



2008 Consumer Confidence Report



Covering Calendar
Year 2007

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. It is important that customers be aware of the efforts that are continually made to improve their water systems. To learn more about your drinking water, please attend any of the regularly scheduled meetings. City Council meetings occur on most Tuesdays at 9:00 A.M. in the City Council Chambers, at 455 N. Main. The public is welcome to request time on the agenda for comments about water utility topics. Consult our web site at www.wichita.gov for further information. See U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) water information at www.epa.gov/safew/. For more information please contact, JERRY BLAIN at 316-269-4764.

El informe contiene informacion importante sobre la calidad del agua en su comunidad. Traduzcolo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

To find out more about our drinking water sources and additional chemical sampling results, please contact our office at the number provided above. Your water comes from surface water and groundwater blended prior to treatment.

Your water is treated to remove several contaminants and a disinfectant is added to protect you against microbial contaminants. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) required states to develop a Source Water Assessment (SWA) for each public water supply that treats and distributes raw source water in order to identify potential contamination sources. The state has completed an assessment of our source water. For results of the assessment, please contact us or view on-line at: <http://www.kdheks.gov/nps/swap/SWreports.html>

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer under going 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).

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 EPA'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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, 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.

Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity.

Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

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. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system tested a minimum of 180 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public.

Water Quality Data

The tables following below list all of the drinking water contaminants, which were detected during the 2007 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1- December 31, 2007. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. **The bottom line is that the water that is provided to you is safe.**

Terms & Abbreviations

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): 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.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.

Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Treatment Technique (TT): a required process intended to reduce levels of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (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.

Non-Detects (ND): lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Parts per Million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

Parts per Billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L): a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per Year (mrem/yr): measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL): a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. Turbidity is not regulated for groundwater systems.

2007 Testing Results for: CITY OF WICHITA

Microbiological	Result		MCL			MCLG	Typical Source
COLIFORM (TCR)	In the month of May, 0.54% of samples returned as positive		MCL: Systems that Collect 40 or More Samples per Month - No more than 5% positive monthly samples;			0	Naturally present in the environment
Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
ARSENIC	4/24/2007	1.5	1.5	ppb	10	0	Erosion of natural deposits
BARIUM	4/24/2007	0.057	0.057	ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
CHROMIUM	4/24/2007	1.3	1.3	ppb	100	100	Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE	4/24/2007	0.33	0.33	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE	5/16/2007	0.49	0.45 - 0.49	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use
SELENIUM	4/24/2007	2.6	2.6	ppb	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits

Turbidity	Monitoring Period	Level Found	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
	2007	0.2	n/a	NTU	TT=1 NTU TT=% of samples <0.3 NTU	0	Soil runoff
		100	n/a	%			

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration process.

Disinfection Byproducts	Monitoring Period	Highest RAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BROMATE	2007	9	5 - 14	ppb	10	0	By-product of water ozonation
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	2007	12	8.4 - 16	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHM)	2007	23	15 - 33	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
					MRDL	MRDLG	
DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL	2007	1.90	1.84-1.97	ppm	4	4	Added to drinking water for disinfection
Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90th Percentile	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source	
Lead	2007	7	ppb	AL=15	3	Corrosion of household plumbing system	
Copper	2007	0.1	ppm	AL=1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing system	

Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	SMCL
ALKALINITY, TOTAL	4/24/2007	99	99	MG/L	300
ALUMINUM	4/24/2007	0.013	0.013	MG/L	0.05
CALCIUM	4/24/2007	26	26	MG/L	200
CARBON, TOTAL	2/1/2007	2.75	2.07-2.75	ppm	10000
CHLORIDE	4/24/2007	120	120	MG/L	250
CONDUCTIVITY @ 25 C UMHOS/CM	4/24/2007	680	680	UMHO/CM	1500
HARDNESS, TOTAL (AS CAC03)	4/24/2007	120	120	MG/L	400
IRON	4/24/2007	0.068	0.068	MG/L	0.3
MAGNESIUM	4/24/2007	13	13	MG/L	150
MANGANESE	4/24/2007	0.0023	0.0023	MG/L	0.05
NICKEL	4/24/2007	0.001	0.001	MG/L	0.1
PH	4/24/2007	7.5	7.5	PH	8.5
PHOSPHORUS, TOTAL	4/24/2007	0.047	0.047	MG/L	5
POTASSIUM	4/24/2007	4.5	4.5	MG/L	100
SILICA	4/24/2007	6.8	6.8	MG/L	50
SODIUM	4/24/2007	90	90	MG/L	100
SULFATE	4/24/2007	55	55	MG/L	250
TDS	4/24/2007	380	380	MG/L	500

During the 2007 calendar year, we had no violation(s) of drinking water regulations.

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. Your water system 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>.