TRI-COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY

MO1071079

1999 Annual Water Quality Report

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

What is the source of my water?

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater 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.

Our water comes from the following source(s): **Groundwater-Wells located in the Missouri River Alluvium. We have an award winning Groundwater Protection Plan which controls activity around the wells.**

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).

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

A. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

B. 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.

C. Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

D. 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.

E. Radioactive contaminants, 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, the Department of Natural Resources prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department of Health regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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

The Missouri Department of Natural Resources regulates our water system and requires us to test our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. Our system has been assigned the identification number MO1071079 for the purposes of tracking our test results. Last year, we tested for a variety of contaminants. The detectable results of these tests are on the following pages of this report. Any violations of state requirements or standards will be further explained later in this report.

We at Tri-County are proud of the fact that since we started service in 1993 we have had no violations.

How might I become actively involved?

If you would like to observe the decision-making process that affects drinking water quality or if you have any further questions about your drinking water report, please call us at 816-796-4100 to inquire about scheduled meetings or contact persons.

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 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).

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Contaminants Report

Definitions:

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 · 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.

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. · ND: not detectable at testing limits

The state has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Records marked with *, though representative, are more than one year old.

Regulated

Inorganic	*Units*	*MCL*	*MCLG*	*Level Found*	*Range of Detection*	*Violation*	*Sources*
Barium, Dissolved	ppm	2	2	0.0343	0.0343	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate + Nitrite as N	ppm	10	10	0.070	0.07	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium, Dissolved	ppm	0.1	--	0.002	0.002	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills. Erosion of natural deposits.
Disinfection Byproducts							
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	100	--	21.8	17.2 – 24.0	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

Unregulated

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Information on all the contaminants that were monitored for, whether regulated or unregulated, can be obtained from this water system or the Department of Natural Resources.

Inorganic	*Units*	*Level Found*	*Range of Detection*
Sulfate	ppm	42.0	42.0
Volatile Organic	*Units*	*Level Found*	*Range of Detection*
Bromodichloromethane	ppb	5.6	5.6
Chloroform	ppb	14.0	14.0
Dibromochloromethane	ppb	1.3	1.3
Haloacetic acids	ppb	8.01	4.76 – 12.9

Radon

Radon is a naturally occurring gas present in soil and most ground waters in Missouri. Radon in home indoor air comes mainly from infiltration from soil in contact with foundations, slabs, and basement walls. EPA recommends that indoor air levels not exceed 4 pCi/L (picocuries per liter). EPA uses a conversion factor of 10,000 to 1 to determine indoor air contribution from water (see figured below). Radon poses a risk for lung cancer (estimated at 160 deaths/year nationally from drinking water, 85% of these in smokers), and stomach cancer (5 deaths annually). However, experts are not sure exactly what the cancer risk is from a given level of radon in drinking water. If you are concerned about radon in your home, tests are available to determine the exact levels. Call your local health department for details.

Units	*Level Found*	*Range of detection*	*Indoor Air Contribution*
PCi/L	13.92 *	13.92 *	0.0014

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Optional Monitoring (not required by EPA)

Optional

Monitoring is not required for optional contaminants.

Inorganic	*Units*	*Level Found*	*Range of Detection*
Calcium, Dissolved	ppm	12.0	12.0
Chloride	ppm	21.7	21.7
Hardness as CaCO3	ppm	120	120
Magnesium, Dissolved	ppm	21.5	21.5
Potassium, Dissolved	ppm	5.3	5.3
Sodium, Dissolved	ppm	31.4	31.4
Total Alkalinity as CaCO3	ppm	105	105
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	219	219

Gross Beta Particles

Units	*Collection Date*	*Result*
PCi/L	7/29/98	4.2

Gross Alpha Particles

Units	*Collection Date*	*Result*
PCi /L	9/01/99	<1.0