Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)
Griffith Creek Utility District
Water Quality Report
2019

Is My Drinking Water Safe?
Yes, our water meets all of Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) and the EPA's health standards. We have conducted numerous tests for over 80 contaminants that may be in drinking water. We only found 9 contaminants that are listed in the Water Quality Data Chart. We found all of these contaminants to be within safe levels.

What is the Source of My Water?
Your water comes from Ranger Creek Reservoir, treated by and purchased from Big Creek Utility District. Our goal is to protect our water from contaminants and in conjunction with the State have determined the vulnerability of our water supply to contamination. TDEC has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program Report for the untreated water sources. The 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 geological factors and human activities in the vicinity of the water source. Our source water rating is moderately susceptible. An explanation of the Tennessee Source Water Assessment Program, the Source Water Assessment summaries, susceptibility scorings and the overall TDEC report to EPA can be viewed 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.

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. Community water systems are required to disclose the detection of contaminants; however, bottled water companies are not required to comply with this regulation. 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).

Sources of Water
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 pickup substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminates that may be present in source water:

- Microbial contaminates, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminates, 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 use.
- 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 contaminates 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, the EPA and TDEC prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminates in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminates in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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. Griffith Creek Utility District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When the water has been sitting in the plumbing of your home 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 drinking 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 https://www.epa.gov/lead/protect-your-family-exposures-lead

How can I get involved?
The Griffith Creek Utility District Board of Commissioners has a meeting on the first Monday of each month at our billing office at 6684 Hwy 108, Whitwell at 6:30 PM. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

Is Our Water System Meeting Other Rules that Govern our Operations?
TDEC and the 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 contaminants, occasionally your water may exhibit slight discoloration. We strive to maintain the standards to prevent this. We at Griffith Creek Utility District work 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 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).

Board of Commissioners
Commissioners for Griffith Creek Utility District serve four year terms. Vacancies are filled by appointment of the Marion County Mayor from a list of three nominees certified by the Board of Commissioners. Decisions by the Board on customer complaints brought before the Board 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.

Equal Opportunity Employer
In accordance with Federal law and the U.S. Department of Agriculture policy, this institution is prohibited from discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs). To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, or call (800) 795-3272 (voice), or (202) 720-6382 (TDD).
For more information about your drinking water, please call Paula Shipley at (423) 658-6937 Griffith Creek Office, Allen Joslyn at 931-692-2505 Big Creek Office, or Wally Nolan at 931-779-3751 Big Creek Plant.

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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 Levels 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.
- MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level. 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 contaminates.
- 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 contaminates.

Discretionary language regarding the use of averages to report levels of some contaminants.

- AL - Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- 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.
- Turbidity does not present any risk to your health. We monitor turbidity, which is a measure of the cloudiness of water, because it is a good indicator that our filtration system is functioning properly.
- TT - Treatment Technique or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Contaminant	Violation Y/ N	Level Detected in CCR Units	Range of Detections	Date of Sample	MCL in CCR Units	MCLG	Typical source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria (RTCR)	N	0		2019	TT	0	Naturally present in the environment
E. coli Bacteria	N	0		2019	TT	0	Human and animal fecal waste
Total Organic Carbon** (ppm)	N	54% removal 35% required		2019	TT	n/a	Naturally present in the environment.
Chlorine (ppm)	N	1.15	0.4 - 1.9	2019	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	Water additive to control microbes
Turbidity***(NTU)	N	.135	.022-.135	2019	TT	n/a	Soil runoff
Copper**** (ppm)	N	90th % - 0.148		2017	AL=1.3 ppm	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride (ppm)	N	0.64 AVG	0.43 - 1.0	2019	4 ppm	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead**** (ppb)	N	90th % - 0.5		2017	AL=15 ppb	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	N	10.9		2019	n/a	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits; used in water treatment
Haloacetic Acids (HAA) (ppb)	N	37.4 LRAA	20.0 - 44.8	2019	60 ppb	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs* [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	N	72.6 LRAA	33.0 - 89.8	2019	80 ppb	n/a	By-product of drinking water chlorination

*Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

** The treatment technique requirements for Total Organic Carbon were met.

*** We met the treatment technique requirements for turbidity with 100 % of monthly samples below the turbidity limit of 0.3 NTU.

****During the most recent round of lead and copper testing, 0 out of 20 households sampled contained concentrations exceeding the action level. Lead and copper levels are monitored every three (3) years. Next scheduled round of lead and copper sampling is 2020.

GRIFFITH CREEK UTILITY DISTRICT violated drinking water requirements over the past year. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what we have done and are continuing to do 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 our drinking water meets health standards. During the second quarter* of *2019 we failed to monitor for Total Trihalomethanes and Total Haloacetic Acids and therefore cannot be sure* of *the quality* of *your drinking water during that time. However we correctly sampled the remaining three quarters required as listed in our Stage 2 LRAA Monitoring Plan. Our Locational Running Annual Averages for both Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids easily meet required compliance values of 80 parts per billion and 60 parts per billion respectively. See contaminant table for specific levels.*

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do currently.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not test according to our monitoring plan during a recent compliance period, how often we are supposed to sample, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which samples were taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples required	When samples should have been taken during week of	When samples were taken
Total Trihalomethanes	Quarterly	2	4/10/2019	July 18,2019
Total Haloacetic Acids	Quarterly	2	4/10/2019	July 18, 2019

What is being done?

Griffith Creek Utility District has implemented measures to ensure water testing is performed and reported within required time frames. These measures include partnering with Big Creek Utility District to perform sample collection along with their testing program and implementing procedures to collect samples on the prescribed dates.
For more information, please contact:

Paula Shipley
6684 Highway 108
Whitwell, TN 37397
423.658.6937

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 GRIFFITH CREEK UTILITY DIST.

State Water System PWSID#: TN0000278.

Date distributed: April 2, 2020