



From Source to Tap: The Journey of Your Drinking Water



How many times a day do you turn on the water faucet at your house, or school, or office, or barn....10, 50, 100 times? Imagine this: It is a beautiful spring Saturday afternoon. Your family spent the morning feeding and watering your animals, you gave your new puppy a bath, there is a load of clothes in the washer, Mom is heating water on the stove to make spaghetti and mixing up lemonade, little sister is playing outside in the water sprinkler, and you are filling up a water bottle to take to your softball game this afternoon. In the distance, dark clouds are on the horizon. You hear a rumble of thunder. Soon, raindrops are falling on the porch. The sprinkles turn into a downpour—the storm has arrived. Rain runs down your driveway and road. The creeks begin to rise. You turn on the faucet to wash your hands and eat lunch. You wonder – where does my tap water come from? Where does the rainwater flow to?

Where does my tap water come from?

If your water bill comes from the following water systems, then all or some of the tap water received at your house is treated by the Clarence Cannon Wholesale Water Commission's drinking water treatment plant: water districts including Cannon PWSD #1*, Thomas Hill PWSD #1, PWSD #1 of Knox County, Lewis County, Macon County*, Marion County*, Pike*, and Shelby County, and PWSD #2 of Monroe County and the cities of Armstrong, Bowling Green, Clarence, Curryville, Edina, Farber, Higbee, Hunnewell, Huntsville, La Belle, Lewistown, Madison, New London, Paris, Perry, Shelbyville, and Wellsville.



The CCWWC drinking water treatment plant draws water from the North Fork of the Salt River.

The Clarence Cannon Wholesale Water Commission (CCWWC) operates a ten million gallon-a-day water treatment plant that is located on the old river channel of the North Fork of the Salt River near Florida, MO. Its water intake draws surface water from the North Fork Salt River.

*Macon, Marion, and Pike County PWSD #1 and Cannon PWSD #1 also have other sources of water.



Tap into pure, clean water.

Clarence Cannon
Wholesale Water
Commission



So I drink water from the North Fork of the Salt River?

Yes, if you drink water from any of the water districts or towns previously listed, water you drink comes from the North Fork Salt River at Mark Twain Lake. The CCWWC water treatment plant draws the raw water in through its intake at the lake. The raw water is then treated to remove suspended solids and organic material, remove objectionable tastes and odors, then disinfected with chloramines to provide clean, potable drinking water for 74,000 residents in 14 northeast Missouri counties.

So where did the water from the rain storm at my house flow to?

When rain reaches the ground, it can either evaporate, soak into the soil, be taken up by plant roots, or flow by gravity into the nearest drainage way. If the surface of the ground is impermeable (concrete or compacted soil) or poorly vegetated, water cannot soak into the ground and will flow off into the nearest drainage way. If you live in the North Fork of the Salt River watershed (the outlined area on the adjacent map), rain and snow runoff flows into local creeks and then into the North Fork Salt River.



The North Fork Salt River watershed covers 894 square miles in six counties and provides raw water for drinking water for over 74,000 people in 14 counties in Northeast Missouri.



CCWWC service area

How can I help provide a clean source of drinking water for the CCWWC service area?

If you live in the North Fork Salt River Watershed, what you put on the ground—litter, pesticides, fertilizers, etc. flows towards the water treatment plant intake. Keeping vegetation taller (rather than mowing short), planting trees and native grasses and practicing soil health (minimum tillage and cover crops) to reduce erosion, and disposing of chemicals and waste correctly will help protect your family's source of drinking water.

