



For Immediate Release

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Columbus, OH: On Monday, June 12, 2023, at 12pm at the Rich Street Bridge entrance (near the Bicentennial Park area), please join the **Columbus Community Bill of Rights (CCBOR)** and its educational arm, **Columbus Community Rights Coalition (CCRC)**, as we release our long-awaited White Paper entitled *The Risks to the Greater Columbus Water Supply from Oil & Gas Production*. The population of Columbus is greater than 900,000 persons but a review of all 19 communities reliant on Columbus water adding another 300,000 persons using Columbus water. The authors of this paper believe that all these people, along with our homes, businesses, and livelihoods have the right to clean, safe water and that government officials have the responsibility to consider the many factors that might render area water less than safe.

This White Paper, then, provides area leaders and community members with much-needed context and information to move forward in identifying any problematic areas as well as solutions to rectify them.

Sandy Bolzenius, a lead organizer of this project said: “Working together, city authorities, citizen scientists, and concerned locals can—and must—safeguard our water resources on which all life in Greater Columbus and beyond depends.

It is up to *our* city to make this happen. Clearly, no one else is going to save our communities, so that task is on us, Central Ohioans. We must act on this Paper’s recommendations, and, given the active risks to the Greater Columbus Water Supply, we must act now.”

This 12-chapter report provides an important overview of the context for CCBOR’s study as well as **fifteen important recommendations** for the Columbus Source Water Protection Management Plan (SWPMP). Among the priorities of these recommendations, **Bob Krasen**, another CCBOR co-organizer, suggests that SWPMP and City leaders

“1) **do** soil & water testing close to frack brine injection wells in Delaware and Morrow Counties; 2) **map** routes taken by frack brine tanker trucks; 3) **create** an "emergency notification system" with Columbus included, is needed in the source water protection area (SWPA); 4) **develop** a database of incidents of oil & gas contamination, and by frack materials in the source water protection area (SWPA) and 5) **discuss** with Delaware and Morrow county officials about hazard of liquid frack brine spreading on roads to melt ice.”

Members of the Columbus and surrounding communities may view the entire report online on Monday, June 12 after 12noon at the [CCBOR website](#). There, one can read the report in its entirety as well as the full complement of recommendations as well as potential solutions. CCBOR is an organization that takes action, and that action includes researching issues such as water quality and any other issues that require citizen engagement for fostering our own community rights.

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