

# 2023 Consumer Confidence Report for Columbia Park

## Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

## Where does my water come from?

Columbia Park MHP receives City of Cleveland water through two water mains. One is located at the front of the park on Columbia Road. The other is located towards the back of the park on Fitch Road. Columbia Park does not add or modify any type of treatment to the water after it enters the park. Cleveland Water is the 10<sup>th</sup> largest public water system in the United States, largest system in Ohio and largest system sourcing Lake Erie. Every day, they treat and deliver up to 300 million gallons of water to more than 1.45 million people and thousands of businesses, schools, churches and recreation centers through more than 442,000 customer accounts. They provide water to their 640 square mile service area through nearly 5,400 miles of mains in 80 communities in Cuyahoga County and parts of four surrounding counties- Geauga, Medina, Portage and Summit. In 2023, their average demand was 201 million gallons per day, which is 73.4 billion gallons of water for the year.

## About your drinking water:

The EPA requires regular sampling to ensure drinking water safety. The Columbia Park water system conducted sampling for Bacteria, Chlorine and Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products. Samples were collected for numerous different contaminants, most of which were not detected in the Columbia Park 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. The City of Cleveland conducted additional sampling on the water before it entered the park. Cleveland Water's 2023 Water Quality Report is included in our report. They also tested for the six main PFAS chemicals in the source water (Lake Erie) and their finished drinking water as it leaves their treatment plants numerous times. There was not a reportable detection level for any PFAS chemicals in nearly 300 tests of Cleveland Water. In 2020, their water system was sampled as part of the State of Ohio's Drinking Water Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Sampling Initiative. Six PFAS compounds were sampled, and none were detected in their finished drinking water. For more information about PFAS, please visit [www.pfas.ohio.gov](http://www.pfas.ohio.gov)

## Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

Drinking water, tap or bottled, 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791. The sources of drinking 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. EPA prescribes regulations that limit the level 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.

## **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).

## **License to Operate (LTO) Status Information:**

In 2023, Columbia Park and Cleveland Water had current, unconditional licenses to operate their respective water systems.

## **Source water assessment and its availability**

Cleveland Water draws source water from four intakes located far offshore in Lake Erie's Central Basin. These intakes are spread out over 15 miles and are each 3 to 5 miles offshore where the water is cleaner and has been minimally impacted from tributary runoff and coastal activities. Lake Erie is considered to be a surface water source. Cleveland Water also has interconnections with other area water systems, but these are for emergency use only. These interconnections are designed for Cleveland Water to assist other water systems if needed. They received no emergency water in 2023.

Water enters Lake Erie from precipitation over the lake and watershed. Precipitation on land runs off and flows down streams and rivers into our source water. About 90% of the water entering Lake Erie flows down the Detroit River from Lake St. Clair; another 4% drains from the Maumee River. Both rivers flow into the lake's shallow Western Basin. The remaining runoff drains through dozens of rivers and streams into the lake or off the land along the shore directly into the water. The actions of people on land in Lake Erie's 30,149 square mile watershed can impact the quality of water in Lake Erie. Protecting our drinking water source from contamination is the responsibility of all area residents.

The State of Ohio performed an assessment of Cleveland Water's four source water intakes in the late 1990s. A Drinking Water Source Assessment Report was completed in 2003. For the purposes of source water assessments, all surface waters are considered to be susceptible to contamination. By their nature, surface waters are accessible and can be easily contaminated by chemicals and pathogens from an upstream spill. Because Cleveland Water's intakes are located a considerable distance offshore, potential contamination from the Cuyahoga River and nearshore sources is minimized to a great degree. As a result, Ohio EPA considers Cleveland Water's source water (Lake Erie) to have a low susceptibility to contamination due to the location of our intakes.

Cleveland Water public water system treats the water to meet drinking water quality standards, but no single treatment technique can address all potential contaminants. To address this, Cleveland Water uses the multiple barrier approach for protecting and treating our source water. The protection of source water is one of the barriers we use. The potential for water quality impacts can be further decreased by implementing measures to protect Lake Erie. More detailed information is provided in the Cleveland Water Drinking Water Source Assessment Report which can be obtained by calling their Risk Management Section at 216-664-2444 x 75838.

## Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides - they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

## Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5-minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill.
- Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

## Cross Connection Control Survey

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and ensuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below, please contact us so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

## Additional Information for 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. Indian Springs 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.

## Additional Actions to Address Lead in Service Lines and Plumbing

Cleveland Water is safe, and they take additional steps to remove lead and educate customers on their responsibility for maintaining healthy water in their homes. Cleveland Water:

- Removes lead service lines when they are disturbed during water main repair and replacement projects.
- Replace the city owned portion of a lead service line when a customer owned service line is replaced. Call 216-664-6745 to obtain service line replacement permits.
- Seek homeowners who have a lead service line to volunteer their home for our Lead and Copper Compliance Monitoring Program. To find out if your home meets Tier 1 requirements and you are interested in sampling, please call 216-664-2639.
- Implement a **Lead Awareness Campaign** to meet a portion of the notification requirements in Ohio Administrative Code Rule 3745-83-02. Their education materials include brochures, flyers, videos, social media posts and graphics, and can be found online at [www.clevelandwater.com/lead](http://www.clevelandwater.com/lead) or by calling their **Lead Inquiry Line** at 216-664-2882 to request printed copies and/or a group presentation.
- Provide 3 months of water filters certified to remove lead if a partial lead service line is left behind.
- Offer free water quality sampling for lead anytime a lead service line is removed.
- Launched a Childcare Lead Service Line Removal program in 2020 for all licensed childcare providers in Cuyahoga County in our director service area. The program, which will remove all service line lead material and replace it with copper, was implemented in 2021 and 2023 at no cost to the providers. If you are the owner/operator of a licensed childcare and would like to participate in this program, please call their Water Quality Line at 216-664-2639.

## How to Determine if You Have Lead in Your Water System:

Cleveland Water is virtually lead free when it leaves their treatment plants. Their water mains are not made from lead. Lead can be present in service lines and in customers' plumbing, faucets and fixtures. Not all customers have lead in their service line or plumbing system.

To understand your family's potential of having lead in your home's service line, plumbing or faucets:

**CHECK** the type of material of your city owned service line online at [www.clevelandwater.com/lead](http://www.clevelandwater.com/lead)

**TEST** your service line material. Our video shows you how [http://youtube.com/watch?v=AiU7GHZD\\_Ck](http://youtube.com/watch?v=AiU7GHZD_Ck) If a magnet sticks to the service line where it enters your home, it is galvanized steel. If you scratch the pipe with a penny and the metal is shiny like a penny, it is copper. If the scratched metal is shiny silver and flakes off, it is lead. You can record your results online or call us at 216-664-2882 and we will record the results for you.

The **DATE** plumbing components in your home were made/installed is important. Homes built after 1954 should not have a lead service line or lead plumbing. Before 1986, the level of lead in solder used to join copper pipes was usually 50%. In 1986, the allowable level of lead in solder was reduced to less than 0.2% and the allowable level in brass components in potable water faucets was reduced to less than 8%. In 2014, the allowable level of lead in brass alloy used for potable water faucets, fittings and meters was reduced to less than 0.25%.

If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. A list of laboratories certified in the state of Ohio to test for lead can be found at <http://www.epa.ohio.gov/ddagw> or by calling 614-644-2752. 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>.

## Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) Information:

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2023. All water systems were required to comply with the Total Coliform Rule from 1989 to March 31, 2016, and begin compliance with a new rule, the Revised Total Coliform Rule on April 1, 2016. The new rule maintains the purpose of protecting public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of total coliform bacteria, which includes E. coli bacteria. The U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection under the new rule, as it requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. As a result, under the new rule there is no longer a maximum contaminant level violation for multiple total coliform detections. Instead, the new rule requires water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences to conduct an assessment to determine if any significant deficiencies exist. If found, these must be corrected by the water system.

## How can I get involved?

Columbia Park does not hold meetings, but public participation and comments are encouraged. Cleveland Water does not hold regular public meetings. However, the public may participate through attending the Public Utilities Committee meetings. Committee and Council meetings are listed on the Cleveland City Council calendar at <http://clevelandcitycouncil.org/calendar> and can be watched live on TV20 and YouTube.

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### **For more information please contact:**

Columbia Park Contact Name: Gary Schenkelberg

Address: 7100 Columbia Road

Olmsted Township, OH 44138

Phone: 440-235-5300

## Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the level of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. 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 vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</b>								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	1.08	0.48	1.4	2023	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HMS) (ppb)	NA	60	17	NA	NA	2023	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	34.4	NA	NA	2023	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	#Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.01	2021	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0	2021	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

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.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
<b>MCLG</b>	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.
<b>MCL</b>	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.
<b>AL</b>	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variations and Exemptions	Variations and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
<b>MRDLG</b>	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.
<b>MRDL</b>	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.
<b>MNR</b>	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
<b>MPL</b>	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

Table of Detected Contaminants

Contaminants (Units)	When We Checked	MCLG	MCL	Baldwin Water Plant		Crown Water Plant		Morgan Water Plant		Nottingham Water Plant		Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
				Level Found	Range	Level Found	Range	Level Found	Range	Level Found	Range		
Turbidity (NTU) *	2023	n/a	1.0	0.08	0.04-0.5	0.05	0.03-0.08	0.08	0.05-0.08	0.04	0.02-0.04	No	Soil runoff
Total Chlorine (mg/L)	2023	4(MRDLG)	4(MRDL)	100% compliant	1.05-1.27	1.12	1.03-1.21	1.14	1.03-1.21	1.26	1.17-1.40	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Organic Carbon	2023	n/a	TT..	1.45	1.37-1.61	1.37	1.31-1.46	1.52	1.51-1.61	1.34	1.27-1.40	No	Naturally present in the environment
Fluoride (mg/L)	2023	4	4	1.01	0.82-1.26	0.97	0.72-1.17	1.01	0.80-1.20	0.99	0.80-1.25	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate as Nitrogen (mg/L)	2023	10	10	0.64	ND-0.64	0.84	ND-0.84	0.52	ND-0.52	0.86	ND-0.86	No	Run off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide (mg/L)	2023	0.2	0.2	ND	na	ND	na	ND	na	ND	n/a	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories

\*Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water and 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 for each of our water treatment plants. As reported above, Cleveland Water's highest recorded treated water turbidity result for 2020 was 0.16 NTU and we met the turbidity limits 100% of the time.

\*\*The value reported under "Level Found" for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) is the lowest running annual average ratio between the percent of TOC actually removed to the percentage of TOC required to be removed. A value of greater than one (1) indicates compliance with TOC removal requirements. A value less than 1 indicates a violation of the TOC removal requirements. The values reported under the "Range of Detections" for TOC is the lowest monthly ratio to the highest monthly ratio.

Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminants (Units)	When We Checked	MCLG	MCL	Baldwin Water Plant		Crown Water Plant		Morgan Water Plant		Nottingham Water Plant		Violation	Typical Source of Contaminant
				Level Found	Range	Level Found	Range	Level Found	Range	Level Found	Range		
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (µg/L)	2023	n/a	80	28.67	6.2-88.9	28.67	6.2-88.9	28.67	6.2-88.9	28.67	6.2-8.9	No	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAAS) (ppb)	2023	n/a	60	12.99	4.6-23.3	12.99	4.6-23.3	12.99	4.6-23.3	12.99	4.6-23.3	No	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper

Contaminants (units)	Action Level (AL)	Individual Results over the AL	90% of test levels were less than	Violation	Year Sampled	Typical source of Contaminants
Lead (ppb)	15 ppb	0	2.28	No	2021	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
	0 out of 58 samples were found to have lead levels in excess of the lead action level of 15 ppb.					
Copper (ppm)	1.3 ppm	0	0.1	No	2021	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
	0 out of 58 samples were found to have copper levels in excess of the copper action level of 1.3 ppm.					

Unregulated Contaminants

Unregulated contaminants are substances for which USEPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Between December 2018 and September 2019, Cleveland Water participated in the fourth round of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4). For a copy of these results, please contact the Water Quality Line at 216-664-2639.

Contaminants* (Units)	When We Checked	MCLG	Level Found	Range	Sample Location	Typical Source of Contaminant
Manganese (ppb) #	2018-19	n/a	1.13	0-3.8	Raw	Naturally occurring in water
Germanium (ppb) #	2018-19	n/a	0.073	0-1.15	Raw	Naturally occurring in water
Total Organic Carbon (ppb) #	2018-19	n/a	2133	1860- 2290	Raw	Naturally present in the environment
Bromide (ppb) #	2018-19	n/a	31.1	26.1-35.1	Raw	Naturally occurring in water
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)(ppb) #	2018-19	n/a	13.2	7.0- 22.53	Distribution	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA9)(ppb) #	2018-19	n/a	20.49	11.99 - 32.63	Distribution	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA6Br)(ppb) #	2018-19	n/a	7.97	5.38-11.18	Distribution	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2023	na	2.78	2.1-3.5	Entry Point	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (ppb)	2023	na	1.93	1.4-2.6	Entry Point	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	2023	na	1.53	1.3-1.8	Entry Point	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection

# These contaminants were detected during Phase 4 of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4), which Cleveland Water is required to participate in. Additional contaminants were monitored and not detected. If you would like additional information on results of unregulated contaminant monitoring, please call the Water Quality line at 216-664-2639.

In 2020, Cleveland Water was sampled as part of the State of Ohio's Drinking Water Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Sampling Initiative. Six PFAS compounds were sampled, and none were detected in our finished drinking water. For more information about PFAS, please visit [pfas.ohio.gov](https://www.pfas.ohio.gov)