FACT SHEET
Fluoride

- **Since 2011, Arkansas state law has required all systems serving more than 5000 people to add fluoride to drinking water.**

- Beaver Water District adds fluoride to the drinking water at the recommended concentration of 0.7 mg/l.

- According to the American Dental Association, fluorosis, which appears as white lines or streaks on the teeth, can occur in children up to about eight years old if excessive fluoride levels are consumed. Enamel fluorosis occurs only when the teeth are still developing under the gums and does not affect the health of the teeth.[1]

- According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, fluoride is present naturally in most water at a very low level. As of 2022, 72.3% people on public water systems in the United States had access to water having the optimal level of Fluoride recommended for preventing tooth decay.[2]

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention lists fluoridation of drinking water among the 10 great public health achievements of the 20th century. The CDC identifies community water fluoridation as a safe and cost-effective way to prevent tooth decay (dental caries) to members of the community who receive their water from a community water supply system. [3]

- According to the Arkansas Department of Health, 86% of the state's population on public water are optimally fluoridated. Fluoride has been proven to decrease the number of bacteria in the mouth and strengthen tooth enamel.[4]

[1] American Dental Association - Fluorosis

[2] CDC Water Fluoridation Statistics

[3] Centers for Disease Control - Community Water Fluoridation

[4] Arkansas Oral Health Plan 2023-2028

###
About Beaver Water District

Beaver Water District supplies drinking water to people and industries in Fayetteville, Springdale, Rogers, Bentonville and surrounding areas. These cities then resell the water to surrounding towns and communities. The District's mission is to sustainably provide our customers with safe, economical drinking water. For more information, visit www.bwdh2o.org.