



Water - Essential for Life

WESTERN PULASKI WATER DISTRICT

KY1000363

Water Quality Report for year 2013

1059 WEST HIGHWAY 80
SOMERSET, KY. 42503

Meetings: WESTERN PULASKI CO. WATER DIST. OFFICE

Meeting Dates and Time: Third Tuesday each month 6:00 PM

Manager: **Joe McClendon**

Phone: **(606)679-1569**

CCR Contact: **Joe McClendon**

Phone: **(606)679-1569**

This report is designed to inform the public about the quality of water and services provided on a daily basis. Our commitment is to provide our customers with a safe, clean, and reliable supply of drinking water. We want to assure that we will continue to monitor, improve, and protect the water system and deliver a high quality product. Water is the most indispensable product in every home and we ask everyone to be conservative and help us in our efforts to protect the water source and the water system.

We purchase water from Somerset Water Service. Somerset's water supply is Lake Cumberland which is a surface water source. A source water assessment plan was completed by Lake Cumberland Area Development District. A susceptibility analysis of the raw water source in Lake Cumberland Reservoir to contamination indicates that this susceptibility is low. Within the critical protection area there are five potential sources of contamination that are ranked high, seven-ranked medium and none ranked as low level. Areas of concern include forest and woodlands, row crops, and urban and recreational grassland cover. Other potential contaminants within the greater watershed area include bridges and culverts. KPDES permitted discharges, major roadways, one railroad, underground storage tanks and waste generators or transporters. This is due of the source water withdrawal location's proximity to residential, commercial and industrial areas of Somerset and Pulaski County. You may contact The Somerset Water Service office (606)678-6646 for more information about the plan.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects may be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and may pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, (sewage plants, septic systems, livestock operations, or wildlife). Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, (naturally occurring or from stormwater runoff, wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming). Pesticides and herbicides, (stormwater runoff, agriculture or residential uses). Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, (by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, or from gas stations, stormwater runoff, or septic systems). Radioactive contaminants, (naturally occurring or from oil and gas production or mining activities).

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water to provide the same protection for public health.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some or all of these definitions may be found in this report:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Below Detection Levels (BDL) - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Not Applicable (N/A) - does not apply.

Parts per million (ppm) - or milligrams per liter, (mg/L). One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) - or micrograms per liter, (µg/L). One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) - a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

Variations & Exemptions (V&E) - State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Action Level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system shall follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Information About Lead:

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Your local public water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Spanish (Español) Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

The data presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with administrative regulations in 401 KAR Chapter 8. As authorized and approved by EPA, the State has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data in this table, though representative, may be more than one year old. Unless otherwise noted, the report level is the highest level detected.

| | Allowable Levels | Highest Single Measurement | Lowest Monthly % | Violation | Likely Source |
|--|--|----------------------------|------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Turbidity (NTU) TT * Representative samples of filtered water | No more than 1 NTU* Less than 0.3 NTU in 95% of monthly samples | 0.11 | 100 | No | Soil runoff |

Regulated Contaminant Test Results

| Contaminant [code] (units) | MCL | MCLG | Report Level | Range of Detection | Date of Sample | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|----------------------------|-----|------|--------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
|----------------------------|-----|------|--------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------|--------------------------------|

Microbiological Contaminants

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|-----|------|----|--------------------------------------|
| Total Coliform Bacteria # or % positive samples | 1 | 0 | 1 | N/A | 2013 | No | Naturally present in the environment |
|---|---|---|---|-----|------|----|--------------------------------------|

Inorganic Contaminants

| | | | | | | | |
|--|----------|-----|-------------------------|---------------|--------|----|---|
| Barium [1010] (ppm) | 2 | 2 | 0.02 | 0.02 to 0.02 | Feb-13 | No | Drilling wastes; metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits |
| Copper [1022] (ppm) sites exceeding action level 0 | AL = 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.204 (90th percentile) | 0.002 to 0.63 | Jul-12 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems |
| Fluoride [1025] (ppm) | 4 | 4 | 1.22 | 1.22 to 1.22 | Feb-13 | No | Water additive which promotes strong teeth |
| Lead [1030] (ppb) sites exceeding action level 0 | AL = 15 | 0 | 0 (90th percentile) | 0 to 10 | Jul-12 | No | Corrosion of household plumbing systems |
| Nitrate [1040] (ppm) | 10 | 10 | 0.3 | 0.14 to 0.3 | Aug-13 | No | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits |

Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts and Precursors

| | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----|----|-----------------------------------|
| Total Organic Carbon (ppm) (measured as ppm, but reported as a ratio) | TT* | N/A | 1.11 (lowest average) | 0.41 to 1.73 (monthly ratios) | N/A | No | Naturally present in environment. |
|---|-----|-----|-----------------------|-------------------------------|-----|----|-----------------------------------|

*Monthly ratio is the % TOC removal achieved to the % TOC removal required. Annual average of the monthly ratios must be 1.00 or greater for compliance.

| | | | | | | | |
|---|----------|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----|----|---|
| Chlorine (ppm) | MRDL = 4 | MRDLG = 4 | 1.50 (highest average) | 0.46 to 2.42 | N/A | No | Water additive used to control microbes. |
| HAA (ppb) (all sites) [Haloacetic acids] | 60 | N/A | 31 (system average) | 23 to 68 (range of system sites) | N/A | No | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection |
| HAA (ppb) [Haloacetic acids] (Individual Sites) | 60 | N/A | N/A (locational average) | 51 to 60 (range of individual sites) | N/A | No | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection |
| TTHM (ppb) (all sites) [total trihalomethanes] | 80 | N/A | 31 (system average) | 18 to 48 (range of system sites) | N/A | No | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection |
| TTHM (ppb) [total trihalomethanes] (Individual Sites) | 80 | N/A | N/A (locational average) | 52 to 63 (range of individual sites) | N/A | No | Byproduct of drinking water disinfection. |

Unregulated Contaminants (UCMR 3)

| | average | range (ppb) | date |
|----------------|---------|--------------|--------|
| Vanadium | 0.25 | 0.24 to 0.26 | Aug-13 |
| Strontium | 125 | 110 to 140 | Dec-13 |
| Chromium-6 | 0.13 | 0.11 to 0.15 | Aug-13 |
| Total Chromium | 0.33 | 0.32 to 0.33 | Dec-13 |

EPA has not established drinking water standards for unregulated contaminants. There are no MCL's and therefore no violations if found.

Somerset Utilities has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard. As our customers you have a right to know that these data are available. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact Somerset Utilities during normal business hours.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Our water system violated drinking water requirements over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing (did) to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 01/01/2011-12/31/2013 and 11/01/2013-11/30/2013 we did not complete all monitoring or testing for Asbestos and Chlorine and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for these contaminants and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

| contaminant | required sampling frequency | number of samples taken | samples should have been taken | when samples were or will be taken |
|-------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Asbestos | One every nine years | 0 | 1 | Applying for waiver |
| Chlorine | Daily | 29 | 30 | 12/1/2013 |

What is being done?

The Asbestos violation occurred when we failed to renew our existing waiver at the beginning of a nine year compliance cycle. We have since submitted the waiver on April 14, 2014 and received approval. The Chlorine violation occurred when we failed to collect the daily sample on November 15, 2013. We have since implemented a new record keeping system to track our results and prevent violations from occurring in the future. No one was at risk as a result of these violations.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.