

# **Marshall County Board of Public Utilities**

## **Water Quality Report 2008**

requirements. We want you to know that we pay attention to all the rules.

### **Is my drinking water safe?**

Yes, our water meets all of EPA's health standards. In the last few years, tests, some annually have been conducted for over 80 contaminants that may be in drinking water. As you'll see in the chart on the back, we only detected 12 of these contaminants. We found all of these contaminants at safe levels.

### **What is the source of my water?**

Your water, , comes primarily from the Lewisburg Water system. The Tennessee Dept. of Environment has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program Report for the untreated water sources. The Report assesses the susceptibility of untreated water sources to potential contamination. To ensure safe drinking water, all public water systems treat and routinely test their water. Water sources have been rated as reasonably susceptible, moderately susceptible, or slightly susceptible based on geological factors and human activities in the vicinity of the water source. Our rating is moderately susceptible. An explanation of the Tennessee Source Water Assessment Program, the Source Water Assessment summaries, susceptibility scorings and the overall TDEC report to EPA can be viewed at [www.state.tn.us/environment/dws/dwassess.shtml](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/dws/dwassess.shtml) or you may contact the water system to obtain copies of specific assessments.

### **Why are there contaminants in my water?**

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. Community water systems are required to disclose the detection of contaminants; however, bottled water companies are not required to comply with this regulation. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

**For more information about your drinking water, please call Tommy Whaley at 931-359-6905.**

**Este informe contiene información muy importante. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

### **How can I get involved?**

Our Water Board meets on the third Tuesday of each month at

### **Other Information**

Due to all water containing dissolved contaminants, occasionally your water may exhibit slight discoloration. We strive to maintain the standards to prevent this. We at Marshall County Board of Public Utilities work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

### **Do I Need To Take Special Precautions?**

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 under-gone 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 not only their drinking water, but food preparation, personal hygiene, and precautions in handling infants and pets from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).



### **Water System Security**

Following the events of September 2001, we realize that our customers are concerned about the security of their drinking water. We urge the public to report any suspicious activities at any utility facilities, including treatment plants, tanks, fire hydrants, etc. to 931-359-6905

### **Lead Information**

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. Marshall County Board of Public Utilities 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 Quality Data

## What does this chart mean?

- **MCLG** - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or 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.
- **MCL** - Maximum Contaminant Level, or 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. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.
- **MRDL** - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level, or MRDL: The highest level of a allowed in drinking water.
- There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.
- **MRDLG** - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or 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.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Date of Sample	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	no	0		2008		0	<2 positive samples	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity	no	0.55	0.03-0.55	2008	NTU	n/a	TT	Soil runoff
Copper*	no	90th% =0.15 ppm		6/18/07	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride	no	.92 ppm	.51-.92		ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead**	no	90th% =14		6/18/07	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	no	4		2008	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; used in water treatment
TTHM <sup>§</sup> [Total trihalomethanes]	no	52.7 ppb avg	37.6-58.0 ppb	2008	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	no	35.9 ppb avg	32.6-38.9 ppb	2008	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine	no	1.5 avg	0.5-2.5	2008	ppm	MRDLG = 4 ppm	MRDL =4 ppm	Water additive to kill microbes
Atrazine	no	BDL	BDL	2008	ppb	3	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Nitrate	no	0.47		2008	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use
Total Organic Carbons***	no	TT		2008	ppm		TT	Naturally present in the environment

Most of the data presented in this table is from testing done between January and December 2008.

### Other Information

\*We had 0 sites out of a total of 31 sites sampled to exceed the copper action level.

\*\*We had 1 site out of a total of 31 sites sampled to exceed the lead action level. This sample was re-tested with results below detection limits, an apparent customer handling error. Test are performed every three years.

\*\*\*We met the treatment technique requirements for total organic carbon in 2008.

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