

Information Specific to Your Community Public Water System

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Athens

This report covers January 1 to December 31, 2014

System I.D. # 1070005

903-675-5131

Information Required in All Consumer Confidence Reports

For more information regarding this report contact: Director of Utilities at 903-675-5131.

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono 903-675-5131.

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

Public Participation Opportunities

Date: Thursday, July 9, 2015
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Location: Athens City Hall Annex
501 N. Pinkerton St.
Phone Number: 903-675-5131

Sources of Water

Our drinking water is obtained from both groundwater and purchased surface water. It comes from the Wilcox Aquifer and Lake Athens located within the incorporated city limits of Athens, Henderson County.

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.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as *Cryptosporidium*, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or immunocompromised persons such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer; those who have undergone organ transplants; those who are undergoing treatment with steroids; and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, can be particularly at risk from infections. You should seek advice about drinking water from your physician or health care provider. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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 primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Athens 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>

Source Water Assessment Protection

The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that some of your sources are susceptible to contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact the Director of Utilities.

Information about Source Water Assessment

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water sources is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment allows us to focus source water strategies.

Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL:
<http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW>

<u>Source Name</u>	<u>Type Water</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Location</u>
<u>2-Lane St Well</u>	<u>GW</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Wilcox Aquifer</u>
<u>3-Scott St Well</u>	<u>GW</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Wilcox Aquifer</u>
<u>4-Faulk St Well</u>	<u>GW</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Wilcox Aquifer</u>
<u>AMWA PWS1070252</u>	<u>SW</u>	<u>High</u>	<u>Lake Athens</u>

Definitions

Ground Water (GW): Water from wells.

Surface Water (SW): Water from Lakes, River, or Streams.

Treatment technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Action level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or 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 Contaminant Level or 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 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.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or 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.

NTU: nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity);
ppb: micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$) or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

Information on Detected Contaminants

The data presented in the report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations.

Turbidity

	<i>Limit (for Treatment Technique Being Used)</i>	Level Detected	Explanation of Reasons for Measuring Turbidity	Was this a violation?	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest Single Measurement	1 NTU	0.40 NTU	Filter Effectiveness	No	Soil runoff.
Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Turbidity Limit	0.3 NTU	98.9%	Filter Effectiveness	No	Soil runoff.

Inorganic Contaminants

Name of Inorganic Contaminant	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Was This a Violation?	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2014	0.04	0.04-0.04	2	2	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries.
Chromium	2014	0.8	0.8-0.8	100	100	ppb	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from steel and pulp mills.
Fluoride	2014	0.232	0.232 – 0.232	4	4	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2014	0.127	0.032 - 0.127	10	10	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage.

Lead and Copper

Lead or Copper	Collection Date	The 90th Percentile Value of the Most Recent Round of Sampling	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Was This a Violation?	Source of Contaminant
Lead	2014	2	0	15	0	ppb	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	2014	0.15	0	1.3	1.3	ppm	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Total Organic Carbon

Total organic carbon (TOC) has no adverse health effects. Total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts when water is disinfected. Disinfection is necessary to ensure that water does not have unacceptable levels of pathogens. Byproducts of disinfection include trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids which are reported elsewhere in this report.

Constituent	Collection Date	Highest Monthly Level	Range of Monthly Levels	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Was This a Violation?	Source
Total Organic Carbon	2014	4.49	3.69-4.49	N/A	TT	ppm	No	Naturally present in the environment.

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

Name of Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Highest Locational Running Annual Average	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Was This a Violation?	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2014	56.8	38	5.8 - 56.8	N/A	60	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2014	82.9	54	22.1 - 82.9	N/A	80	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Disinfectant Type	Average Level	Min Level	Max Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Was This a Violation?	Source
Chloramine	2.00	0.4	3.8	4	4	ppm	No	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

Radiological

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Was This a Violation?	Source
Combined Radium 226/228	2012	1	1 - 1	0	5	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Alpha, Including Radon & Uranium	2012	0	0-0	0	0	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits.

Unregulated Contaminants

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulations are warranted.

Unregulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Was This a Violation?
Chloroform	2014	29.4	6.1-45.9	N/A	N/A	ppb	No
Bromodichloromethane	2014	18.1	5.5-33.7	N/A	N/A	ppb	No
Dibromochloromethane	2014	4.2	3.1-8.1	N/A	N/A	ppb	No
Bromoform	2014	1.9	0-22.4	N/A	N/A	ppb	No
Bromochloroacetic acid	2014	6.0	2.2-8.9	N/A	N/A	ppb	No
Dichloroacetic acid	2014	19.5	1.4-31.8	N/A	N/A	ppb	No
Trichloroacetic acid	2014	15.4	2.9-26.1	N/A	N/A	ppb	No
Dibromoacetic acid	2014	0.4	0-0.9	N/A	N/A	ppb	No
Monochloroacetic acid	2014	2.3	0-2.3	N/A	N/A	ppb	No
Monobromoacetic acid	2014	0.2	0-2.3	N/A	N/A	ppb	No

Violations Table

Chlorine			
Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR)	04/01/2014	06/30/2014	The DLQOR for the contaminant and period indicated was not submitted in a timely manner. No adverse health effects are related.
Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR)	07/01/2014	09/30/2014	The DLQOR for the contaminant and period indicated was not submitted in a timely manner. No adverse health effects are related.

The City has implemented multiple layers of oversight to ensure future reporting is submitted in a timely manner.

Notification of Water Loss

Our Water Loss Audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board indicates a Total Water Loss of 6.51%.