

PITTSBURG COUNTY RURAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 5
WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2017

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report. The purpose of this report is to inform you about the quality of water and services provided to you by the Water District. This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jim Henley at (918) 426-5555. Our address is P. O. Box 102, McAlester, OK 74502. You are invited to attend any of the regularly scheduled board meetings held at the District Office at 430 S. Chambers Road on the second Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm.

The results of RWD #5's water monitoring program for the period from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017:

Microbiological Contaminants

Substance	MCL	Maximum Level Detected	EPA MCLG (EPA Goal)	2017 Violations	Likely Sources of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	No samples per month testing coliform positive	No monthly samples tested coliform positive	No monthly samples testing coliform positive	0	Naturally present in the environment

Disinfectants & Disinfectant By-Products

(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
			Low	High			
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) ppb	NA	80	36.4	108	2016	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAAs) ppb	NA	60	31.0	85.7	2016	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection

TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) Exceedance

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. We exceeded the allowable TTHM level of 80 ppb during the second, third and fourth quarters of 2017. The water we purchase from the City of McAlester exceeded the allowable level of TTHM when it passed into our system through the master meter during the third quarter. There is nothing we can do to remove the TTHM's from our purchased water. The City of McAlester is working to reduce the levels of TTHM's in the water they sell to the District.

HAAs (Haloacetic Acids) Exceedance

Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. We exceeded the allowable HAAs level of 60 ppb during the second and fourth quarters of 2017. The water we purchase from the City of McAlester met the allowable level of HAAs in all quarters of 2017. The District is taking action to reduce the levels of HAAs in your water.

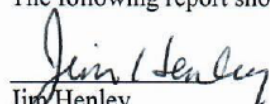
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Year	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
Copper – Action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.190	2017	0	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Lead – action level at consumer taps (ppm)	0	0.015	BPQL	2017	0	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

BPQL (Below practical quantitation Limit) The lead level was so low that none could be detected.

The following actions are being taken to reduce the levels of Disinfection By Products (DBP) in our system

1. The District has purchased equipment to test our water for PH and temperature at the time the Stage II DBP samples are taken. This data, along with the chlorine residuals currently taken can be used to help determine methods to reduce DBP levels in the system,
2. Determine and rectify problems with the South Pump station being unable to provide flow necessary to adequately flush the far extents of the system as well as the Stage II DBP sample site downstream from the pump. The pump provides the required pressures for all water usages downstream from the station and was designed to meet DEQ standards, but for unknown reasons, loses prime when a line is opened wide for flushing. It will remain to be seen if this can be resolved without a major expenditure.

Our water source is the City of McAlester PWA, whose Surface Water source is Lake McAlester, located 4 miles north of McAlester. The following report shows the quality of our water source.


Jim Henley
Manager



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2017 Consumer Confidence Report for McAlester PWA-PWS #OK 1020609

Spanish (Español)

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

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 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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Lake McAlester

Source water assessment and its availability

City of McAlester Public Works/Engineering Department located at 28 E. Washington, McAlester, OK

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) 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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity:

microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and 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. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

How can I get involved?

Interested individuals may contact the City of McAlester Public Works/Engineering Department located at 28 E. Washington or attend the City Council Meetings held at City Hall every 2nd and 4th Tuesday at 6:00 P.M.

Description of Water Treatment Process

Your water is treated in a "treatment train" (a series of processes applied in a sequence) that includes coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. Coagulation removes dirt and other particles suspended in the source water by adding chemicals (coagulants) to form tiny sticky particles called "floc," which attract the dirt particles. Flocculation (the formation of larger flocs from smaller flocs) is achieved using gentle, constant mixing. The

heavy particles settle naturally out of the water in a sedimentation basin. The clear water then moves to the filtration process where the water passes through sand, gravel, charcoal or other filters that remove even smaller particles. A small amount of chlorine or other disinfection method is used to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water before water is stored and distributed to homes and businesses in the community.

Water Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference - try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit www.epa.gov/watersense for more information.

Cross Connection Control Survey

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and insuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below please contact us so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler/ Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property

- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides - they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

Additional Information for 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. McAlester PWA 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>.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Bromate (ppb)	0	10	1	NA	1	2017	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (as Cl2) (ppm)	4	4	1	1	1	2017	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	45	18.2	73.9	2017	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	58	29.8	83.2	2017	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	.0544	.0544	.0544	2012	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	.151	.151	.151	2017	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks,

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Detect In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
								sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants								
Beta/photon emitters (mrem/yr)	0	4	2.52	2.52	2.52	2017	No	Decay of natural and man- made deposits.
Radium (combined 226/228) (pCi/L)	0	5	1.093	1.093	1.093	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	.526	2016	1	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems;	

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
mrem/yr	mrem/yr: millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
MRDLG	MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.
MRDL	MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

For more information please contact:

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