

Watts Bar Utility District Water Quality Report 2004

Is my drinking water safe?

Yes, our water meets all of EPA's health standards. We have conducted numerous tests for over 80 contaminants that may be in drinking water. As you'll see in the chart on the back, we only detected 10 of these contaminants. We found all of these contaminants at safe levels.

What is the source of my water?

Your water comes from wells located near the water treatment plant. Our goal is to protect our water from contaminants and we are working with the State to determine the vulnerability of our water supply to contamination. A well head protection plan is available for your review by contacting Mickey Barger at the Watts Bar Utility District between 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. weekdays.

The Tennessee Department 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 reasonably 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.php 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 Mickey Barger at (865) 882-5058.

How can I get involved?

Our Water Board meets on the second Tuesday, of each month 5:00 p.m. at Wolf Creek Fire Hall, 4535 Watts Bar Highway, Spring City, TN. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

Is our water system meeting other rules that govern our operations?

The State and EPA require us to test and report on our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We have met all of these requirements. We want you to know that we pay attention to all the rules.

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 Watts Bar Utility District 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 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 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).

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

Water Quality Data for Watts Bar Utility District

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.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Found	Range of Detections	Date of Sample	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	0		2004		0	>1 positive sample	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity ¹	No	0.1		2004	NTU	n/a	TT	Soil runoff
Copper	No	0.37		9/8/03	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	No	9.6		9/8/03	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	No	2.1		6/3/03	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; used in water treatment
Barium	No	0.018		6/3/03	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chloroform	No	0.0097		6/5/03	ppb			
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	0.28		9/04	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes	No	63	0 - 115	2004	ppb	0 ppb	80 ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Haloacetic Acid	No	24	0 - 72	2004	ppb	60 ppb	0 ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

During the most recent round of Lead and Copper testing, only 0 out of 20 households sampled contained concentrations exceeding the action level.

¹100% of our samples were below the turbidity limit.