

News Release

For immediate release:
May 8, 2013

Contact: Michele Todd Ralston, (513) 557-7092 or Michele.ralston@cincinnati-oh.gov

Get to Know Your H2O – It's Drinking Water Week

GCWW Water Met or Exceeded All State and Federal Health Standards in 2012

Cincinnati, OH – How much do you know about your H2O? Greater Cincinnati Water Works' (GCWW) 2012 Water Quality Report shows its water met or exceeded every health standard developed by both the USEPA and Ohio EPA. GCWW is announcing the release of its Water Quality Report during Drinking Water Week, which runs May 5 – 11. The report is now being mailed to Water Works customers.

"GCWW is committed to supplying its customers a plentiful supply of safe, high quality water," said Biju George, GCWW's Interim Director. "Though tap water is often taken for granted, it plays a vital role in public health, fire protection, and our local economy."

On average, GCWW treats about 132 million gallons of water a day and conducts about 600 tests daily throughout the water treatment and distribution process. The utility draws its source water from the Ohio River and the Great Miami Aquifer near Fairfield.

"GCWW uses state-of-the-art water treatment technology and stays abreast of the latest water quality research so we can deliver the best product possible," George added.

Construction of GCWW's ultraviolet disinfection (UV) treatment facility, which will further enhance water quality and protect against potential micro-organisms like cryptosporidium, is nearly complete. UV disinfection, which does not use chemicals or produce regulated disinfection by-products, will be used following sand filtration and granular activated carbon adsorption during GCWW's water treatment process. When the UV facility is operational this summer, Greater Cincinnati Water Works will be the largest water utility in North America to use UV following sand filtration and granular activated carbon.

"Consumers also have an important role to play in maintaining a safe and high quality supply of drinking water," said George. Our water professionals work hard to ensure that the water leaving our treatment plants is of the highest quality, but there are a few things home and business owners can do too."

Here are a few tips for maintaining water quality at home:

- Clean faucets and faucet screens (aerators) regularly
- Clean and disinfect sinks and drains regularly
- Use cold water for drinking and preparing food

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- Flush cold water taps after household plumbing work
- Drain and flush your hot water heater annually
- Do not connect hoses and other devices intended for non-drinking purposes to household drinking water faucets
- Keep hazardous chemicals and unsanitary materials away from drinking water faucets
- Properly disposed of unwanted pharmaceuticals, paint or other household chemicals. Do not flush them down the drain

To view a copy of GCWW's 2012 Water Quality Report, [click here](#) or visit www.cincinnati-oh.gov/water.

GCWW's 2012 Water Quality Report was prepared to meet the EPA's National Primary Drinking Water Regulation for Consumer Confidence Reports.

Greater Cincinnati Water Works provides a plentiful supply of high quality water to 1.1 million people in most of Hamilton County and parts of Butler, Warren and Clermont Counties in Ohio and Boone County, Kentucky.

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