

Summertown Utility District Water Quality Report for 2017

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 7 of these contaminants. We found most of these contaminants at safe levels.

What is the source of my water?

Your water, which is ground water, comes from the wells which are screened in a Mississippian carbonate aquifer (water bearing zone). 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 water to 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 Summertown 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 <https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/wr-water-resources/water-quality/source-water-assessment.html> or you may contact the Water System to obtain copies of specific assessments.

A wellhead protection plan is available for your review by contacting Todd Pennington at the Summertown Utility District between 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 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 Todd Pennington at (931) 964-4315.

How can I get involved?

Our Water Board meets on the third Monday at 6:00 P.M. at the utility office located at 15 Watertank Rd. . Please feel free to participate in these meetings. The Commissioners of Summertown Utility District serve four year terms. Vacancies on the Board of Commissioners are filled by appointment by the Lawrence County Executive from a list of three nominees certified by the Board of Commissioners to the Lawrence County Executive to fill a vacancy. 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. We want you to know that we pay attention to all the rules.

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. 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 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 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. Summertown 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, tanks, fire hydrants, etc. to 931-964-4315.

Pharmaceuticals In Drinking Water

Flushing unused or expired medicines can be harmful to your drinking water. Learn more about disposing of unused medicines at

<https://www.tn.gov/environment/article/sp-unwanted-pharmaceuticals>

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. 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.
- **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.
- **Below Detection Level (BDL)** - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at a level that can be detected.
- **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.
- **Million Fibers per Liter (MFL)** - million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.
- **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.
- **RTCR** – Revised Total Coliform Rule. This rule went into effect on April 1, 2016 and replaces the MCL for total coliform with a Treatment Technique Trigger for a system assessment.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Found	Range of Detections	Date of Sample	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (RTCR)	No	2		2017		0	TT Trigger	Naturally present in the environment
Copper ^{1,2}	Yes	..727 90 th % 2.05 90 th %	.0167 – 1.56 .0117- 3.06	6/17 12/17	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead ¹	No	1.00 90 th % 1.51 90 th %	1.0– 1.46 1.0-1.76	6/17 12/17	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	No	16.8		2016	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; used in water treatment
Turbidity ³	No	0.55	0.09- 0.55	2017	NTU	n/a	TT	Soil runoff
TTHM ⁴ [Total trihalomethanes]	No	23.02	1.0 – 35.8	2017	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids ⁴ (HAA5)	No	12.23	1.0 – 18.10	2017	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine	No	1.6 AVG	1.0-2.0	2017	ppm	MRDLG 4	MRDL 4	Water additive used to control microbes.

¹During the reporting year of 2016 Lead and Copper testing, 4 out of 40 households sampled contained concentrations exceeding the action level.

²Copper. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor. **A notice was mailed to each customer for testing year 2017 about copper.**

³100% of our samples were below the turbidity limit.

⁴Please refer to the attached monitoring violation that was incurred during 2017.

⁵Please refer to the attached reporting violation that was incurred during 2017.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

⁴ Monitoring Requirements Not Met for the Summertown Water System

Our water system violated drinking water monitoring requirements over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During the 1st quarter of 2016 we failed to monitor for total Trihalomethanes and Total Haloacetic Acids in the week designated in our Stage 2 LRAA Monitoring Plan and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminant we did not properly test for during the previous year, how often we are supposed to sample for Total Trihalomethanes and Total Haloacetic Acids, date samples should have been taken and dates when samples were taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Samples should have been taken during week of	Samples were taken
Total Trihalomethanes	Quarterly	02/24/16	4/6/16
Total Haloacetic Acids	Quarterly	02/24/16	4/6/16

What is being done?

There was a system oversight when the system went from annual monitoring to quarterly monitoring. The system is now back on track with the sampling plan. Although the samples were late we have included the test result in the consumer confidence report.

⁵Reporting Requirements Not Met for Summertown Water System

Our water system violated drinking water requirements over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing (did) to correct these situations.

**We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2017 we did not inform consumers of the laboratory results from Lead and Copper tests within the required time.*

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

What is being done?

We will continue to make every attempt in providing the highest quality water and will promptly inform consumers of any issues of concern.

For more information, please contact Todd Pennington at (931) 964-4315 or P.O. Box 281 Summertown, TN 38483

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the Summertown Water System. State Water System ID#: TN0000676. Date distributed: 6/19/18