Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)
Big Creek Utility District
Water Quality Report
2020

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. What contaminants were detected 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, which is primarily surface water. 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 www.tn.gov/environment/water/water-supply_source-assessment.shtml, 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 pick up 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. Big 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 http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead

How can I get involved?

The Big Creek Utility District Board of Commissioners has a meeting on the third Monday of each month at our billing office in Altamont at 6:00 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 Big 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 Big Creek Utility District serve four year terms. Vacancies are filled by appointment of the Grundy 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 Allen Joslyn at 931-692-2505 or Wally Nolan at 931-779-3751.

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

W a t e r Q u a l i t y D a t a

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, 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.
- 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.

The data presented in this table is from testing done between January and December of 2020

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*	N	2	n/a	2020	TT	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and E. coli	N	0	0	2020	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste
Total Organic Carbon** (ppm)	N	51% removal 35% required	n/a	2020	TT	n/a	Naturally present in the environment.
Chlorine (ppm)	N	2.5	1.2 - 2.5	2020	MRDL=4	MRDLG =4	Water additive to control microbes
Turbidity*** (NTU)	N	.114	.023 - .114	2020	TT	n/a	Soil runoff
Copper**** (ppm)	N	90th % - 0.203	n/a	2020	AL=1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride (ppm)	N	0.75 AVG	0.49 - 0.91	2020	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead**** (ppb)	N	90th % - 0	n/a	2020	AL=15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	N	10.4	10.4	2020	n/a	n/a	Erosion of natural deposits; used in water treatment
Haloacetic Acids (HAA) (ppb)	N	25.1	16.2 – 29.9	2020	60	n/a	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHMs [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	N	40.4	21.2 – 49.4	2020	80	n/a	By-product of drinking water chlorination

*We had 1 positive sample in the month of June and 1 positive sample in the month of November, which is within limits because we are allowed 1 positive sample each month. We also done repeat sampling and all those samples were negative.
** The treatment technique requirements for Total Organic Carbon were met in 2020.
*** 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.