

# West Overton Utility District's Consumer Confidence Report- 2012

## Is my drinking water safe?

Yes, our water meets all of EPA's Health Standards. In 2012, over 27,667 tests for over 86 contaminants that may be in our drinking water were conducted by our suppliers. As you will see in the Water Quality Data charts on the next pages, only 12 of these contaminants were detected, and all of those were found to be within acceptable limits.

## What is the source of my water?

We purchase treated water from The City of Livingston, and The City of Algood which purchases treated water from The City of Cookeville. The Livingston Water Treatment plant has two surface water intakes. One is located on Carr Creek impoundment (city lake) a 52-acre surface reservoir, while the other is located on Roaring River to supplement the supply in the impoundment. In August 2009 Livingston started getting water from the Cumberland River as their main water source. The Livingston Water Treatment Plant serves a population of approximately 13,272 and is designed to treat 4 million gallons per day (MGD). In 2012 the average daily flow pumped to consumers was 2.2 MGD. Our Algood supply, which is surface water, comes from the Center Hill Lake (Mine Lick Creek). The City of Cookeville Water Treatment Plant is designed to treat 15 million gallons per day (MGD). In 2012 the average daily flow pumped to customers was 9.841 MGD. Our goal is to protect our water from contaminants and we are working with the State to determine the vulnerability of our water source to *potential* contamination. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for untreated water sources serving this water system. To ensure safe drinking water, all public water systems treat and routinely test their water. Water sources have been rated as reasonably susceptible (high), moderately susceptible (moderate), or slightly susceptible (low) based on geologic factors and human activities in the vicinity of the water source. The Livingston and Cookeville sources both rated as moderately susceptible to potential contamination. An explanation of Tennessee's SWAPS, the Source Water Assessment summaries, susceptibility scorings and overall TDEC report to EPA can be viewed online at <http://www.tn.gov/environment/dws/dwassess.shtml> or you may contact the West Overton Utility District.

## **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. Community water systems are required to release the detection of contaminants; however, bottled water companies are not required to comply with this regulation. 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).

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

## **How can I get involved?**

If you have any concerns or questions please call or come by our offices. The Board of Commissioners meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:00 PM. The Commissioners of the West Overton Utility District serve four year terms. Vacancies on the Board of Commissioners are filled by appointment of the County Mayor / Executive. Decisions by the Board of Commissioner on customer complaints brought before the Board of Commissioners under the District's customer complaint policy may be reviewed by the Utility Management Review Board of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation pursuant to Section 7-82-702(7) of Tennessee Code Annotated. If you have items that you wish to address, please call our Business office at (931) 498-4144 to be placed on the Board agenda. For more information about your drinking water, please contact Terry Walker at (931) 498-4144.

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

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

*Cryptosporidium is a microbial parasite which is found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although Cryptosporidium can be removed by filtration, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. One sample out of 24 taken between 4/2/08 and 3/3/10 had the presence of one cryptosporidium cyst. Lab testing was unable to determine if the cyst was viable or dead. The cyst found was in untreated water of Center Hill Lake. The most common treatment method employed to remove cryptosporidium is filtration – a treatment technique which is used at the Cookeville treatment plant. The Livingston Treatment plant had NO Cryptosporidium detected in finished or source water. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals are able to overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immune-compromised people have more difficulty and are at greater risk of developing severe, life threatening illness. Immune-compromised individuals are encouraged to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to prevent infection. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and the Tennessee 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 call EPA hot line at (800-426-4791).*

## **DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 their personal sanitation, food preparation, handling infants and pets, and 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). Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL of 80 PPB over many years may experience problems with liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and have an increased risk of getting cancer.

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. West Overton Utility District and our suppliers are 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 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 (800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

For more information about your drinking water, please call us at (931) 498-4144 or come by the office located at 684 Rickman Monterey Hwy, Rickman, TN 38580.

# 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.

## West Overton Utility District

Contaminant	Do We Meet The Standards	MCLG in CCR units	MCL in CCR Units	Level found in CCR Units	Range of detections	Units	Date of sample	Typical source of Contaminant
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>								
Total Coliform Bacteria	YES	0	<2	0	Pos-Neg	#	*	Naturally present in the environment
Of 105 distribution samples collected in 2012 none tested positive for Total Coliform Bacteria								
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Copper <sup>3*</sup>	YES	1.3	AL=1.3 PPM	0.2 PPM	.002 to .83	PPM	8/25/10	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead <sup>4*</sup>	YES	0	AL=15 PPB	4.0 PPB	ND to 10.0	PPB	8/25/10	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Chlorine	YES	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	1.77	.07- 2.5	PPM	*	Water Additive used to control microbes
TTHMs [Total trihalomethanes] <sup>6*</sup>	NO		80	65.9 AVG	21.1 to 50.5	PPB	*	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids <sup>5*</sup>	YES		60	44.2 AVG	13.5 to 46.4	PPB	*	By-product of drinking water chlorination

## City Of Algood

Contaminant	Do We Meet The Standards	MCLG in CCR units	MCL in CCR Units	Level found in CCR Units	Range of detections	Units	Date of sample	Typical source of Contaminant
Total Organic Carbons	YES	n/a	TT	n/a	1*	Ppm	*	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity 2*	YES	n/a	TT	0.43	0.05 to 0.43	NTU	*	Soil runoff
Fluoride	YES	4	4	1.46	0.13 to 1.46	Ppm	*	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sodium	YES	None	None	18		Ppm	*	Sodium Hydroxide is added to the treatment process for corrosion control and water stabilization

**Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides**

The City of Cookeville is waived on these except Atrazine and it was below the Detection Limit.

## City of Livingston

Contaminant	MCLG in CCR units	MCL in CCR Units	Level found in CCR Units	Range of detections	Violation	Date of sample	Typical source of Contaminant
Turbidity 2*	N/A	TT	.33 NTU	.05 to .33 NTU	NO	01/01/12 to 12/31/12	Soil runoff
Total Organic Carbon 1*	30% required	TT	30% Removed	.91 – 1.5 PPM	NO	01/01/12 to 12/31/12	Naturally present in the environment
Radium 226	0	3.0 pCi/L	0.46 pCi/L		NO	02/10/11	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Fluoride	4 PPM	4 PPM	.72 PPM AVG	.62 - .82 PPM	NO	01/01/12 to 12/31/12	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sodium	n/a	n/a	6.3 PPM		NO	05/10/12	Sodium Hydroxide is added to the treatment process for corrosion control and water stabilization
Nitrate	10 PPM	10 PPM	.33 PPM		NO	04/03/12	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits

- \* Most of the data presented in this table is from testing done between Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2012. We monitor for some contaminants less than once per year, and for those contaminants, the date of the last sample is shown in the table.
- 1\* We meet the TT requirement for Total Organic Carbon in 2012. Cookeville was required to remove 30% and average removal was 54.77%. Livingston was required to remove 30% and removed 30%.
- 2\* 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.  
  
The Livingston Treatment Plant met the Treatment Technique with 99.9% of monthly samples below the turbidity limit of 0.30 NTU.  
  
Turbidity samples taken by the City of Cookeville in 2012 numbered 2192 individual samples. 95% of all monthly samples must be less than or equal to 0.30 NTU. Turbidity is monitored continuously.
- 3\* Lead and copper values are reported in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile values. During the most recent round of lead and copper testing zero sites out of twenty sites exceeded the copper action level.
- 4\* Lead and copper values are reported in the 90<sup>th</sup> percentile values. During the most recent round of lead and copper testing zero sites out of twenty sites exceeded the lead action level.
- 5\* Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL of 60 PPB over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. If you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- 6\* Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL of 80 PPB over many years may experience problems with liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and have an increased risk of getting cancer. . **(You must drink at least 2 liters of water every day for 70 years and even then just one person in 10,000 may have a greater chance of getting cancer).**

**Abbreviations:** • CCR: Consumer Confidence Report • 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 • pCi/l: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity) • 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. • Avg: average. • MRDL or Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. • MRDLG: maximum residual disinfectant level, or level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants. • ND: Non-detect