

**2016**  
**Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**  
**Consumer Confidence Report**  
**Washington County Rural Water District No. 3**  
**(PWSID OK1021418)**

We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report (the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015). We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is surface water drawn from Oologah Lake, the Caney River and supplemented by purchased water from the City of Tulsa.

We have a Source Water Protection (SWAP Report) Plan available in our office that shows the vulnerability as MODERATE for our system. Additional information, such as potential sources of contamination is included in the SWAP Report.

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Mr. Jerry Gammill at our office number (918) 371-2055. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Monday of each month beginning at 8 a.m. at our office, 17227 N. 129<sup>th</sup> East Avenue.

Washington County Rural Water District No. 3 routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. (Some of our data may be more than one year old because the state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less often than once per year.) All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

**WATER QUALITY DATA TABLE**

**The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants we detected for 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.**

In the table below you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

*Non-Detects (ND)* - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

*NA* – Not Applicable

*Avg* – Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

*BPQL* – Below practical quantitative limits.

*Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)*

*Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l)*

*Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)* - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

*Millirems per year (mrem/yr)* - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

*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.

*Action Level Goal (ALG)* - The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

*Action Level (AL)* - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

*Treatment Technique (TT)* - (mandatory language) A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

*Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)* - (mandatory language) The 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.

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal* - (mandatory language) The MCLG is 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.

*Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or MRDLG* – The level of 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.

*Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL* – The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

<b>Coliform Bacteria</b>						
Max Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Max Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Max Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	1 Positive Monthly Sample	1		0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

<b>Lead and Copper</b>								
Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# of Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	09/11/2013	1.3	1.3	1.192	2	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

<b>Regulated Contaminants</b>								
Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2015	2	2 - 2	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2015	37	18.3 – 69.6	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2015	58	21.3 – 117.0	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Inorganic Contaminants								
Nitrate-Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	5/13/15	BPQL	BPQL	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	3/19/2013	0.047	0.047 – 0.047	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	3/19/2013	0.22	0.22 – 0.22	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Radioactive Contaminants								
Beta/Photon Emitters	8/23/2011	4.149	4.149 – 4.149	0	4	mrem/yr	N	Decay of natural and man made deposits.

<b>Turbidity</b>				
	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest Single Measurement	1 NTU	0.18 NTU	N	Soil runoff
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	0.3 NTU	100%	N	Soil runoff

Information Statement: Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.

## Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.

Additional Monitoring <sup>(1)</sup> – Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring in 2015 (UCMR3)			
Unregulated Contaminant	Average (ppb)	Min. (ppb)	Max. (ppb)
Chlorate	373	323	459
Strontium	301	271	374
Chromium	0.281	BPQL	0.326
Vanadium	15.5	BPQL	15.5

(1) The District was required to participate in Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring (UCMR3) in 2015. Unregulated contaminants are those for which 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.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

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, 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 and residential uses.

\**Radioactive contaminants*, which are naturally occurring.

\**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.

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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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).

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/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).

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. Washington County Rural Water District No. 3 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>.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. 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.

Spanish - Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

In our continuing efforts to maintain a safe and dependable water supply it may be necessary to make improvements in your water system. The costs of these improvements may be reflected in the rate structure. Rate adjustments may be necessary in order to address these improvements.

We at Washington County, Rural Water District No. 3 work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We appreciate your interest.

Thank you.