Monthly Quality Update
October 2019

OHIO RIVER VALLEY
WATER SANITATION COMMISSION
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(513) 231-7719 Fax (513) 231-7761
Flows

Average flows at seven Ohio River locations are displayed below. At each location the October 2019 average flow (black bar) is contrasted with the long-term average monthly flow (gray bar). Flows were significantly higher at all locations during the month of October.

Figure 1
Comparison of Ohio River Average Flows for October 2019

Bacteria

The bacteria monitoring results from six Ohio River locations in October 2019 are in the attached graphs. There are thirteen sites being sampled and West Virginia is the only state that has both Fecal Coliform and E.coli results. ORSANCO’s water quality criteria for the protection of human health during the contact recreation season are:

- E. coli count is not to exceed 240 CFU/100mL in more than 25 percent of samples. (E.coli is shown with a red line on the graph.)
- E. coli shall not exceed 130 CFU/100mL as a 90-day geometric mean, based on not less than five samples per month.

ORSANCO’s water quality criteria for the protection of public water supply year round are:

- Fecal Coliform shall not exceed 2,000/100mL as a monthly geometric mean based on not less than five samples per month.
Pittsburgh
In Pittsburgh, ORM 1.4M and ORM 4.3 both had three individual exceedances for *E.coli*. 
Wheeling
In Wheeling, ORM 86.8 did not exceed the *E.coli* criteria. ORM 92.8 both had one individual exceedance for *E.coli*.
Huntington
In Huntington, ORM 305.1 and ORM 314.8 had one individual exceedance for *E.coli*. 

**Huntington ORM 305.1**

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**Huntington ORM 314.8**

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Cincinnati

In Cincinnati, ORM 462.6, 470.0, and 477.5 did not exceed the *E.coli* criteria.
Louisville
In Louisville, ORM 594.0 and 619.3 did not exceed the *E.coli* criteria.
Evansville
In Evansville, ORM 791.5 and ORM 793.7 did not exceed the *E.coli* criteria.
Dissolved Oxygen and Temperature

A summary of the dissolved oxygen and temperature readings collected in October 2019 are displayed in the attached tables. During the months of May through October, ORSANCO interrogates eleven stations for dissolved oxygen (D.O.) and temperature data once per day, Monday through Friday, for the previous 24-hour period. This data is compiled in-house to produce a report showing the minimum, maximum and average of the acquired D.O. and temperature readings. This year Olmstead was added and the results are instantaneous data. ORSANCO’s water quality criteria for the protection of warm water aquatic life habitat are:

- The minimum D.O. concentration shall not be less than 4.0 mg/L at any time.
- Average D.O. concentration shall be at least 5.0 mg/L for each calendar day.
- During the April 15 – June 15 spawning season, a minimum D.O. concentration of 5.0 mg/L shall be maintained at all times.
- The monthly average of the daily maximum for October 1-31 is:
  - 74.1 °F at MP 0 to MP 341.
  - 76.7 °F at MP 341.1 to MP 606.8.
  - 75.5 °F at MP 606.9 to MP 981.

Kyger had one day and Markland (US-Hydro) had two days that D.O. levels drop below the average of 5.0 mg/L. There were no temperature violations.
Atrazine

Evansville drinking water utility samples the Ohio River at their intake and analyzes for atrazine by immunoassay technique. Results for October 2019 are presented below. Evansville had no criteria violations of the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 3.0 ug/L set by the Safe Drinking Water Act for finished drinking water.