

2005 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

WARRIOR RIVER WATER AUTHORITY - PWSID 763

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Is my water safe?

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. The Warrior River Water Authority vigilantly safeguards its water supplies, and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated any water quality standard.

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 for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline

Where does my water come from?

The Warrior River Water Authority is comprised of groundwater, (wells), and surface water which is taken from the Warrior River. We have 4 wells producing from the Fort Payne/Tuscumbia Aquifer that supply water to part of the McCalla area. The Warrior River Water Filter Plant supplies water to the rest of the service area from the Mulberry Fork of the Warrior River. The Warrior River Water Authority has an inter-connection agreement with the Bessemer Water System that would allow us to purchase water in emergency situations.

Source water assessment

The Warrior River Water Authority has developed a Source Water Assessment plan that will assist in protecting our water sources from contamination. It includes a susceptibility analysis which classifies potential contaminants as high, moderate, or non-susceptible. The assessment has been performed and approved by ADEM. All potential contamination sites in our assessment area were classified as low susceptibility to contaminating our water source.

Please help us make this effort worthwhile by protecting our source water. Carefully follow instructions on Pesticides and herbicides, and properly dispose of household chemicals, paints, and waste oil.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking 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 (EPA) 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, may come

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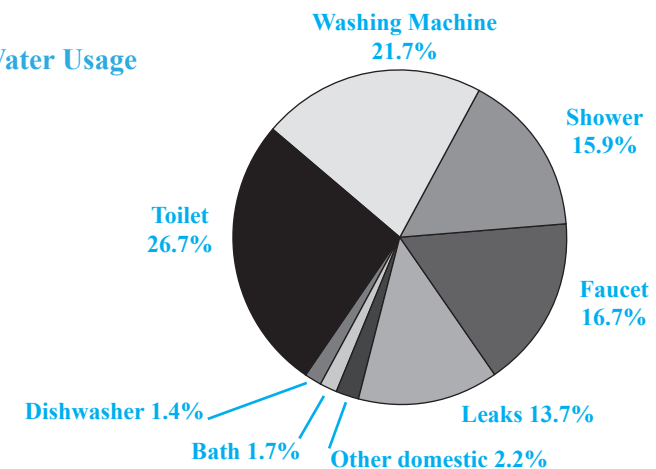
from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. Pesticides and herbicides 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, are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants 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.

Educational Statement for Lead

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and also flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

For Your Information

Average Home Water Usage



Tips for Conserving Your Water:

- Shorten your showers. One or two minutes can add up to 700 gallons a month.
- Replace your shower heads with low flow showerheads.
- Put trash, cigarettes in ash trays not sinks and bathroom utilities.
- Check for leaks randomly.
- Wet your toothbrush and turn off water supply.
- Install low flush toilet facilities.
- Use dishwasher and washing machine for full loads only.
- Water lawns only when needed...late or early in the day...when there's less evaporation.
- Don't let children play with hoses and sprinklers.
- Setting lawn mower blades higher for longer grass means less evaporation.
- Wash car with a pail of soapy water not a running hose.

Estimated faucet leakage rates:

Drips
60 drops per minute = 192 gallons per month
90 drops per minute = 310 gallons per month
120 drops per minute = 429 gallons per month

Stream
3" stream = 1,095 gallons per month
6" stream = 2,190 gallons per month
9" stream = 3,290 gallons per month

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Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of 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 or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Contaminants (units)	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	27	10.8	39.5	2005	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	NA	TT	2	1.3	2.7	2005	No	Naturally present in the environment.
Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	<.050		AL=1.3	2005	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits. Leaching from wood preservatives.
Inorganic Contaminants								
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1	0.6	1.5	2005	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (ppm)	10	10	0.68	NA	NA	2005	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium (ppm)	MNR	MNR	6.32	NA	NA	2005	No	
Microbiological Contaminants								
Turbidity (Conventional or Direct Filtration) (NTU in 95% of)	NA	TT<=0.5	0.23	NA	NA	2005	No	Soil runoff
Unregulated Contaminants								
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	NA	NA	10.9	NA	NA	2005	No	
Chloroform (ppb)	NA	NA	24.9	NA	NA	2005	No	
Sulfate (ppm)	NA	NA	63.4	NA	NA	2005	No	
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	33	5	61	2005	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

Units Description:

- NA: Not applicable
- ND: Not detected
- NR: Not reported
- AL: Action Level
- MNR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.
- ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
- ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
- NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units. 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 system.

Important Drinking Water

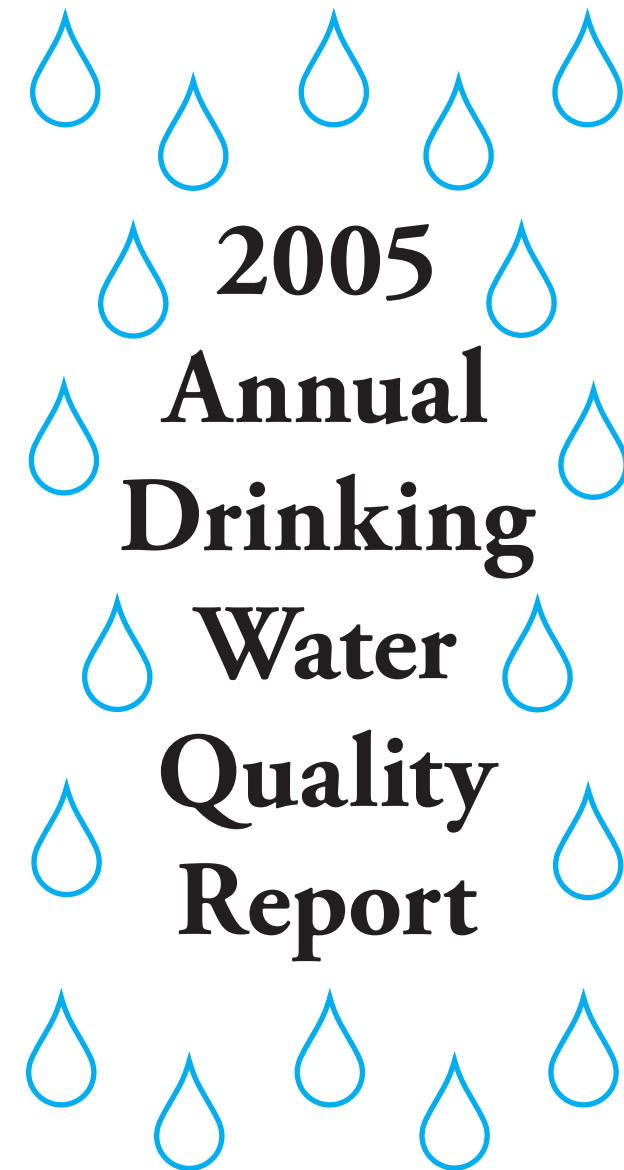
- MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- 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
- MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

For more information

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