

ASHLEY WATER DEPARTMENT
ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWS ID # IN 5276002

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is provided from 2 wells.

The Town of Ashley has developed a wellhead protection plan, to help protect our source of drinking water. We ask that customers help us protect this groundwater resource, which is the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Utility Water Supt.**

Roger Green (260)587-9445. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on **the second Monday of every month at 7:00 PM**

Ashley Municipal Water Dept. routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, **2015**. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (micrograms/l) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l) - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Action Level (AL)-The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation	Level Detected	Sample Date	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	NO	0	TWICE Monthly	0	0	Naturally present in the environment
Radioactive Contaminants						
2. Radium 228 (pCi/l)	NO	0.36	05/2010	0	5	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Inorganic Contaminants						
3. Arsenic (mg/l)	NO	0.0030	04/02/2015	n/a	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
4. Cyanide (mg/l)	NO	0.010	09/30//2015	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories, discharge from plastic & fertilizer factories
5. Copper (90 th) Percentile mg/l (ppm)	NO	0.15	06/04/2015	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
6. Cadmium (ppm)	NO	0.0005	04/02/2015	0.005	0.005	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
7. Fluoride (ppm)	NO	0.6	04/02/2015	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
8. Lead (90 th) Percentile ug/l (ppb)	NO	3.7	06/04/2015	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
9. Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	NO	0.29	03/04/2015	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
10. Sodium (ppm)	NO	11.0	04/02/2015	0.5	2	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides						
11. 2,4-D (ppb)	NO	<1.0	05/08/2013	70	70	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
12. Atrazine (ppb)	NO	0.0	05/08/2013	3	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Disinfection By- Products						
13. TTHM (Total) Trihalomethanes (ppb)	NO	11.0	07/09/15	0	60	By- products of drinking water chlorination
14. HAA5 Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	NO	3.6	07/09/15	0	45	By- Products of drinking water chlorination
Volatile Organic Compounds / Regulated						
15. Benzene	NO	0	03/04/2015	0	5	Discharge from factories, gas storage tanks& landfills
16. Chlorobenzene	NO	0	03/04/2015	0	5	Discharge from chemical & agricultural chemical factories
Volatile Organic Compound / Unregulated						
17. 1,1,2 Trichloroethane	NO	0	03/04/2015	0	5	Discharge from industrial chemical

As you can see by the table, 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 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 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 include:

- * Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wastewater 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 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, storm water runoff, and residential uses.

- * Organic chemicals, 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 materials, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. Some people who drink water containing arsenics in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may 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. The Ashley Water Department is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety 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 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 your drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>."

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/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).

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding. Please call our office if you have any questions, at (260) 587-9445 The Ashley Water Dept. thank you for your support.

