2007 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Is my 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. Local Water suppliers vigilantly safeguard their water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

Do I need 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 infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?
Source Water Information: City of Marietta water customers have a dependable source of ground water located along the Muskingum River, up stream from the Ohio River. The Marietta Aquatic Center, Indian Acres Park, Ball Diamonds, County Fairgrounds and Golf Driving Range occupy the 120 acres or so over the sand and gravel aquifer, which supplies the drinking water source for many thousands. This source has served the public since 1940 when a new water softening plant started operations on Upper Fourth Street.

Source water assessment and its availability
Our well water quality is superior to river water, but also has a high susceptibility to contamination based on its shallow layer of flood plain soil over sand and gravel deposits. Thus, surface contamination from ordinary human activities, especially from petroleum or man-made chemicals can quickly contaminate the ground water. A few examples include spilled or leaking containers of herbicides, pesticides, diesel, kerosene, gasoline and various chemical cleaners.

Contaminates that migrate underground from sources even a mile or two away can quickly impact the quality of our well water. That is why our source water protection area includes the southern half of the Oak Grove Community south to the Washington Street Bridge, as well as the west side of the Muskingum River up to the western hillsides and eastward to Fourth Street and following the natural eastern hillside north, until we pass the various businesses along St Rt. 60 just north of Colegate Drive.

Our Source Water Assessment Inventory list includes not only past environmental activities that might have already contaminated some areas but current land uses. These potential hazards include the discharge of contaminates by any unintentional or intentional spilling, leaking, pumping, pouring, emitting, emptying, releasing, injecting, escaping, leeching, dumping, or disposing into or upon the soil, surface water or groundwater within the defined 2-3 square mile area of influence.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?
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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; 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; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; 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; and 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 that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

We encourage public participation and comments at the Water & Sewer Committee meetings. The meetings are announced at the City of Marietta Council meetings. Council meets the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month at Lookout Park. You may also contact the Clerk of Council at 740-374-5501 for current information.

You can also help by keeping the streams and rivers clean and reporting any potential hazards, spills or pollution sources. Accidental or unauthorized releases of contaminants to the air, land or water such as spills, releases, intentional dumping or emissions can be reported to Ohio EPA 24-hour EMERGENCY RESPONSE hotline at 800-282-9378.

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 an 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.

Checking Meters

The City Meter Department must read, inspect and service its meters bi-monthly to make sure they're operating properly. Only City of Marietta Water Department employees can connect or disconnect the meter, or change its location. Whether the meter is inside or outside your home, please clear a three-foot area around it; making sure it is accessible and visible. Servicing a blocked meter is difficult and can be a safety hazard in an emergency.

Backflow Prevention Requirements

The backflow prevention devices are required to be tested annually to make sure the devices are in proper working condition. It is the *customers/property owner's* responsibility to install (as per City of Marietta specifications) and have backflow devices tested by a qualified tester; backflow prevention devices will also be required on residential service connections. The type of device required will depend on the degree of hazard your service connection exposes our water system to. 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.

Use Water Sense

- It may seem hard to believe, but the average person uses 100 gallons of water each day—that's enough to fill 1,600 drinking glasses. This water use can easily be cut by as much as 30 percent if American households took a few simple steps to use water more efficiently.

- About 75 percent of the earth's surface is covered by water, but less than 1 percent of this is available for people to use. The rest is salt water, locked in inaccessible locations underground, or is frozen in polar ice caps and glaciers.
- The average bathroom faucet flows at a rate of 2 gallons per minute; by simply turning the tap off, you can save more than 100 gallons of water per person each month.
- Taking a five minute shower uses 10 to 25 gallons of water, while a full tub requires about 70 gallons. If you take a bath, stopper the drain immediately and adjust the temperature as you fill the tub.
- A leaky toilet can waste about 200 gallons of water every day! To tell if your toilet is leaking, place a drop of food coloring in the tank; if the color shows in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak.
- Leaky faucets that drip at the rate of one drip per second can waste up to 3,000 gallons of water each year. If you're unsure if you have a leak, read your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, you probably have a leak.

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 requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)								
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	0.92	0.87	.97	2007	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	9.2	9.2	9.2	2007	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	58.2	58.2	58.2	2007	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.00	0.82	1.09	2007	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	.60	NA		2007	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Date	Samples Exceeding AL	AL	Typical Source
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.056	2006	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0	2006	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

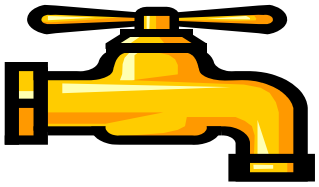
Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

The **City of Marietta Water Treatment Department** has prepared the following report to provide information to you, the consumer, on the quality of our drinking water. The employees of the Water Treatment Department are proud of our commitment to quality water & service.

Included within this report is general health information in regards to drinking water quality, various water quality test results, a required annual reminder regarding tampering with water meters, water source protection practices to protect against contamination, backflow protection requirements to minimize possible hazards, how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water and water system contacts.

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.



The city relies on ground water resources to provide drinking water to local businesses and residences. The city recognizes that it is important to protect ground water resources in order to provide the safest and highest quality drinking water to its consumers at the lowest possible cost.

Local residents and businesses need to be aware that the actions they take within or near the protection area can influence the quality of water the city provides to them. Ground water contamination can occur through the improper disposal of chemicals such as cleaning, automotive and lawn/garden products, as well as fuel oil, furniture strippers, and oil-based paints. Improper disposal methods include pouring chemicals on the ground, down a sink or toilet that is connected to a septic system, or down storm drains that lead directly into the ground or to a nearby stream. Recycling is the best way to properly dispose of chemical products.

Education & Outreach

Glenna Hoff, Education Specialist for Washington Soil and Water Conservation District is available to talk to clubs and organizations about groundwater and source water protection. A groundwater model, furnished by the City of Marietta, Water Treatment/Distribution Department, provides a visual tool for teaching the public about groundwater movement through the soil. Information regarding the public's role in keeping pollutants out of the groundwater and how surface water run-off can also affect our groundwater quality is also provided. Approximately 30 to 45 minutes should be allowed for the presentation. To schedule a presentation, contact Glenna at 740-373-7113, Ext.227.