

FORREST CITY WATER UTILITY WATER QUALITY REPORT 2000

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has published regulations that requires all community water systems to publish an annual water quality report. The regulation is known as the Consumers Confidence Report. The report requires the CCR to contain certain mandatory language which in some cases does not apply to our well water source. Information in this report represents results of testing during the calendar year of 2000.

THE BOTTOM LINE IS THIS: YOUR WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK. THE FORREST CITY WATER UTILITY HAD NO WATER QUALITY VIOLATIONS. IN FACT, OUR WATER QUALITY NOT ONLY MEETS ALL FEDERAL AND STATE STANDARDS, BUT FAR EXCEEDS THE STANDARDS IN MOST CASES.

EPA'S REQUIRED LANGUAGE FOR THIS REPORT

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, can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: Microbial contaminants such as 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 waste water 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.

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).

All 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

Forrest City has two water treatment plants, Water Plant 1 (WTP1) is located at 3120 Sanyo Road and Water Plant 2 (WTP2) is located at 1400 North Division Street. Treatment consists of aeration and the addition of chlorine and fluoride. Treated water from both water treatment plants merge in the distribution system. Both plants draw water from the Alluvial aquifer.

The Forrest City Water Utility and the Arkansas Department of Health routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2000 unless otherwise noted. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water quality, please contact Jim Beazley III, Manager at 870-633-2921 or you may attend a meeting of the Water Commission which holds meetings the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 AM at the offices of the Utility at 303 N. Rosser Street, Forrest City.

IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

Non-Detects (ND) - Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The Maximum Allowed (MCL) is 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 Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) The (MCLG) is 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.

As you can see by the following tables, the Forrest City water system had no violations and meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

WATER QUALITY ANALYSES RESULTS

RESULTS OF MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANT TESTING

COMPONENT	MAXIMUM AMOUNT DETECTED	MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL)	MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL (MCLG)	MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER
Total Coliform Bacteria	Zero bacteria detected	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Zero bacteria detected	Naturally present in the environment

WATER QUALITY ANALYSES RESULTS 2000

RESULTS OF INORGANIC CONTAMINANT TESTING

COMPONENT	MAXIMUM AMOUNT DETECTED	MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL)	MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL (MCLG)	MAJOR SOURCE IN DRINKING WATER
Fluoride WTP1 Fluoride WTP2	Avg. 0.3 ppm Range 0.2 - 0.85 ppm Avg. 0.8 ppm Range 0.3 - 1.1 ppm	4 ppm	4 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits, water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrite/Nitrate WTP1 Nitrite/Nitrate WTP2	Avg 1.5 ppm Avg 3.0 ppm	10 ppm	10 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium WTP1 1998 Data, Sampled every 3 years	6 ppb	50 ppb	50 ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Barium WTP1 Barium WTP2 1998 Data, Sampled every 3 years	100 ppb 110 ppb	2000 ppb	2000 ppb	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits

RESULTS OF VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANT TESTING

COMPONENT	MAXIMUM AMOUNT DETECTED	MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL)	MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL (MCLG)	MAJOR SOURCE IN DRINKING WATER
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	Avg. 0.03 ppb Range 0 - 0.12 ppb	75 ppb	75 ppb	Discharge from industrial plants
Trichloroethylene WTP1	Avg. 1.38 ppb Range 0.8 - 1.8 ppb	5 ppb	0	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories

RESULTS OF DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCT ANALYSES

COMPONENT	MAXIMUM AMOUNT DETECTED	MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL)	MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL (MCLG)	MAJOR SOURCE IN DRINKING WATER
Total trihalomethanes	Avg. 9.9 ppb Range 3.6 - 14.6 ppb	80 ppb	Zero ppb	By-products of chlorination used in the water treatment process

RESULTS OF LEAD AND COPPER SAMPLING AT RESIDENTIAL WATER TAPS

COMPONENT	MAXIMUM AMOUNT DETECTED	ACTION LEVEL	MAJOR SOURCE IN DRINKING WATER
LEAD - 1998 Data, Next sampling period 2001	90th Percentile lead - 5 ppb 95th Percentile lead - 14 ppb **1 Site had 25 ppb lead level	90 Percentile lead - 15 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
COPPER - 1998 Data, Next sampling period 2001	90th Percentile copper - 1 ppm 95th Percentile copper - 1 ppm	90 Percentile copper - 1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

**Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which 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 regulation is warranted.

RESULTS OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT TESTING

COMPONENT	RANGE OF DETECTION	MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL)	SOURCE
Bromoform WTP1	Avg 1.32 ppb Range 0 - 2.5 ppb	Not regulated	By-products of disinfection
Chloroform WTP1	0.18 ppb Range 0 - 0.4 ppb	Not regulated	By-products of disinfection
Bromodichloromethane WTP1	Avg 0.31 ppb Range 0.27 - 0.36 ppb	Not regulated	By-products of disinfection
Dibromochloromethane WTP1	Avg 1.48 ppb Range 0 - 2.5 ppb	Not regulated	By-products of disinfection

INVESTIGATIVE SAMPLING

CONTAMINANT	RANGE OF DETECTION	MCL/MCLG	SOURCE
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids)	2.2 ppb Range 0 - 6.0 ppb	Not regulated at this time	These are investigative samples, collected for EPA