



# At-A-Glance

## Community Water Fluoridation

The Oral Health Program (OHP) supports community water fluoridation by providing information and technical assistance to communities interested in initiating community water fluoridation.

*“The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has identified community water fluoridation as one of the 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century.”*

*Ten Great Public Health Achievements—United States, MMWR 1999; 48(12):241-3.*

### Fluoridation Assistance Program

The OHP offers limited funds when available for the start-up and maintenance of community water fluoridation. Communities of any size can request funds for equipment used in the fluoridation feed system, or fluoride testing equipment used in the water treatment laboratory. Interested communities can access the Fluoridation Assistance Program guidelines and application materials on the OHP website <http://bit.ly/FluorideAssistanceProgram>.

### Technical Assistance and Resources

The OHP provides technical assistance and resources to communities interested in starting community water fluoridation, and promotes the use of evidence-based information such as the *Campaign for Dental Health - Life is Better with Teeth* website.

### Facts about Community Water Fluoridation

- Fluoride is found naturally in all water.
- Community water fluoridation is the adjustment of the fluoride that is found naturally in water to optimal levels to protect oral health.
- Community water fluoridation benefits both children and adults.
- More than 70 years of research by credible scientists has consistently shown that community water fluoridation is safe.
- More than 100 national and international health and professional organizations recognize the public health benefits of fluoridation.

### Status of Community Water Fluoridation in Ohio\*

Ohio ranks **11<sup>th</sup>** nationally in the percentage of persons on public water systems that receive fluoridated water.



**92%**

of Ohioans served by public water supplies have fluoridated water.

\*2017 data