

2014 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Walker Switch Water Association

PWS ID #0710011

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report shows the results for our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2014. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

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/Centers guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Where does my water come from?

Our water is purchased from the City of Iuka which consists of four (4) wells; three that draw from the Paleozoic Aquifer and one drawing from the Fort Payne Chert Aquifer.

Source water assessment and its availability:

The source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water supply to identify potential sources of contamination. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our public water system and is available for viewing at our office upon request. Listed below are the ratings for the wells of the City of Iuka where Walker Switch purchases water.

Well # 710006-01 – moderate rating on source water assessment

Well # 710006-02 – higher rating on source water assessment

Well # 710006-04 – moderate rating on source water assessment

Well # 710006-05 – lower rating on source water assessment

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these 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). 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; microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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; and 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, 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.

How can I get involved?

We encourage all customers with concerns or questions to meet with us. Our Association will conduct its annual membership meeting on Thursday, August 21, at 7:00 PM at Mt. Gilead Church. We will answer any questions about this report at that time. This is a very important meeting in which we encourage all members to attend.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Walker Switch Water Association
<i>ATTN: Larry Bonds, President</i>
<i>Po Box 412; 305 West Eastport Street</i>
<i>Iuka, MS 38852</i>
<i>Phone: 662-423-5057</i>

Additional Information for Lead

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. Walker Switch Water Association 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 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>. The Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory offers lead testing for \$10 per sample. Please contact 601.576.7582 if you wish to have your water tested.

Monitoring and reporting of compliance data violations

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific constituents on a monthly basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. Beginning January 1, 2004, the Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) required public water systems that use chlorine as a primary disinfectant to monitor/test for chlorine residuals as required by the Stage 1 Disinfection By-Products Rule. Our water system passed all of these monitoring requirements. We did complete the monitoring requirements for bacteriological sampling that showed no coliform present. In an effort to ensure systems complete all monitoring requirements, MSDH now notifies systems of any missing samples prior to the end of the compliance period.

The table below list all the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA and the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

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2014 WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE

Contaminants (units)	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
Chlorine (ppm) {WSWA}	4	4	1.10	0.40	1.60	2014	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine (ppm) {City of Iuka}	4	4	1.10	0.80	1.40	2014	No	Water additive used to control microbes
HAA5 {Haloacetic Acids} (ppb)	0	60	1.0	N/A	N/A	2014	No	By Product of drinking water chlorination
THM{Total Trihalomethanes} (ppb)	0	80	1.48	N/A	N/A	2014	No	By-Product of drinking water chlorination
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.0104	N/A	N/A	2013	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.102	N/A	N/A	2013	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate {measured as Nitrogen} (ppm)	10	10	0.16	N/A	N/A	2014	No	Runoff from fertilizer user; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminants (units)	MCLG	AL	Your Water	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Sample Date	Typical Source	
Inorganic Contaminants (Lead and Copper)								
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.5	0	No	2014	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead (ppb)	0	1	1	0	No	2014	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Important Drinking Water Definitions								
MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no know or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.							
MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level	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	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.							
TT-Treatment Technique	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.							
MRDLG - Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal	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.							
MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfection Level	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. Ther is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.							
MNR - Monitored Not Regulated								
MPL - State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level								
Unit Descriptions								
ppb - Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)					ppm - Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)			
pCi/L - Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)					NA - not applicable			
ND - Not detected					NR - Moitoring not required, but recommended			