

# Smith Utility District water Quality Report-2015

**Is my drinking water safe?** YES, our water meets all of EPA's health standards. A copy of any test result can be obtained

At the Smith Utility District Water Treatment Plant..

## **What is the source of my water?**

(1) Source of the water

SURFACE WATER: Caney Fork River

(2) Individual Source Water Assessments Availability

Can be viewed online at

<http://www.tdec.state.tx.us/eac> Call water system or TDEC EAC  
1-888-891-8332

(3) Susceptibility Scoring for Water Source

Water sources have been rated as reasonably susceptible (high) moderately susceptible (moderate) or slightly susceptible (low) based on geologic factors and human activities within the source water protection area of the water source.

Our water source was rated as reasonably susceptible.

## **Why are there contaminants in my water?**

- A.** 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).
- B.** The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 human activity.

Contaminates that may be present in source water;

- Microbial contaminates, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminates, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminates, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum products, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminates which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 the 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 615- 735-0795**

**Este informe contiene información muy importante. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

**How can I get involved?** Our water board meets on the First Wednesday of each month at 8:00 am in the conference Room at the Smith Utility District main office 136 So. main So. Carthage. Please feel free to participate in these meetings. For more information about your drinking water, please Call us at 615- 735-0795

### **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 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 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).

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

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

**As you can see in this report, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water 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.**

The commissioners of Smith Utility District serve four-year terms. Vacancies on the board of commissioners Are filled by Appointment by the Smith County Mayor from a list of three nominees certified by the board of Commissioners to the Smith County Mayor to fill a vacancy. Decisions by the board of commissioners on Customer complaints brought before the board of commissioners under the district's customer complaint Policy may be reviewed by the utility management review of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation pursuant to Section 7-82-702(7) of Tennessee Code Annotated.

# 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.
- **MRDL:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level- The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminates.
- **MRDLG:** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal- The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected health risk. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminates.

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
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	<2	0		No	2015	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity	N/A	TT 95% <0.3 NTU	0.06 Ave.	.20/.04 NTU	No	Ave. 2015	Soil runoff
Bleach	mrdlg=4	mcl=4	2.26	3.0/.08	No	Ave. 2015	Added to disinfect
Sodium	N/A	N/A	9.4 ppm	0.50	No	07/13/15	Erosion of natural deposit
*Copper	0	AL=13 Ppm	2.8 ppm at 90 <sup>th</sup> %tile	1.1/.019.	No	07/22/14	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, Erosion of Natural deposits ;Leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride (Raw Water)	4	4 ppm	.19 ppm Ave.	.46/.01 ppm	No	2015	Erosion of natural deposits; which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
*Lead	0	AL=15 ppb	3.9 ppb at 90 <sup>th</sup> %tile	.012/BDL	No	07/22/14	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
** Total Organic Carbon	N/A	Mcl =25%	Ave= 41.21%	56.6/29.7	No	2015	A measure of the concentration of organic carbon in water We met the Treatment Technique requirement for Total Organic Carbon in 2014**
Total Trihalomethanes	0	80 ppb	34.0 ppb Ave	46.8/10.2 ppb	No	Ave.2015	By-product of drinking water chlorination

			41.13				
Total Haloacetic Acids	0	60 ppb	ppb	55.8/9.19	No	Ave.2015	By-product of drinking water chlorination
			Ave.	ppb			

\*We had 0 sites out of a total of 20 sites sampled to exceed the lead and copper action level.

\*\*We met the Treatment Technique for total organic carbon for 2015.

**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.

**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. We met the Turbidity requirements for 2015.

**Lead and Copper:** If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant woman and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing.

Smith Utility District 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 drinking 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/lead/>.

**Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) s:** 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 system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

#### **Pharmaceuticals In Drinking Water**

Flushing unused or expired medicines can be harmful to your drinking water. Learn more about disposing of unused medicines at [http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/pesticides.html](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/pesticides/pesticides.html).

Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).