/28/2025	9.22
PFBS (ppt)	5/28/2025	3.99
PFHxS (ppt)	5/28/2025	3.12
PFOA (ppt)	12/3/2025	2.79
PFOS (ppt)	12/3/2025	10.9
PFBS (ppt)	12/3/2025	3.19
PFHxS (ppt)	12/3/2025	2.74

Detected Unregulated Contaminants

Unregulated contaminants are those for which U.S. EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of these contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. In 2024 Clermont County participated in the fifth round of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5). For a copy of the results please call Tim Neyer at (513) 732-7945.

Table of UCMR5 Contaminants:

Contaminant (units)	MRL	Average	Range	Sample Year
PFOA (ppt)	4.0	1.6	ND - 3.7	2025
PFOS (ppt)	4.0	2.6	ND - 8.3	2025
PFBS (ppt)	3.0	1.15	ND - 3.1	2025
PFHxS (ppt)	3.0	0.625	ND - 2.5	2025
HFPO-DA (ppt)	5.0	0.275	ND - 1.1	2025
PFHxA (ppt)	3.0	0.5	ND - 2.0	2025
PFHpA (ppt)	3.0	0.375	ND - 1.5	2025
PFBA (ppt)	5.0	2.075	ND - 4.0	2025
PFPeA (ppt)	3.0	1.025	ND - 2.5	2025

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.

License to Operate (LTO) Status

- In 2025 Clermont County had an unconditioned license to operate our water system.

Public Participation and Contact Information

While the Water Resources Department does not hold regular meetings open to the public, customers are encouraged to participate in discussions about our drinking water. The Clermont County Board of County Commissioners hold sessions at 10:00 a.m. on most Mondays and Wednesdays in the third-floor session room of the Clermont County Administration Building, located at 101 East Main Street in Batavia. Information related to meeting dates and times can be found by visiting the county website, www.clermontcountyohio.gov, or calling (513) 732-7300.

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 Level (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.

- **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 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.

- **Minimum Reportable Limit (MRL):** The lowest concentration a laboratory must report for the contaminant analysis.

- **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.

- **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 (µg/L)** are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years.

- **Parts per Trillion (ppt)** or **nanograms per liter (ng/L)** are units of measure for concentration of a contaminant. A nanogram per liter corresponds to about thirty seconds in a million years.

- **ND** used when laboratory analysis for a contaminant is below detection level

Some Additional and Useful Information

Hardness

Customers in Stonelick and Batavia Townships and the eastern portion of Goshen Township have hardness of roughly 7 grains per gallon. The remainder of our service area has hardness of approximately 10.5 grains per gallon.

The most overlooked home water leak.

The valves that operate when flushing toilets wear through use and often will begin to allow water to slowly leak through. Many times, these leaks go unnoticed until the toilet is "running all the time". The best way to check your toilet for leakage is to use common food coloring from your local grocer. Place enough food coloring in the reservoir of water, at the back of your toilet, to visibly color the water. The best time to do this is prior to going out for the day when no one will be home to use the toilet. When you return home, check the water in the toilet bowl to see if it has been colored by water from the reservoir. This would indicate that your toilet is leaking small amounts of water over time and could be increasing your water bill. Conducting this test annually on all toilets in your home is suggested to help you identify issues before they become more costly. If you find your toilet is leaking, you should contact a professional plumber to discuss solutions.