

# H.B. &T.S. Utility District Water Quality Report 2010

## Is my drinking water safe?

Yes, our water meets all of EPA's health standards. We have conducted numerous tests for over 57 compounds that may be in drinking water. As you'll see in the chart on the back, we only detected 11 of these compounds.

## What is the source of my water?

Your water comes from the Duck River (Spring Hill) and the Cumberland River (Harpeth Valley U.D.). Our goal is to protect our water from contaminants and we are working with the State to determine the vulnerability of our water supply to contaminants. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation has prepared a Source Water Assessment for the water supplies serving this water system. The Assessment Susceptibility Ratings to potential contamination are as follows: Reasonably (high), moderately (moderate) or slightly (low). The ratings are based on geologic factors and human activities within the source water protection area of the water source. H.B. &T.S.'s water sources rated as reasonably susceptible to potential contamination.

An explanation of this report can be viewed online at [www.state.tn.us/environment/dws/dwassess.shtml](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/dws/dwassess.shtml) or you may contact the TDEC at 1-888-891-TDEC to obtain copies of specific assessments.

## Why are there compounds in my water?

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some compounds. Community water systems are required to disclose the detection of compounds; however, bottled water companies are not required to comply with this regulation. The presence of compounds does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about compounds 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 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 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 Dept. of Environment and Conservation prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

**For more information about your drinking water, please call Troy Watkins at 794-7796.**

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

## How can I get involved?

Our Water Board meets on the fourth Wednesday at 9:00 am each month at our office. The office is located at 505 Downs Boulevard, Franklin, Tennessee 37064. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

## 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. We want you to know that we pay attention to all the rules.

## Other Information

Due to all water containing dissolved compounds, occasionally your water may exhibit slight discoloration. We strive to maintain the standards to prevent this. We at H.B. &T.S. work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

## DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

Some people may be more vulnerable to compounds in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have under-gone 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 also 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## 2009 Water 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. 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.
- 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 detection limit.
- 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.
- Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- 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.
- MRDL: 'Maximum Residential Disinfection Level'- The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water
- MRDLG: 'Maximum Residential Disinfectant Goal'-The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health

Unless otherwise noted the data presented in this table is from sampling performed during the 2009 calendar year.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Date of Sample	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	0	-	20 samples taken per month	-	<2 Positive Samples	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Bacteria naturally present in the environment serving as an indicator that harmful bacteria may be present
Total Organic Carbon***	No	1.7 max	1.3-1.7***	2009	PPM	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity	Yes <sup>2</sup>	.07avg	0.03-2.0	2009	NTU	N/A	TT	Soil runoff
Copper <sup>1</sup>	No	90 <sup>th</sup> %=.39	-	6/2008	PPM	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride	No	.49avg.	0.02-1.1	2009	PPM	4.0	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead <sup>1</sup>	No	90 <sup>th</sup> %=3.1	-	6/2008	PPB	15	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	No	2.0 avg.	0.40-3.5	2009	PPM	4.0 (MRDL)	4.0 (MRDLG)	Water additive used to control microbes
Sodium	No	7.7	-	7/14/ 2009	PPM	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; used in water treatment
Nitrate	No	0.62	-	10/20/ 2009	PPM	10.0	10.0	Soil runoff from fertilizer.
TTHM (Total-Trihalomethanes)	No	72 avg.	35-77	2009	PPB	0	80	By - product of drinking Water chlorination
THAA (Total Haloacetic Acids)	No	49 avg.	27-64	2009	PPB	0	60	By product of drinking water chlorination

<sup>1</sup>During the most recent round of Lead and Copper testing, 0 out of 30 households sampled contained concentrations exceeding the action level.

<sup>2</sup>A water sample taken Monday, February 2, 2009 showed a level of 2.0 turbidity units. The situation was corrected and the turbidity returned to acceptable levels within 10 minutes of the incident. To prevent this from happening again, a change in operating procedures has been implemented and equipment upgrades are complete. Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches. Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites which can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

\*\*\*We met the Treatment Technique requirements for Total Organic Carbons in 2009.

## H.B. &T.S. Utility District is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer



### Cross Connections

Never cross connect your safe drinking water supply with a source that could be contaminated. Wells possibly contaminated with e-coli, garden hoses or irrigation systems in contact with chemicals or animal waste around your home and lawn are all considered cross connections when they come into contact with the city water supply. A backflow of water caused by pressure drops or a faulty valve could allow dangerous chemicals to get back into your homes safe drinking water supply. If you have a well or use chemicals that come in contact with the publics' safe drinking water, you are required to install a backflow prevention device and have it tested annually to insure that it is in proper working condition. A backflow prevention device creates a separation of your safe drinking water from an unsafe source.

### H.B. &T.S. UTILITY DISTRICT BOARD MEMBER SELECTION

The Commissioners of H.B. &T.S. Utility District serve four year terms. Vacancies on the Board of Commissioners are filled by appointment by the Williamson County Mayor from a list of three nominees certified by the Board of Commissioners to the Williamson County Mayor to fill a vacancy. Decisions by the Board of Commissioners on customer complaints brought before them 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.

### 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. H.B. &T.S. 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, where to have water tested, 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 Hardness

Believe it or not, 85% of the U.S. has hard water. The water in our district is categorized as slightly or moderately hard. On average testing for the year 2009, the water hardness level was 104 PPM.

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