

# 2016 **CONSUMER WATER QUALITY** REPORT

# **Consumer Confidence Report**

## This is your annual report on drinking water quality.

## What Are Drinking Water Standards?

Under the authority of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), EPA sets standards for approximately 90 contaminants in drinking water. For each of these contaminants, EPA sets a legal limit, called a maximum contaminant level, or requires a certain treatment. Water suppliers may not provide water that doesn't meet these standards. Water that meets EPA standards is safe to drink.

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), which celebrated its 25th anniversary in 1999, is the main federal law that ensures the quality of Americans' drinking water. Under SDWA, EPA sets standards for drinking water quality and oversees the

states, localities, and water suppliers who implement those standards. The SDWA covers all public water systems with piped water for human consumption with at least 15 service connections or a system that regularly serves at least 25 individuals.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably expected, to contain at least small amounts of some cotaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by simply calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

## **Notice:** Important Information

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1 -800-426-4791).

## **Why** do I need to read this?

A survey conducted by the system that uses surface water. American Water Works Research This is because large metropoli-Foundation in 1993 found that tan areas tend to rely on surface nearly two-thirds of water con- water, whereas small and rural sumers surveyed said they areas tend to rely on ground received "very little" or "no" infor- water. In addition, 10-20% of peomation on the quality of their ple have their own private well water. The water quality reports for drinking water. information. Informed allies of water systems, large and streams, protect themselves.

either ground water sources (via animals or from human activity. wells) or surface water sources (such as rivers, lakes, streams). Nationally, most water systems use a ground water source (80%), but most people (66%) are served by a water

will increase the availability of The sources of drinking water and (both tap water and bottled involved citizens can be strong water) include rivers, lakes, ponds, small, as they take action on springs, and wells. As water travpressing problems. Also, an els over the surface of the land or increase in public awareness can through the ground, it dissolves give sensitive sub-populations naturally-occuring minerals and, the information that they need to in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances Drinking water can come from resulting from the presence of

### En Espanol:

Este informe contiene iformacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo 6 hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

## Where can I get more information?

Information on water quality in your area is available from several sources, including your local public health department and your water supplier. You can determine whom to contact by checking your water bill or by calling your local health department. You can also contact your state drinking water program or call EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. EPA has also prepared a citizen's guide to drinking water called "Water on Tap: A Consumer's Guide to the Nation's Drinking Water."

#### What Does This Information Mean?

As you can see by the table on the next page, our system had no violations. We have learned through our testing that some contaminants have been detected; however, these contaminants were detected below the level allowed by the State.

### Do I Need to Take Special Precautions?

Although our drinking water met or exceeded state and federal regulations, some people may be more vulnerable to disease causing microorganisms or pathogens in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/A1DS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care provider about their drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptospondium, Giardia and other microbial pathogens are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

#### Information for Non-English Speaking Residents

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

#### Why Save Water and How to Avoid Wasting It?

Although our system has an adequate amount of water to meet present and future demands, there are a number of reasons why it is important to conserve water:

 Saving water saves energy and some of the costs associated with both of these necessities of life:

• Saving water reduces the cost of energy required to pump water and the need to construct costly pumping systems and water towers; and You can play a role in con serving water by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using, and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Conservation tips include:

• Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.

Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.

• Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons

a day. Fix it up and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year. • Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank, watch

for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from one of these otherwise invisible toilet leaks. Fix it and save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

 Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances; then check the meter after 15 minutes; if it moved you have a leak.

# terminology



Contaminants that may be present in source water 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, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contami-

nants, including synthetic

and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes 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 prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.