

Harriman Water Plant

Water Quality Report-2010

Is my drinking water safe?

Yes, our water meets all of EPA's health standards. In 2009, we have conducted tests for over 50 contaminants that may be in drinking water. As you'll see in the chart, we detected only 10 contaminants, and found all those contaminants at safe levels.

What is the source of my water?

Your water comes from surface water on the Emory River, which is the watershed for Cumberland Co., Morgan Co., and Roane County. We're working hard to protect our water from contaminants, and working with the State to determine the vulnerability of our water supply to potential contamination. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), has prepared a Source Water Assessment program (SWAP) Report for the untreated water sources to potential contamination. To ensure safe drinking water, all public water systems treat and routinely test their water. Water sources have been rated a reasonably susceptible (high), moderately susceptible (moderate), or slightly susceptible (low) based on geologic factors and human activities in the vicinity of the water source. Harriman Utility Board's Water Plant was rated as (moderate). The report is available to be viewed on request at our main office.

An explanation of Tennessee's Source Water Assessment Program, the Source Water Assessment summaries, susceptibility scorings and the overall TDEC report to EPA can be viewed online at www.state.tn.us/environment/dws/dwassess.shtml or you may contact the Water System to obtain copies of specific assessments.

Why are there contaminants in my 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water:

- 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 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 septic systems.
- 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the results of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and the Department of Environment and Conservation prescribe 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.

For more information about your drinking water, please call us at (865) 882-3242.

How can I get involved?

The Harriman Utility Board meets at 7:00 P.M. on the last Monday of each month in the Harriman Utility Board conference room at the back of the main office located on Roane Street. Please feel free to participate. You may view our web site at www.hub-tn.com for additional information.

Is our water system meeting other rules that govern our operations?

The State and EPA requires us to test and report on our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We have always met all of these requirements. We want you to know that we pay attention to all the rules.

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 under-gone 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 at (800-426-4791)

2009 Water Quality Data

What does this chart mean?

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or 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: Maximum Contaminant Level, or 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. Discretionary language regarding the use of averages to report levels of some contaminants.

Contaminant	MCLG in CCR units	MCL in CCR Units	Level found in CCR Units	Range of detections	Violation/Y/N	Date of sample	Typical source of Contaminant
Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	> 1 positive sample	< 1		N	2009	Naturally present in the environment
Sodium	N/a	N/a	8.6 ppm		N	2009	N/a
Turbidity*	n/a	TT(95% <0.3 NTU)	.12 avg.	.04- .29	N	2009	Soil runoff
T.O.C.'s (Total Organic Carbon)	TT	TT	**		N	2009	Naturally occurring
Chlorine	MRDLG 4.0 ppm	MRDL 4.0 ppm	2.85 ppm avg.	1.85ppm - 3.73 ppm	N	2009	Disinfection
Copper	1.0 ppm	AL=1.3 ppm	90 th %= 0.19ppm		N	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives. Zero samples exceeded action level out of 30 samples taken.
Fluoride	4 ppm	4 ppm	1.2 ppm		N	2009	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead	0	AL=15 ppb	90 th %= 1.8ppb		N	2008	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits. One (1) sample exceeded action level out of 30 samples taken.
TTHMs [Total trihalomethanes]							
	0	80 ppb	55.8 ppb avg.	13 ppb - 141 ppb	N	2009	By-product of drinking water chlorination
THAA'S [Total Haloacetic Acids]							
	0	60 ppb	39.4 ppb avg.	12 ppb - 76.4 ppb	N	2009	By-product of drinking water chlorination

**We met the Treatment Technique requirements for Total Organic Carbon.

*100% of NTU's samples were less than 0.3 NTU

Turbidity: Turbidity does not present any risk to your health. We monitor turbidity, which is a measure of the cloudiness of water, because it is a good indicator that our filtration system is functioning properly.

TTHM: While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for trihalomethanes, it does low levels. 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.

EPA establishes maximum contaminant levels using the assumption that if most people drink 2 liters of water containing disinfection byproducts in excess of the maximum contaminants level every day for 70 years, then 1 person in 10,000 may have an increased risk of cancer.

Abbreviations: PPB: parts per billion or micrograms per liter. ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter n/a: not applicable NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Unit, used to measure cloudiness in drinking water MFL: million fibers per liter, used to measure asbestos concentration. AL: Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow. TT: Treatment Technique, or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. BDL: Below Detection Level, meaning the level of contaminant was so low it could not be measured. MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal. MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfection Level.