

Did You Know ??...

Lead Contaminants

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. We are 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 15 to 30 seconds or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature 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>.

Leaking toilets is the number one reason our customers experience higher-than-usual water bills. A tiny leak can waste hundreds, or even thousands, of gallons of water in a month. To test your toilets, place a few drops of blue food coloring in the toilet's tank. After a few minutes, check the bowl. If it is blue, your toilet is leaking.

**SAVE WATER;
SAVE MONEY**

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The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes, 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 can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal activity, including human. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (1) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; (2) 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; (3) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; (4) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals and pharmaceuticals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, sewage treatment plants and septic systems; (5) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. 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. All drinking water, including bottled drinking 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 can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).



*A WATER QUALITY REPORT
FOR THE WATER USERS OF
Three Springs Water System
PWSID # 2165705*

In compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act and as a service to our water users, Rockingham County presents this report, which summarizes our efforts to provide our water users with safe drinking water. This report covers the period from January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009.

The quality of your drinking water meets all state and federal requirements administered by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), Office of Drinking Water.

In order for you to get the most from this report we are providing the following list of terms and definitions:

ppb-parts per billion
mg/L– milligrams per Liter
ND-not detected

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.

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

Our Water Source

The source of your drinking water is groundwater obtained from two drilled wells located in the McGaheysville area.

Treatment

Raw water is disinfected using chlorine, is filtered through a diatomaceous earth filtration system, and is fluoridated.

Source Water Assessment

A Source Water Assessment was performed by the State to determine our water system's susceptibility to contaminants in July 2002. It was determined that our wells have a high susceptibility due to being under the direct influence of surface water. However, there has been no known contamination in the last 6 years.

Microbial Contaminants

Our water system performs monthly bacteriological monitoring to test for the presence of coliform bacteria, fecal coliform and E.coli. We are required to do 7 bacteriological samples per month. Our sampling detected no coliform or fecal coliform positive results in the past twelve months.

Lead and Copper Monitoring

Date Last Sampled for Lead:	September 2008
90 th Percentile for Lead:	11.0 ppb
Violation:	No
Likely Source:	Household Plumbing
Number of Sites Exceeding Lead Action Level:	0 out of 20

The action level for lead is 15 ppb.

Date Last Sampled for Copper:	September 2008
90 th Percentile for Copper:	0.241 mg/L
Violation:	No
Likely Source:	Household Plumbing
Number of Sites Exceeding Lead Action Level:	0 out of 20

The action level for copper is 1.3 mg/L.

Chemical Monitoring

Note to our water users: The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of our data, such as for radionuclides, though representative, is more than one year old.

VOCs (Volatile Organic Chemicals)

Date Last Sampled November 2009
Required Sampling Frequency: Once every year.
Our sampling detected the presence of no VOCs.

IOCs (Inorganic Constituents)

Date Last Sampled: November 2009
Required Sampling Frequency: Once every year.
Our sampling detected the presence of no IOCs

Metals

Date Last Sampled: November 2009
Required Sampling Frequency: Once every three years.
Our sampling detected the presence of no metals

Radionuclides

Last Date Sampled: November 2009
Result: Gross Beta: 2.6 pCi/L which is not a violation

Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)

Last Date Sampled: August 2009
1.8ppb No violation
Likely source- By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)
Last Date Sampled: August 2009
8.9ppb No violation
Likely source- By-product of drinking water chlorination

Combined Radium

Last Date Sampled: November 2009
Result: 0.6 pCi/L which is not a violation

Other Results

Fluoride (range) Likely source- Water additive, Erosion of natural deposits	0.00-1.11 mg/L
Nitrates Likely source- Fertilizer runoff, Leaching from septic tanks, seawater, erosion of natural deposits	2.58 mg/L
Hardness (total)	184 mg/L
Turbidity (range) Likely source- Soil Runoff	0.021-0.171 NTU

Water from surface sources is treated to make it drinkable while groundwater may or may not have any treatment. 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

General Information

The Board of Supervisors normally meet every month on the second Wednesday at 3:00 pm and the fourth Wednesday at 6:00 pm. in the Board of Supervisors' Meeting Room located in the Rockingham County Administration Center, 20 E Gay St, Harrisonburg, VA.

If you have questions or comments about this report or want more information, please feel free to contact:

**Warren G. Heidt,
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540-564-3020**

or

**VDH Office of Drinking Water
Lexington Regional Office
540-463-7136**