

# ROSS COUNTY WATER COMPANY, INC.

(R.C.W.C.)

*Period Covered by Report - January 2006 through December 2006*

## *Annual Drinking Water Quality Report*

**A**s a consumer we are providing treated water to, we are pleased to present you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is required as part of the Safe Drinking Water Act Re-authorization of 1996 and is to be delivered to the consumers by July 1, 2007. Included within this report is general health information, water quality test results, how to participate in decisions concerning your drinking water, and water system contracts. Quality water is our commitment and our profession. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of potable drinking water.

The purpose of this Annual Quality Water Report is to inform you about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. The source of raw water for

R.C.W.C. is a well field consisting of eight production wells. This well field is part of the "Teays Valley Aquifer," one of three major underground aquifers in the State of Ohio. We use a combination of these eight wells to provide the raw water to two 3.5 mgd (million gallon per day) water treatment plant facilities, which processes the water for delivery to you, the end users of our utility.

R.C.W.C.'s only source of raw water is underground water. Our raw water supply is covered by a Well Head Protection Plan (WHPP). This plan was developed by R.C.W.C. to assess the vulnerability of the underground water source to contamination, and to establish a zone of protection around the well field to warn us of potential future contamination so we have time to protect this vital water source. In addition to the WHPP, the Ohio EPA has completed a susceptibility analysis for R.C.W.C. to fulfill requirements of the Source Water Assessment and Protection Program. The results were the aquifer that supplies drinking water to the R.C.W.C. has high susceptibility to contamination, due to the sensitivity of the aquifer in which the well field is located and the existence of several potential contaminant sources within the protection zone. This does not mean that this well field will become contaminated, only that conditions are such that the ground water could be impacted by potential contaminant sources. Future contamination may be avoided by implementing protective measures, such as those resulting from the WHPP. More information is available by calling our office at 740-774-4117 or Ohio EPA at 1-740-385-8501.

The sources of drinking 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 being activities.

Contaminant's that may be present in source water include: (A) Microbial Contaminant's, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife; (B) Inorganic Contaminant's 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 Contaminant's, 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 Contaminant's, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

**Quality  
On Tap!**  
Our Commitment  Our Profession

In order to insure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain Contaminant's in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establishes limits for Contaminant's in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

R.C.W.C. routinely monitors for Contaminant's in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st, 2006 thru December 31st, 2006. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some Contaminant's. The presence of Contaminant's does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about Contaminant's and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.**

To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:

**Maximum Contaminant Level** Total Coliform - The maximum contaminant level for total coliform - Presence of coliform bacteria in > 5% of the monthly samples taken.

**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 a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Action Level - (AL)** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

\* **Lead & Copper** - 90<sup>th</sup> percentile of 30 samples

**TTHM** - Trihalomethanes - Chloroform - Bromodichloromethane - Bromoform - Dibromochloromethane

**HAA5** - Monochloroacetic - Dichloroacetic - Trichloroacetic - Monobromoacetic - Dibromoacetic

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l)** - Units of measure for the concentration of Contaminant's. One part per billion corresponds to one second in 31.7 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** - Units of measure for the concentration of Contaminant's. One part per million corresponds to one second in 11.5 days or a single penny in \$10,000.

**MRDL** - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

**Symbol < Designation (<)** - This symbol means less than.....A result of <5 means that the lowest level that could be detected was 5 and the contaminant in that sample was not detected.

**Symbol > Designation (>)** - This symbol means greater than.

**Not Applicable (N/A.)** - This symbol means "Not Applicable" This means that the sample was not required or that the contaminant does not have MCL's, MCLG's or detection ranges established as of this report.

The EPA requires sampling to insure drinking water safety. R.C.W.C. conducted sampling for bacteria, inorganic, radiological, synthetic organic and volatile organic Contaminant's during 2006. Samples were collected for several different Contaminant's most of which were not detected in the water supply. The Ohio EPA requires us to monitor for some Contaminant's less than once per year because the concentrations of these Contaminant's do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

We are pleased to report that there were **No** reportable contaminate violations as detailed in the Safe Drinking Water Act and there were **No** incidents where our contaminate levels exceeded the MCL's (Maximum Contaminate Levels) established by the EPA

Listed below is the information on those Contaminant's that were found in the R.C.W.C. drinking water during the reported period.

Contaminant's UNITS	MCLG	MCL	LEVEL FOUND	RANGE OF DETECTION	VIOLATIONS	SAMPLE YEAR	TYPICAL SOURCE OF Contaminant's
<b>BACTERIOLOGICAL</b>							
TOTAL COLIFORM	0	<5%	0	N/A	NO	2006	Naturally present in the environment
<b>RADIOACTIVE Contaminant's</b>							
ALPHA TOTAL PCI/L	0	15	4.12	<3 - 4.12	NO	2004	Erosion of Natural Deposits
<b>INORGANIC Contaminant's</b>							
*LEAD - PPB	0.00	AL=15.00	<5.0*	<5.0 - 38.7	NO	2004	Corrosion of Household Plumbing Systems
30 SAMPLES - ONE OUT OF 30 SAMPLES EXCEEDED 15 PPB							
*COPPER - PPM	1.30	AL=1.30	0.88*	<.05-1.01	NO	2004	Corrosion of Household Plumbing Systems
30 SAMPLES - ZERO OUT OF 30 SAMPLES EXCEEDED 1.30 PPM							
FLUORIDE - PPM	4.00	4.00	1.06	0.92-1.13	NO	2006	Water additive which promotes strong teeth
NITRATE - PPM	10.00	10.00	1.60	0.17 - 1.60	NO	2006	Runoff from fertilizer
<b>SYNTHETIC ORGANIC Contaminant's INCLUDING PESTICIDES &amp; HERBICIDES</b>							
NONE DETECTED							
<b>VOLATILE ORGANIC Contaminant's</b>							
TTHMS - PPB (total trihalomethanes)	0.00	80	23.45 (Avg)	13.2 - 33.7	NO	2006	By-Product of Drinking Water Chlorination
HAA5 - PPB - (total haloacetic acids)	0.00	60	8.80 (Avg)	4.3 - 13.3	NO	2006	By-Product of Drinking Water Chlorination
<b>RESIDUAL DISINFECTANTS</b>							
TOTAL CHLORINE - PPM	MRDL = 4	MRDL = 4	1.46 (Avg)	0.91 - 2.01	NO	2006	Water Additive Used to Control Microbes

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water quality, please contact Ed Adams, Plant Superintendent or Bill Neal, General Manager at 1-740-774-4117 week days from 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. Public participation and comment are encouraged at any of our regularly scheduled Board of Trustees meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Wednesday each Month at 4:30 PM at the Water Company offices 663 Fairgrounds Road, Chillicothe, OH.

### **What does all of this mean to you as a consumer of our water?**

Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites, which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. The above is provided to you for informational purposes and to assure you that there is no risk involved in the consumption of water from the R.C.W.C. utility service. We're proud to inform you that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State EPA requirements. MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated Contaminant's, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some Contaminant's have been detected in our water. They however are below the MCL levels set by EPA.

Some people may be more vulnerable to Contaminant's in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons on kidney dialysis machines, 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/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological Contaminant's are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The Ross County Water Company Inc. is a Non-Profit, Member Owned organization serving the water needs to rural areas of Ross County and portions of Pike, Pickaway, Jackson, Hocking and Vinton Counties. We are an organization totally dedicated to improving the quality of life for the rural areas served by our distribution system. We are very aware of the need for good quality drinking water in the rural areas of Ohio and are constantly striving to grow and serve those needs in our immediate rural communities. The five Trustees and 32 employees are very proud of our accomplishments and the fact we can issue this report to inform you of the high quality of the water you drink. It is our desire to inform and educate our user's about water and issuing this report is one way of accomplishing our goal. Please feel free to call our office if you have questions concerning any of the items in the above report. We at R.C.W.C. proudly work around the clock to provide top quality water to every water user.

We ask that all our customers help us protect Ohio's water resources, which are at the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. Thank you.

**The Management & Staff**

**Ross County Water Company Inc.**



Ross County Water  
Company Inc.

663 Fairgrounds Road  
P.O. Box 1690  
Chillicothe, OH 45601-5690

Community Water Supply  
PWS ID: 7101412

Phone No.'s  
1-740-774-4117  
1-800-837-7525

Fax No.  
1-740-772-6867

e-mail address  
bneal@rosscowater.org

Ross County Water Company Inc.  
663 Fairgrounds Road  
P.O. Box 1690  
Chillicothe, OH 45601-5690

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Web Site  
www.rosscowater.org

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e-mail address  
bneal@rosscowater.org

### R.C.W.C. KEY PERSONNEL

President .....	Mike Riffle	Ph. 1-740-775-3104
V. President .....	Clyde Hawkins	Ph. 1-740-998-6062
Trustee .....	Joe Fisher	Ph. 1-740-887-3220
Trustee .....	Dan Baxter	Ph. 1-740-286-4303
Trustee .....	Russ Jones	Ph. 1-740-655-2165
Sect./Treas .....	Wm. F. Neal	Ph. 1-740-774-4117
General Manager .....	Wm. F. Neal	Ph. 1-740-774-4117
Plant Superintendent .....	G. Edward Adams	Ph. 1-740-774-4117

