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3303 Highway 31W  
P.O. Box 608  
White House, TN 37188

PRSRST STD  
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**PAID**  
NASHVILLE, TN  
PERMIT NO. 3903

## Is my drinking water safe?

Yes. The water produced by the White House Utility District meets or exceeds **ALL** of the nation's water quality standards required by the Environmental Protection Agency. We take great strides to ensure your water is safe every time you turn on your faucet or drink from a public water fountain. Daily water quality tests are conducted by the District to ensure the water produced and delivered to your home is safe to drink. These tests are routinely performed, testing for over 80 possible contaminants using the newest technologies available.

As evidenced further in this report, during 2006, 10 contaminants were detected in the water supply. Of the 10 contaminants detected, all met the levels considered safe by the Environmental Protection Agency

## What is the source of my water?

Your water, which is surface water, comes from Old Hickory Lake. Our goal is to protect your water from contaminants, and we work with the State of Tennessee on an on-going basis to examine 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 this water system. The SWAP Report assesses the susceptibility of untreated water sources to potential contamination. The White House Utility District system source is rated as reasonably susceptible to potential contamination. To ensure safe drinking water, all public water systems treat and routinely test their water.

An explanation of Tennessee's Source Water Assessment Program, the Source Water Assessment summaries, susceptibility scorings, and the overall TDEC report to the EPA can be viewed online at [www.state.tn.us/environment/dws/dwassess.shtml](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/dws/dwassess.shtml), or you may contact the District to obtain copies of specific assessments.

It is the goal of the District to eliminate as many of these contaminants **at the source** of intake, prior to it reaching our water plant.

## Why are there contaminants in my water?

As water travels over land, it picks up natural minerals and microbiological contaminants like viruses and bacteria. Substances such as pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, salts, and metals can also get into the water through storm water runoff. Neighboring communities, farms, and industries all contribute to these impurities. Community water systems are required to disclose the detection of contaminants.

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).

## Is our water system meeting other rules that govern our operations?

White House Utility District is required by the State of Tennessee as well as the Environmental Protection Agency to test and report our water quality results on a regular basis to ensure the safety of your drinking water. The District maintains records of all customer complaints as well as a record of the action taken regarding these complaints. This file is available for your review at our District office. In 2006, the district met or exceeded **ALL** water quality requirements of the State of Tennessee as well as of the Environmental Protection Agency.

## Other Information

As part of our treatment process, chlorine is added in minimal amounts to adequately disinfect your drinking water. As a byproduct of the chlorination process, you may detect a noticeable chlorine taste or odor in the water.

If you are sensitive to chlorine, make sure your faucet aerator is in place and working properly. Aeration is a simple way to improve the taste of water. You might also try filling a pitcher with tap water and keeping it in the refrigerator. If you choose to use a home water-filtering device, be sure to regularly replace and maintain the filter elements as recommended by the manufacturer.

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

## How can I ensure my water stays safe once it reaches my home or business?

It is possible for contamination to occur from outside sources after water passes through your meter prior to your consumption. A possible source of this type of contamination is from a **cross-connection** of your private water line with a separate source of contamination. For drinking water safety at your home or business, it is important for you to be aware of the dangers of **cross-connection** of pipes carrying drinking water from possible sources of contamination such as: wells, irrigation systems, fire sprinkler systems, industrial process water trains, boiler/cooling water, mop sinks, etc.

Connections of private wells to the public water system are regarded as a significant health hazard. Most of these types of connections occur near the customer's well pump. Often this type of cross-connection will occur at a location found underneath your home or near the well pump's discharge outlet. If you believe there is a chance this type of cross-connection exists at your home, please contact Mr. Brandon Webster at (615) 672-4110 x457. White House Utility District will inspect your home plumbing at no charge to help determine if a hazard exists.

## What is a Cross-Connection?

When any contaminant source is directly connected to a public drinking water supply, whether permanently or temporarily, it is called a **cross-connection**. When a cross-connection exists, there are two common conditions that can occur to cause contamination. The first is referred to as **backpressure**. When a backpressure condition exists, there is higher pressure at the source of contamination than is supplied by the District's water main. When this occurs, contaminated water is forced into the water main, thus contaminating the drinking water. The second condition, which is more likely to occur, is called **backsiphoning**. This situation may occur when there is a break in the water main or when there is an unusually high demand on the water distribution system. In this circumstance, a vacuum is created that can cause chemicals or other sources of contamination to be pulled into the water main. Backsiphoning can also occur when there is a significant pressure drop resulting in a very low pressure situation.

**Cross-connections** are best eliminated as a source of contamination by physically removing their connection to pipes that carry drinking water. **Backflow preventers** are devices that allow water to flow in only one direction. They are used to isolate **cross-connections** of possible contaminant sources from drinking water in cases where it is not feasible (or impossible) to physically remove the connection.

WHUD has specific policies regarding the severity of hazards posed by cross-connected contaminant sources and the method of safeguarding the public drinking water supply from those contaminants. If you have questions regarding cross-connections or backflow preventers for your home or business, please call (615) 672-4110 x457.

## How can I get involved?

Our Water Board meets quarterly on the last Tuesday of the months of March, June, September, and December at 9:00 a.m. at the WHUD office located at 3303 Highway 31-W in White House.

For more information about your drinking water, please call Jack Amburgey at (615) 672-4110 x250. You can also visit our web site at [www.whud.org](http://www.whud.org) for more information.

# Water Quality Data

## How do I interpret the following chart?

The following chart contains information about contaminants detected in your drinking water. Maximum allowable levels and goals for levels set by the EPA are listed along with the units of concentration. Also, the concentration of each contaminant detected in your drinking water is listed. Data contained in the chart is from sampling performed in the 2006 calendar year.

# White House Utility District

## Water Quality Report

### 2006

#### Important Definitions

- AL - Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- 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, 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 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.
- NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is undetectable to the average person.
- ppb - Parts per billion 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.
- ppm - Parts per million 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.
- TT - Treatment Technique, or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Date of Sample	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloride	NO	9.6	8.3 – 9.6	2006	ppm			
Chlorine	NO	1.85 Avg.	0.9 – 2.8	2006	ppm	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	Added as a disinfectant to control microbes
Copper <sup>1</sup>	NO	0.22		2005	ppm	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride	NO	1.6		2006	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
HAA5	NO	49 Avg.	28 – 71	2006	ppb		60	By-product of disinfection
Lead <sup>1</sup>	NO	1.8		2005	ppb	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	NO	6.8	6.8	2006	ppm			Erosion of natural deposits
TOC <sup>2</sup>	NO	1.66 Avg.	1.3 – 2.0	2006	ppm		TT	Naturally present in the environment
Total Coliform Bacteria	NO	0		2006		0	<5% positive samples	Naturally present in the environment
TTHM (Total trihalomethanes)	NO	52 Avg.	35 – 67	2006	ppb		80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Turbidity <sup>3</sup>	NO	0.25	.03 – .25	2006	NTU		TT	Soil runoff

<sup>1</sup> During the most recent round of lead testing, 0 out of 31 households sampled contained concentrations exceeding the action level of 15 ppb. No copper samples exceeded the action level of 1.3 ppm.

<sup>2</sup> Treatment technique requirements were met for Total Organic Carbon in 2006.

<sup>3</sup> One hundred percent of the Turbidity samples of finished water in 2006 were lower than limits specified by EPA. Treatment technique requirements were met for the Turbidity in 2006. Turbidity is an important process measurement that helps to determine effectiveness of the filtration process, which is very important in the removal of disease-causing organisms.