

DRINKING WATER SUPPLY-PROFILE

A K R O N W A T E R

A hub of collaboration and innovation



TECHNOLOGY COLLABORATION INNOVATION

A high-quality drinking water system that has been operational since 1915, Akron Water Supply consists of three divisions — Watershed Division, Water Plant Division and Water Distribution Division — that together provide watershed protection, drinking water treatment and drinking water distribution to its service area.

While its daily output is 35 million gallons (MGD) (132,489 m³/d), Akron Water Supply has an EPA-approved capacity of 67 million gallons per day (253,623 m³/d). As such, it can accommodate the needs of its nearly 300,000 current users as well as the anticipated requirements of future residential and commercial customers.

Service Area

The service area of the Akron Water Supply water system is 125 square miles (323.75 sq. km.). Akron Water Supply also protects and preserves thousands of acres (1,000 acres equals 404.6 hectares) within the 207 square-mile (536.12 sq. km.) Cuyahoga River watershed.

As presently developed, the watershed may produce a potential yield of 120 million gallons (454,249 m³/d) daily for treatment and delivery to Akron water customers.

Water Facility Network

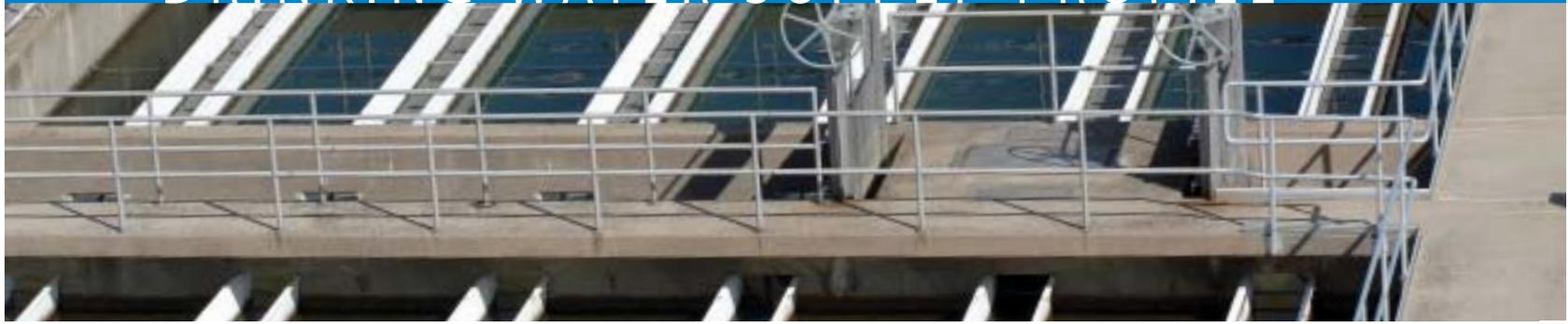
Including approximately 20,000 acres (8093.71 hectares) of city-owned land, Akron Water Supply's water facility network consists of a 67 MGD (253,623 m³/d) water treatment plant, the water distribution system (including 1,200 miles [1931.21 km.] of water mains), 16 high-service pump stations and 10 water storage facilities.



One of the most progressive and dependable water systems in the U.S., Akron Water Supply has made an ongoing investment in the continuous improvement of water operations, infrastructure and the environment. It is equally committed to bringing together experts in the fields of water technology and security to jointly develop ways to improve and protect the infrastructure of Akron's utilities and utilities around the world.

This focus on research and development not only benefits the City of Akron and its customers but also generates new business opportunities domestically and internationally. Akron Water Supply is positioned to become established as a global hub of technology, collaboration and innovation.

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Technology Highlights

Akron's drinking water supply facilities include a technologically advanced network of pumps, pipes, equipment, treatment processes, computer-automated control systems and advanced data management, event response and water security tools. This includes round-the-clock on-site EPA-licensed water operators and real-time monitors, including measurement of water samples by EPA-certified Laboratory Analysts. There are automated and handdraw processes and an advanced security system, including motion sensors, video cameras and specially trained personnel, to identify and respond to potential threats to the source waters.

Akron Water Supply also undertakes watershed pollution protection activities through land management, monitoring, sampling and educational programs as well as routine monitoring by the Source Water Area Monitoring (SWAM) program of 75 sites throughout the watershed.

Most recently, the City of Akron chose a technology developed by Whitewater Technologies, an Israeli company, to secure its water system. A platform-based software solution for smart water network management, Whitewater's WaterWall™ Network Management Solution is intended to enable knowledge sharing, workflow management, optimization and automation of operations, and the assurance of water quality and security, ultimately improving customer service, operations management, performance excellence and compliance, while seeking to assure water quality and security while reducing operating expenditures.

Collaboration Highlights

Akron Water Supply and the City of Akron have a long history of engaging in collaborative activities, from fostering relationships with local government agencies, educational facilities and commercial enterprises to inviting government and industry experts, both domestic and foreign, to share their knowledge and expertise.

Most recently, meetings between Akron officials and two Israeli-based organizations — Mei-Netanya and Mekorot — resulted in partnership arrangements that are intended to benefit all involved. At the local level, Akron Water Supply participated in a three-year research project with The University of Akron to evaluate the effectiveness of fluorescence spectroscopy regarding disinfection by-products.

INNOVATION HIGHLIGHTS

Akron Water Supply takes very seriously its commitment to environmental stewardship and has implemented a number of best management practices to promote a healthy, natural vegetative buffer that provides filtration and moderate storm water runoff protection.

Akron Water Supply's forward-thinking approach and focus on integrating new technologies and practices ensure that the utility will continue to be strong and viable.

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