

2016 WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR WASHINGTON WATER DEPARTMENT

This report contains important information regarding the water quality in our water system. The source of our water is ground water. Our groundwater is drawn from the Cambrian Jordan Sandstone aquifer.

Our water quality testing shows the following results:

CONTAMINANT	MCLG	MCL	DETECTED LEVEL	DATE SAMPLED	RANGE OF DETECTION	VIOLATION	SOURCE
Combined radium (pCi/L)	0	5	2.5	10/7/2015		NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	0	AL=15	1 95%	8/19/2014	0-1	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	0	AL=15	1 90%	8/19/2014	0-1	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	1.3	AL=1.3	0.4 90%	8/19/2014	.01-.53	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	N/A	N/A	140	10/10/2012		NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Added to water during treatment process
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDLG = 4.0	MRDL = 4.0	1.88	12/31/2015	.91-2.03	NO	Water additives used to control microbes
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	<1.0	2/11/2015		NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	9.4	9/24/2013		NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Flouride (ppm)	4	4	.91	11/08/2011		NO	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
TTHM (ppm) Total Trihalomethanes	N/A	.08	< .002	7/15/2015		NO	By-products of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (ppm) Haloacetic Acids	N/A	.06	< .006	7/15/2015		NO	By-products of drinking water disinfection

Note: Contaminants with dates indicate results from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

DEFINITIONS

- 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.
- ppb -- parts per billion.
- ppm -- parts per million.
- pCi/L – picocuries per liter
- N/A – Not applicable
- ND -- Not detected
- Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

GENERAL INFORMATION

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 posed a health risk. More information about contaminants or potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primary from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The Washington Water Department 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT INFORMATION

The City of Washington water supply obtains its water from the Cambrian Jordan Sandstone aquifer. The Cambrian Jordan Sandstone aquifer was determined to be not susceptible to contamination because the characteristics of the aquifer and overlying materials prevent easy access of contaminants to the aquifer. The wells will somewhat susceptible to activities such as not be susceptible to most contaminant sources except through pathways to the aquifer such as abandoned or poorly maintained wells. A detailed evaluation of your source water was completed by the IDNR, and is available from the City of Washington Water Department at (319) 653-2764.

OTHER INFORMATION

The City of Washington uses an Electrodialysis Reversal Treatment process to purify the water. EDR is a high-tech process where minerals and other constituents are removed by an electrical charge.

Our water utility is making every effort to protect the water system from potential security threats. You, as customers, can also help. If you see any suspicious activity near the water tower, treatment plant, wells or fire hydrants, please contact the local police/sheriff department or us at (319) 653-2764. We appreciate your assistance in protecting the water system.

CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions regarding this information, please contact Chad M^cCleary or Kyle Wellington at (319) 653-2764 during the following hours: 7 am - 3:30 pm, M-F

Decisions regarding the water system are made at the City Council meetings held on the first and third Tuesdays at 6 p.m. at the Old Library, 120 E. Main Street, and are open to the public. This report will not be mailed to each individual user.