

**PITTSBURG COUNTY RURAL WATER DISTRICT NO. 5
WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2014**

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, 2014 to December 31, 2014:

Microbiological Contaminants

Substance	MCL		Maximum Level Detected			EPA MCLG (EPA Goal)	2014 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	1	Naturally present in the environment
Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT orMRDL	Your Water	Range Low High		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
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 orMRDL	Your Water	Range Low High		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (MG/L)	NA	.08	.11	.095	.126	2014	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection

TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]

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. Annual averages exceeded the allowable TTHM level of 0.080 mg/L during the four quarters of 2014. 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. 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 but until then, we will not be below the acceptable level.

One sample tested positive for coliform bacteria during the period from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014. This was due to a sampling error. The required follow-up samples tested negative for coliform bacteria.

Coliform organisms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

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

McALESTER PUBLIC WORKS AUTHORITY 2014 WATER REPORT

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. Last year, we conducted tests for over 80 contaminants. We only detected 9 of those contaminants and found only 1 at a level higher than the EPA allows. As we informed you at the time, our water temporarily exceeded drinking water standards. (For more information see the section labeled Violations at the end of the report).

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/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).

Where does my water come from?

Lake McAlester

Source water assessment and its availability

City of McAlester Public Works/Engineering Department located at 28 East Washington, McAlester, Oklahoma

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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

How can I get involved?

Interested individuals may contact the City of McAlester Public Works/Engineering Department located at 28 East 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 by filtration and disinfection. Filtration removes particles suspended in the source water. Particles typically include clays and silts, natural organic matter, iron and manganese, and microorganisms. Your water is also treated by disinfection. Disinfection involves the addition of chlorine or other disinfectant to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water. Disinfection is considered to be one of the major public health advances of the 20th century.

Monitoring for and reporting of compliance data violations.

Samples for lead monitoring were taken early requiring additional sampling.

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 Public Works Authority 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, maybe 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.

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Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfectant By Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)(ppb)	NA	60	42	22.6	61.2	2014	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine (as CL2)(ppm)	4	4	1	ND	1	2014	No	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	NA	80	81	33.7	142	2014	Yes	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic contaminants								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0544	NA	NA	2012	Yes	Erosion of Natural Deposits; Discharge of drilling water; discharge from metal refineries
Nitrate(measured as Nitrogen) (ppb)	10	10	0.274	NA	NA	2014		Runoff from fertilizer use; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	1	1	NA	NA	2014	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU)	NA	1	98	NA	NA	2014	No	Soil runoff
98% of the samples were below the TT value of 1. A value of less than 95% constitutes a TT violation. The highest single measurement was 0.88. Any measurement in excess of 5 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.								
Inorganic Contaminants								
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
Copper – action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.134	2013	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.	
Lead – action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	9.5	2013	4	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

Violations and Exceedances

TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]

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. Testing results were for the First Quarter 2014 through the Fourth Quarter 2014. We are working to minimize the formation of TTHM's while assuring we maintain an adequate level of disinfectant. Several process changes have been made at the water treatment plant as well as implementation of maintenance operations in the distribution system. This has brought us very close to compliance.

Unit Descriptions			
Term	Definition	Term	Definition
ppm	ppm: parts million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)	ppb	ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
NTU	NTU; Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.	Positive samples/month	Positive samples per month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive.
NA	NA: Not applicable	ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.		
Important Drinking Water Definitions			
Term	Definitions		
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		
Variations & Exceptions	Variations and Exceptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.		
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 Disinfection 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 Required.		
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level		

For more information concerning this City of McAlester report contact:

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