

# 2015 Water Quality Report

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.

## Is my water safe?

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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

## Where does my water come from?

The City of Tupelo purchases your drinking water from the Northeast Mississippi Regional Water Supply District. The treated water is pumped through water mains approximately 18 miles to the City of Tupelo. The source of the water is the Tombigbee River. Various chemicals are added, such as Chlorine for disinfection, to ensure the highest quality and safest drinking water possible.

## Source water assessment and its availability

The Source Water Assessment has been completed for our public water supply to determine the overall susceptibility of our drinking water supply to identify potential sources of contaminants. A report regarding the susceptibility determinations is available to view upon request.

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

## How can I get involved?

The Tupelo City Council meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm on the second floor of City Hall. These meetings are open to the public.

## 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. City of Tupelo 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>.

## Additional Information for Fluoride

To comply with the "Regulation Governing Fluoridation of Community Water Supplies", Northeast Mississippi Regional Water Supply District is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system. The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 8. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 75%.

## 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, may be 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.

Contaminants	MCLG Or MRDL G	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfectant By-Products</b>								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (ppm)	4	4	0.2	0	0.0	2015	No	Water additive used to control
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	48.75	29.0	62.0	2015	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	51.06	32.5	64.6	2015	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chloramine (as Cl <sub>2</sub> ) (mg/L)	4	4	2.6	2	3.1	2014	No	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Cyanide [as Free Cn] (ppb)	200	200	0.015	NA		2015	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories
Antimony (ppb)	6	6	0.5	NA		2015	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder; test addition.
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	0.5	NA		2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0157	NA		2015	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium (ppb)	4	4	0.5	NA		2015	No	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Cadmium (ppb)	5	5	0.5	NA		2015	No	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	0.6	NA		2015	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.622	NA		2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Mercury [Inorganic] (ppb)	2	2	0.5	NA		2015	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	2.5	NA		2015	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion

								of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Thallium (ppb)	0.5	2	0.5	NA		2015	No	Discharge from electronics, glass, and Leaching from ore-processing sites; drug factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.1	NA		2015	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	1	1	0.02	NA		2015	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides</b>								
Endrin (ppb)	2	2	0.01	0.01	0.01	2013	No	Residue of banned insecticide
Methoxychlor (ppb)	40	40	0.01	0.01	0.01	2013	No	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on fruits, vegetables, alfalfa, livestock
Toxaphene (ppb)	0	3	1	1	1	2013	No	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on cotton and cattle
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene (ppb)	50	50	0.02	0.02	0.02	2013	No	Discharge from chemical factories
Heptachlor (ppt)	0	400	10	10	10	2013	No	Residue of banned pesticide
Heptachlor epoxide (ppt)	0	200	10	10	10	2013	No	Breakdown of heptachlor
Hexachlorobenzene (ppb)	0	1	0.01	0.01	0.01	2013	No	Discharge from metal refineries and agricultural chemical factories
Chlordane (ppb)	0	2	0.1	0.1	0.1	2013	No	Residue of banned termiticide
Dibromochloropropane (DBCP) (ppt)	0	200	20	20	20	2013	No	Runoff/leaching from soil fumigant used on soybeans, cotton, pineapples, and orchards
Ethylene dibromide (ppt)	0	50	20	20	20	2013	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Oxamyl [Vydate] (ppb)	200	200	0.25	0.25	0.25	2013	No	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on apples, potatoes and tomatoes
Carbofuran (ppb)	40	40	0.25	0.25	0.25	2013	No	Leaching of soil fumigant used on rice and alfalfa
Diquat (ppb)	20	20	0.8	0.8	0.8	2013	No	Runoff from herbicide use
Glyphosate (ppb)	700	700	6	NA		2013	No	Runoff from herbicide use
Benzo(a)pyrene (ppt)	0	200	20	20	20	2013	No	Leaching from linings of water storage tanks and distribution lines
Di (2-ethylhexyl) adipate (ppb)	400	400	0.1	0.1	0.1	2013	No	Discharge from chemical factories
Simazine (ppb)	4	4	0.1	0.1	0.1	2013	No	Herbicide runoff
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (ppb)	0	6	0.1	0.1	0.1	2013	No	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Atrazine (ppb)	3	3	0.1	0.1	0.1	2013	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>								
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene (ppb)	70	70	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from textile finishing factories
1,1-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	7	7	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Xylenes (ppm)	10	10	0.0005	NA		2013	No	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories
Dichloromethane	0	5	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from

(ppb)								pharmaceutical and chemical factories
Vinyl Chloride (ppb)	0	2	0.5	NA		2013	No	Leaching from PVC piping; Discharge from plastics factories
Carbon Tetrachloride (ppb)	0	5	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities
1,2-Dichloropropane (ppb)	0	5	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Trichloroethylene (ppb)	0	5	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	0	5	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
Chlorobenzene (monochlorobenzene) (ppb)	100	100	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from chemical and agricultural chemical factories
Benzene (ppb)	0	5	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from factories; Leaching from gas storage tanks and landfills
Toluene (ppm)	1	1	0.0005	NA		2013	No	Discharge from petroleum Toluene (ppm) factories
Ethylbenzene (ppb)	700	700	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Styrene (ppb)	100	100	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from rubber and plastic factories; Leaching from landfills
1,1,2-Trichloroethane (ppb)	3	5	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1,1,1-Trichloroethane (ppb)	200	200	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
1,2-Dichloroethane (ppb)	0	5	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	70	70	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	100	100	0.5	NA		2013	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	0	2014	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.1	2014	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
mg/L	mg/L: Number of milligrams of substance in one liter of water
ppm	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppt	ppt: parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
NA	NA: not applicable
ND	ND: Not detected
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.

### Important Drinking Water Definitions

Term	Definition
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.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: 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 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.
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

**For more information please contact:**

Contact Name: Greg Reed  
Address: PO Box 588  
Tupelo, MS 38802  
Phone: 662-841-6460  
E-Mail: [greg.reed@tupeloms.gov](mailto:greg.reed@tupeloms.gov)  
Website: [www.tupeloms.gov](http://www.tupeloms.gov)