

## The Water We Drink

### CITY OF ALEXANDRIA WATER SYSTEM

Public Water Supply 10: LA 1079001

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for the year 2015. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of your water and services we deliver to you every day (Este informe contiene informació'n muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradu'zcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien). Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Our water source(s) are listed below:

Source Name	Source Water Type
WELL R 875	Ground Water
WELL R 1202	Ground Water
WELL R 912	Ground Water
WELL R 937	Ground Water
079-1543 STERKX WELL	Ground Water
WELL R 1210	Ground Water
WELL R 906	Ground Water
WELL R 928	Ground Water
WELL R 909	Ground Water
WELL R 1432	Ground Water
WELL R 910	Ground Water
WELL R 924	Ground Water
WELL R 1292	Ground Water
WELL R 425	Ground Water
WELL R 927	Ground Water
WELL R 921	Ground Water
WELL R 933	Ground Water
WELL R 918	Ground Water
WELL R 914	Ground Water
WELL R 925	Ground Water
WELL R 837	Ground Water
WELL R 839	Ground Water
WELL R 748	Ground Water
WELL R 929	Ground Water
WELL R 920	Ground Water
WELL R 1475	Ground Water
079-1566 HWY 1 WELL	Ground Water
079-1542 HAROLD MILES PARK WELL	Ground Water
WELL R 1431	Ground Water
WELL R 1406	Ground Water
WELL R 612	Ground Water
WELL R 916	Ground Water
WELL R 932	Ground Water
WELL R 922	Ground Water
WELL R 905	Ground Water
WELL R 1329	Ground Water
WELL R 1430	Ground 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 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 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, 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.

A Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) is now available from our office. This plan is an assessment of a delineated area around our listed sources through which contaminants, if present, could migrate and reach our source water. It also includes an inventory of potential sources of contamination within the delineated area, and a determination of the water supply's susceptibility to contamination by the identified potential sources. According to the Source Water Assessment Plan, our water system had a susceptibility rating of 'MEDIUM'. If you would like to review the Source Water Assessment Plan, please feel free to contact our office.

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. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you have any questions about this report, want to attend any scheduled meetings, or simply want to learn more about your drinking water, please contact JACQUES ROY at 318-449-5000.

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. CITY OF ALEXANDRIA WATER SYSTEM 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>.

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals – Office of Public Health routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables that follow show the results of our monitoring during the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2015. 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.

In the tables 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.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L) – 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 (ug/L) – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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

Treatment Technique (TT) – an enforceable procedure or level of technological performance which public water systems must follow to ensure control of a contaminant.

Action level (AL) – the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Maximum contaminant level (MCL) – the “Maximum Allowed” MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL’s are set as close to the MCLG’s as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG) – the “Goal” is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLG’S allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL) – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminates.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal (MRDLG) – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known expected risk to health . MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminates.

During the period covered by this report we had the below noted violations.

Compliance Period	Analyte	Type
5/1/2015 – 5/31/2015	COLIFORM (TCR)	MCL (TCR), ACUTE
6/1/2015 – 6/5/2015	PUBLIC NOTICE	PUBLIC NOTICE RULE LINKED TO VIOLATION

Our water system tested a minimum of 60 samples per month monthly sample(s) in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. During the monitoring period covered by this report, we had the following noted detections for microbiological contaminants:

Microbiological	Result	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COLIFORM (TCR)	In the month of May, 2 sample(s) returned as positive	MCL: Systems that Collect Less Than 40 Samples per Month – No more than 1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment
E. COLI	In the month of May, 1 sample(s) returned as positive	MCL: A Routine Sample and a Repeat Sample are Total Coliform Positive, and One is also Fecal Positive/E. Coli Positive	0	Human and animal fecal waste

In the tables below, we have shown the regulated contaminants that were detected. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, information provided in this table refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results.

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCL G	Typical Source
ARSENIC	7/8/2013	5	1 – 5	ppb	10	0	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
FLUORIDE	11/23/2015	1.5	0.5 – 1.5	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
HEXACHLOROBENZENE	4/8/2013	0.152	0.057 – 0.152	ppb	1	0	Discharge from metal refineries and agricultural chemical factories.
NITRATE-NITRITE	10/22/2015	0.15	0.026 – 0.15	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
PENTACHLOROPHENOL	4/8/2013	0.129	0.129	ppb	1	0	Discharge from wood preserving factories

Radionuclides	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COMBINED URANIUM	4/22/2013	1	1	µg/l	30	0	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA PARTICAL ACTIVITY	8/28/2013	10	10	pCi/l	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper	Date	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Range	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER	2011 – 2013	0.4	0.1 – 0.7	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD	2011 – 2013	3	1 – 17	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	2125 AIRBASE ROAD	2015	0	0 – 0	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM	2125 AIRBASE ROAD	2015	17	16.64 – 16.64	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	SMCL
ALUMINUM	5/28/2013	0.01	0.01	MG/L	0.05
CHLORIDE	4/22/2013	307.5	10.9 – 307.5	MG/L	250
IRON	4/8/2013	0.36	0.01 – 0.36	MG/L	0.3
PH	5/28/2013	8.69	5.41 – 8.69	PH	8.5
SILVER	4/22/2013	0.02	0.01 – 0.02	MG/L	0.1
SULFATE	5/6/2013	11	1 – 11	MG/L	250

+++++Environmental Protection Agency Required Health Effects Language+++++

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 (800-426-4791).

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

Fecal coliforms and E.coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animals' wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely comprised immune systems.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacterial may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Disinfectants – Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) and Disinfection By-products – Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

Contaminants	Date	Result	Unit	Range	MRDL or MCL	MRDLG or MCLG	Typical Source
CHLROINE	2015	1.52	ppm	0.50 – 2.96	4	4	Water additive used to control Microbes

Under the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is required once every five years to issue a new list of up to 30 unregulated contaminants for which public water systems must monitor. *Unregulated contaminants are compounds that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help US EPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard.* The most recent round of testing, under the Third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3), ended December 2015.

The City of Alexandria participated in UCRM3 by testing 21 different compounds. These included: fifteen (15) organic compounds, and six (6) metals.

**None of the organic compounds were detected.**

**Two (2) metals were undetected.**

**Four (4) metals were detected in parts per billion (ppb) range, above minimum reporting levels (MRL).**

Metal	Minimum Reporting Level (ppb)	City of Alexandria Average (ppb)	City of Alexandria Range (ppb)
CHROMIUM (Cr-total)	0.2	0.3	0.2 – 0.8
HEXAVALENT CHROMIUM (Cr-6)	0.03	0.08	0.03 – 0.34
MOLYBDENUM	1	3	1 - 7
STRONTIUM	0.3	32	8 - 61

**Low levels of these metals are typically found in all public water supplies.** These elevated levels appear to be due to the natural content of the aquifers from which the city draws its water.

Those concerned about long term health effects of elevated levels of these minerals may consult the "What's in My Water" link at **DrinkTap.Org** for additional information on these compounds and on UCRM3. **A detailed report of the results for the City of Alexandria Water System may be obtained by contacting 318-441-6250 or 318-441-6216.**

There are no additional required health effects violation notices.

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Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers.

We at the CITY OF ALEXANDRIA WATER SYSTEM work around the clock to provide top quality drinking water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect and conserve our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. Please call our office if you have any questions.