

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

ATHENS

IL1290050

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2015

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

The source of drinking water used by ATHENS is Ground Water

For more information regarding this report contact:

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Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Source of Drinking Water	
<p>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 pickup substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.</p>	<p>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 EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.</p>
<p>Contaminants that may be present in source water include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. 	<p>In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes 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.</p> <p>Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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. 	<p>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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).</p>
	<p>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. We 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.</p>

Source Water Information

Source Water Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
WELL 4 (52049)	GW	Active	1.2MI WSW WTP 280' E SANG RVR
WELL 5 (01527)	GW	Active	1400 FT SSW OF WELL 3
WELL 6 (01816)	GW	Active	-----

Source Water Assessment

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more, please feel welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. The source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA. If you would like a copy of this information, please stop by City Hall or call our water operator at 217-636-8429. To view a summary version of the completed Source Water Assessments, including: Importance of Source Water; Susceptibility to Contamination Determination; and documentation/recommendation of Source Water Protection Efforts, you may access the Illinois EPA website at <http://www.epa.state.il.us/cgi-bin/wp/swap-fact-sheets.pl>.

Source of Water: ATHENS: To determine Athens' susceptibility to groundwater contamination, the following documents were reviewed: a Well Site Survey published in 1989 by the Illinois EPA and a Source Water Protection Plan prepared for the City of Athens by Greene & Bradford, Inc. Consulting Engineers and published in December of 1997. Based on this information, Athens Community Water Supply's source water is susceptible to SOC contamination from non-point sources related to agricultural land use although no pesticides/herbicides were detected. The community's source water has low susceptibility to VOC contamination. The basis for this determination included no detection of any quantifiable levels of VOCs in the finished water as well as no potential sources of VOC within the recharge area. Also, as a result of monitoring conducted at the wells and entry point to the distribution system, the land use activities, and source water protection initiatives by the city (refer to the following section), the Athens Community Water Supply's source water has a low susceptibility to IOC contamination.

2015 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Coliform Bacteria

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	1 positive monthly sample.	1		0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

Lead and Copper

Definitions:

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.
 Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	08/28/2013	1.3	1.3	0.017	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	08/28/2013	0	15	0	1	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Water Quality Test Results

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: 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 residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: 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.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: 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.

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions:

The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

na: not applicable.

Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	12/31/2015	1	0.09 - 1.2	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	2015	11	1.5 - 27.3	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (THM)	2015	41	21.579 - 79	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2015	0.0044	0.0044 - 0.0044	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2015	0.953	0.953 - 0.953	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2015	12	5.4 - 12	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	2015	8.6	8.6 - 8.6			ppm	N	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits; Used in water softener regeneration.
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	11/12/2014	1.46	1.46 - 1.46	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	11/12/2014	0.638	0.638 - 0.638	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
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Violations Table

Chlorine

Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, ROUTINE (DBP), MAJOR	07/01/2015	09/30/2015	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

Total Coliform

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING (TCR), ROUTINE MAJOR	08/01/2015	08/31/2015	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

As you can see, we experienced two violations during the reporting period (Calendar year 2015). We are required to issue to you our customers a public notice for these violations. Following is the public notice for these violations.

PUBLIC NOTICE- IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
Monitoring Requirements Not Met for the City of Athens Public Water Supply

Our water system experienced a violation of drinking water standards over the past year. Even though these violations were not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the August 1-31, 2015 monitoring period for **CHLORINE (Monitoring, Routine (DBP), Major)** and **(Monitoring COLIFORM (Total Coliform Rule; TCR, Routine, Major))**, we failed to collect and submit the required number of bacteriological samples.

WHAT SHOULD I DO? There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminant we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for CHLORINE and TCR, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

CONTAMINANT: **Monitoring of Chlorine and Coliform (TCR) in Monthly Bacteriological Samples; DBP & TCR data not collected**

REQUIRED SAMPLING FREQUENCY: **Monthly** **NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN:** **0 sample submitted/5 samples required**

WHEN ALL SAMPLES SHOULD HAVE BEEN TAKEN: **August 1, 2015 to August 31, 2015 monitoring period**

WHEN SAMPLES WILL BE TAKEN: The next routine samples (for Chlorine and TCR compliance) were collected in the September 1, 2015 to September 30, 2015 monitoring period. These samples met compliance for CHLORINE and the TOTAL COLIFORM RULE (TCR)

WHAT HAPPENED? WHAT IS BEING DONE? Water personnel failed to collect the required number of bacteriological samples for the August 1, 2015 to August 31, 2015 monitoring period. To avoid any future violations of this type, the required number of bacteriological samples will be collected and analyzed during each monitoring testing period.

For more information, please contact Robin Cawley at 217-636-8429.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being provided to you by the City of Athens. PWS ID#: IL 1290050

DATE DISTRIBUTED: 5-31-2016