

# Savannah Valley Utility District Water Quality Report for 2016

## Is my drinking water safe?

Yes, our water meets all of EPA's health standards. We have conducted numerous tests for over 80 contaminants that may be in drinking water. As you'll see in the chart on the back, we only detected 8 of these contaminants.

**What is the source of my water?** Your water is groundwater, and comes from three wells. Our goal is to protect our water from contaminants and we are working with the State to determine the vulnerability of our water source to **potential** contamination. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for the untreated water sources serving this water system. The SWAP Report assesses the susceptibility of untreated water sources to **potential** contamination. To ensure safe drinking water, all public water systems treat and routinely test their water. Water sources have been rated as reasonably susceptible, moderately susceptible or slightly susceptible based on geologic factors and human activities in the vicinity of the water source. The Savannah Valley Utility District sources rated as reasonably susceptible to potential contamination.

An explanation of Tennessee's Source Water Assessment Program, the Source Water Assessment summaries, susceptibility scorings and the overall TDEC report to EPA can be viewed online at [www.tn.gov/environment/dws/dwassess.shtml](http://www.tn.gov/environment/dws/dwassess.shtml) or you may contact the Water System to obtain copies of specific assessments. A wellhead protection plan is available for your review by contacting Mike Scott at the Savannah Valley Utility District between 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. weekdays.

## 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).

Este informe contiene información muy importante. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

**For more information about your drinking water, please call Mike Scott at (423) 344-8440 Ext. 122**

## How can I get involved?

Our Water Board meets on the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m., at our office, located 10700 Hwy 58. Please feel free to participate in these meetings. The Commissioners of Savannah Valley Utility District serve four year terms. Vacancies on the Board of Commissioners are filled by appointment by the Hamilton Co. Mayor from a list provided by the remaining Commissioners. Decisions by the Board of Commissioners on customer complaints brought before the Board of Commissioners under the District's customer complaint policy may be reviewed by the Utility Management Review Board of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation pursuant to Section 7-82-702(7) of Tennessee Code Annotated.

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

The State and EPA require us to test and report on our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We have met all of these requirements. Results of unregulated contaminant analysis are available upon request.

## Other Information

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:

- 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 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.
- 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 and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Our water treatment processes are designed to reduce any such substances to levels well below any health concern. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

## 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 not only their drinking water, but food preparation, personal hygiene, and precautions in handling infants and pets 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).

## Lead in Drinking Water

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 Savannah Valley Utility District 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>

## Water System Security

Following the events of September 2001, we realize that our customers are concerned about the security of their drinking water. We urge the public to report any suspicious activities at any utility facilities, including treatment plants, pumping stations, tanks, fire hydrants, etc. to 344-8440

# Water Quality Data

## What does this chart mean?

- **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.
- **MRDL**: 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 the control of microbial contaminants.
- **MRDLG**: Maximum residual disinfectant 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.
- **AL** - Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **BDL** – Below detectable level.
- **Non-Detects (ND)** - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.
- **Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** – explained as a relation to time and money as 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** - explained as a relation to time and money as one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
- **TT** - Treatment Technique or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Contaminant	Date of Sample	Violation Yes/No	Level Found	Range of Detections	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	2016	No	0	0	0	<2 positive samples	Naturally present in the environment
Chlorine	Daily	No	1.55 ppm avg.	.9 – 1.9	4 ppm	4 ppm	Water additive used to control microbes
TTHM - Total Trihalomethanes	Quarterly	No	3.3 ppb avg.	1 to 8 ppb	N/A	80 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	Quarterly	No	3.1 ppb avg.	ND to 12.9 ppb	N/A	60 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Fluoride	Daily	No	.68 ppm avg	0 – 1.40	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sodium	2014	No	3.75 ppm	3.75 ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; used in water treatment
Lead**	2015	No	90th % 1.3 ppb	BDL to 9.3 ppb	AL = 15 ppb	AL = 15 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Copper**	2015	No	90th % 0.51 ppm	.045 to 1.5 ppm	AL = 1.3 ppm	AL = 1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Turbidity <sup>1</sup>	Daily	No	0.06 AVE	.02 -.76 Range	N/A	TT	Soil Runoff
Cryptosporidium (raw water)	2015-17	No	0				

\*\* During the most recent round of Lead and Copper testing, 1 out of 30 households sampled contained concentrations exceeding the action levels. 1 on copper and 0 on lead.

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.

For additional information, call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791

	Monitoring Site					Purchased Water Eastside Utility	
	Smith Rd Plant	Carson Springs	Brittville Shores	Career Lane	Sims Rd Plant	Avg Level	Limit
<b>2016 Unregulated Contaminants (PPM)</b>							
Hexavalent Chromium	0.2000	0.1625	0.2125	0.1950		0.0497 ug/l	0.035-0.064 ug/l
Chlorate	86.5000	107.5000	94.7500	114.5000		146.8 ug/l	120-190.4 ug/l
Chromium	0.1475	0.1150	0.1475	0.1350		< 0.2 ug/l	0-<0.2 ug/l
Strontium	32.5000	30.5000	33.0000	30.2500		68.44 ug/l	58-77.315 ug/l
Vanadium	0.1950	0.3473	0.1900	0.3600		0.165 ug/l	0-0.31 ug/l
Chlorodifluoromethane		0.1950					
1,4 Dioxane		0.1150				0.0891 ug/l	0-0.1033 ug/l
Perfluoroheptanoic		0.0028					
<b>Metals:</b>	:						
Cobalt						<1 ug/l	0-<1 ug/l
Molybdenum						<1 ug/l	0-<1 ug/l
<b>2015 Unregulated Volatile Organic Compounds:</b>							
Nitrate	0.7700	0.6100					
Limit	10.0000	10.0000					
<b>2012 Unregulated Volatile Organic Compounds:</b>							
Bromodichloromethane							
Chloroform							
<b>2011 Inorganic Compounds:</b>							
Chloride	4.2000	5.4000					
Limit	250.0000	250.0000					
Barium	0.0300	0.0360					
Limit	2.0000	2.0000					
Copper		0.0290					
Limit		1.0000					