Presented By Catoosa Utility District Authority

EPORT WATER TESTING PERFORMED IN 2014

ANNUAL

F

PWS ID#: 0470000

Our Mission Continues

We are proud to present once again our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2014. Most notably, last year marked the 40th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This rule was created to protect public health by regulating the nation's drinking water supply. We celebrate this milestone as we continue to manage our water system with a mission to deliver the best-quality drinking water. By striving to meet the requirements of SDWA, we are ensuring a future of healthy, clean drinking water for years to come.

Please let us know if you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month beginning at 9 a.m. at the Catoosa Utility District Authority Office at 1058 Old Mill Road, Ringgold, Georgia. Call the office at (706) 937-4121 for information.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or http://water.epa. gov/drink/hotline.

Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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, in some cases, radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances 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, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may 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 may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The Catoosa Utility District Authority (CUDA) provides water to its customers from Yates Spring. Our customers are very fortunate to have a clean and pure supply of drinking water. Our water supply is a groundwater source, which means it is not exposed to air and is not subject to direct pollution and contamination like a river or reservoir. In fact, because groundwater is the safest and highest quality water available to meet the public demand of water intended for human consumption, we are able to provide you with water directly from the source.

Throughout the distribution system, we add only, as required, chlorine at 1.5 ppm and fluoride at about 0.85ppm. Chlorine is added as a precaution against any bacteria that may be present, and fluoride is added to help our teeth be strong. Demand for good, clean water is high: On average, we provide approximately 5 to 6.5 million gallons of water a day to our customers.

A natural spring like Yates Spring could be vulnerable to underground contaminants and changes that may occur underground. The CUDA is well aware of the importance of high-quality drinking water and the risks associated with our drinking water source. Consequently, the CUDA takes every precaution to protect our water from being contaminated. On occasions such as extremely high demand, drought, or emergencies, CUDA purchases water from Tennessee American Water Company (TAWC) and Eastside Utility District (EUD). Both draw surface water from the Tennessee River. We assure you that these companies meet or exceed the same strict high-quality regulations and requirements as we do. If you have any questions or concerns about their water, we have their water quality reports on file at the main office.

Information on the Internet

The U.S. EPA Office of Water (www.epa.gov/ watrhome) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/ drinking/) Web sites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation, and public health. Also, the Georgia Environmental Protection Division has a Web site (www.conservewatergeorgia.net) that provides complete and current information on water issues in Georgia, including valuable information about our watershed.

QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Matthew Shoemaker, Water Plant Manager and Laboratory Analyst, Dennis Faulkenberry, Water Plant Operator and Laboratory Analyst, or Randy Thomason, Superintendent, at (706) 937-4121.

Source Water Assessment

Catoosa Utility District Authority (CUDA) draws water from Yates Spring. CUDA's goal is to ensure that our water is protected from contamination. CUDA has developed a source water assessment plan, which looks at different sources of pollution that could affect the Yates Spring. Some sources of pollution are electrical poles, transformers, storm water runoff, agricultural fields, and petroleum pipelines. The source water assessment document is available for viewing at the Catoosa Utility District's main office at 1058 Old Mill Road, Ringgold, Georgia. If you would like to view this document, please call our main office at (706) 937-4121 before you visit so that a member of our staff will be available to view the document with you and answer any questions you may have. Catoosa Utility District Authority takes all precautions to ensure that your source water remains free of pollution. Both TAWC and EUD have also developed source water assessment plans.

Water Conservation

You can play a role in conserving water and saving yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons

a year.

• Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

Тір Тор Тар

The most common signs that your faucet or sink is affecting the quality of your drinking water are discolored water, sink or faucet stains, a buildup of particles, unusual odors or tastes, and a reduced flow of water. The solutions to these problems may be in your hands.

Kitchen Sink and Drain

Hand washing, soap scum buildup, and the handling of raw meats and vegetables can contaminate your sink. Clogged drains can lead to unclean sinks and backed-up water in which bacteria (e.g., pink and black slime) can grow and contaminate the sink area and faucet, causing a rotten egg odor. Disinfect and clean the sink and drain area regularly. Also, flush regularly with hot water.

Faucets, Screens, and Aerators

Chemicals and bacteria can splash and accumulate on the faucet screen and aerator, which are located on the tip of faucets and can collect particles like sediment and minerals resulting in a decreased flow from the faucet. Clean and disinfect the aerators or screens on a regular basis.

Check with your plumber if you find particles in the faucet screen as they could be pieces of plastic from the hot water heater dip tube. Faucet gaskets can break down and cause black, oily slime. If you find this slime, replace the faucet gasket with a higher-quality product. White scaling or hard deposits on faucets and shower heads may be caused by hard water or water with high levels of calcium carbonate. Clean these fixtures with vinegar or use water softening to reduce the calcium carbonate levels for the hot water system.

Water Filtration and Treatment Devices

A smell of rotten eggs can be a sign of bacteria on the filters or in the treatment system. The system can also become clogged over time so regular filter replacement is important. (Remember to replace your refrigerator filter!)

Sampling Results

During the past year, we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic organic organic. The tables below show only those contaminants that were detected in the water. The state allows us to monitor for certain substances less often than once per year. In these cases, the most recent data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

					Catoosa Utility District Authority		Eastside Utility District		Tennessee American Water					
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)			YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOU	IRCE
Upha Emitters (pCi/L)			2014	15	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.297	0.297-0.297	No	Erosion of	natural deposits
Barium (ppm)			2014	2	2	0.071	0.071-0.071	NA	NA	NA	NA	No		of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/Photon Emitters ¹ (pCi/L)			2014	50	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	0.737	0.737-0.737	No	Decay of r	natural and man-made deposits
Chlorine (ppm)			2014	[4]	[4]	1.47	1.44–1.56	1.73	0.5–2.1	1.46	0.05-2.20	No	Water add	itive used to control microbes
Fluoride (ppm)			2014	4	4	0.78	0.74–0.81	0.73	0.40-0.93	8 0.75	0.61–1.00	No		natural deposits; Water additive that promot h; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs]-Stage 2 (ppb)			2014	60	NA	5.81	4.4–7.1	22.1	12.3-41.4	á <u>33.</u> 7	10.6–39.9	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Nitrate (ppm)			2014	10	10	0.77	0.77-0.77	NA	NA	0.44	0.12-0.44	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]– Stage 2 (ppb)			2014	80	NA	14.6	6.53–22.53	30.6	15.6–47.2	2 66.2	20.6–89.3	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Total Coliform Bacteria (% positive samples)			2014	5% of monthly samples are positive	0	0	NA	0	NA	1.57%	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment	
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)			2014	ΤT	ΤT	NA	NA	1.0	0.81-1.1	2.14	0.91-2.14	No	Naturally present in the environment	
Turbidity ² (NTU)			2014	TT	NA	0.20	0.05-0.20	0.29	0.03-0.29	0.38	0.03-0.38	No	Soil runoff	
Turbidity (Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)		it of	2014	TT=95% of samples <0.3 NTU	NA	NA	NA	99.95%	NA	99.5%	NA	No	Soil runoff	
Tap water samples were collect	ted for lea	ad and (copper and	alyses from samp	ole sites t	hroughout the	e community.							
				Catoosa Utili	ty District	Authority Eastside		Utility District		Tennessee American Wate		nter		
			MCLG			ABOVE AL/ AL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH%TILE)			AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH % TILE			VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm) 2	013	1.3	1.3	0.15	(0/30	0.273	0/3	0 ³	0.107	0/53	3	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems Erosion of natural deposits
ad (ppb) 2013 15		15	0	2.5 0		0/30	30 3.3 ³		1/30 ³		0/53		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems Erosion of natural deposits
OTHER SUBSTANCES														
	Catoo	osa Utili	ity District	Authority East	side Utility	/ District T	ennessee America	n Water						particles is 4 mrem/year. The U.S. EPA considers level of concern for beta particles.
SUBSTANCE YEAR AMOUNT RANGE AMOUNT RANGE AMOUNT RANGE AMOUNT RANGE LOW-HIGH DETECTED LOW-HIGH DETECTED LOW-HIGH DETECTED LOW-HIGH TYPICAL SOURCE 2 Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water rulality and the effectiveness														

SUBSTANCE	YEAR	AMOUNT	RANGE	AMOUNT	RANGE	AMOUNT	RANGE	TYPICAL SOURCE
(UNIT OF MEASURE)	SAMPLED	DETECTED	LOW-HIGH	DETECTED	LOW-HIGH	DETECTED	LOW-HIGH	
Sodium (ppm)	2014	NA	NA	6.2	6.2–6.2	9.7	4.9–9.7	Erosion of natural deposits; Used in water treatment

because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of disinfectants.

³Sampled in 2014.

Definitions

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

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.

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.

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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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.

NA: Not applicable

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

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



