



Henderson Water Utility South Plant Drinking Water Quality Report for 2001 Reporting data collected in 2000



We are Proud to report that the water provided by Henderson South Water Utility meets or exceeds all established water quality standards.

The following information explains how drinking water provided by Henderson Water Utility is of the highest quality available. Included is a listing of results from water quality tests, as well as, an explanation of where our water comes from. We're proud to share our results with you. Please read them carefully.

From the General Manager

Welcome to the third annual report on the quality of your drinking water. We hope you find this report to be interesting and informative. In Henderson, we are lucky to be on an abundant source of water, the Ohio River. While the quantity of water is abundant, our challenge is taking the quality of water in the river and converting it to a quality suitable for drinking. We continually strive to produce the best quality of water that we can from our river raw material. Our operators continually undergo training to keep abreast of the latest methods of treatment. New federal regulations on the quality of drinking water are being phased in over the next 10 years. Meeting these regulations treating Ohio River water is becoming increasingly more difficult, and expensive. That is the reason why we have been investigating the use of riverbank infiltration wells. Using the natural sands and gravels of the riverbank is an inexpensive way to take out the majority of the fine sediments that contribute to water quality problems. Raw water taken from these infiltration wells falls under a different set of treatment requirements and can be produced to a high water quality at a lower cost per gallon. We will keep you, our customers, informed as we make progress in this area. Providing the residences, businesses, and industries of Henderson and Henderson County with an adequate supply of potable water is a capital-intensive effort. We are in the process is still one of the of make, implementing adjustments to our rates and fees to make sure the capital is available to make the investments necessary to keep a clean, safe, and dependable supply of water flowing to our users. Even with the rate adjustments we plan to the water we produce and distribute to our customers in Henderson, Webster, and McLean Counties best values in today's marketplace. Our water is supplied directly to your tap at a fraction of the cost and a quality generally better than bottled water. We are proud to have served you, our customers, for another year. Thank you for giving us that opportunity.

John Tapp

Possible Health Risk

Some People may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as people 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Customers' Right to Know Information

For information about contaminants and potential health effects, you may contact the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. Also, Henderson Water Utility wants to keep our customers informed. If you have any questions concerning this report, or about the Henderson Water Utility (HWU), please contact Ms. Lucy Fry, Water Quality Technician at (270) 826-2421. Or, you may attend one of our meetings on the fourth Thursday of every month at 5:00 PM, 111 Fifth Street in Henderson.

Type and Location of Your Water Source

The source of your drinking water is the Green River, located at approximately river mile marker 41.3 or 9000 Hwy 2096 in Robards, Kentucky. A source water assessment with a summary of the system's susceptibility to potential sources of contamination is not due to be completed until May 2003. However, a preliminary source water assessment is available for inspection at the ADD office in Owensboro, Kentucky.

Water Sources

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 human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include microbial contaminants, inorganic contaminants, pesticides and herbicides, organic chemical contaminants, and radioactive contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

Definitions & Abbreviations

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set very close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

N/A - not applicable.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) – measurement of the clarity of water. Turbidity more than 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Parts per Billion (ppb) - one part per billion corresponds with one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per Million (ppm) – one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Treatment Technique (TT) - required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Unregulated Contaminants - require monitoring, but no MCL has been set at this time.

One in a Million

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water everyday at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-million chance of having the described health effect.

Water Board Commissioners

Jeanne Marie Gadiet
Dr. John Dunaway
Dr. William Marshall
L. Chip Williams
Rodger Bird

THE FINAL ANALYSIS FOR CALENDER YEAR 2000

	Allowable Levels			Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly %	Violation Y/N	Likely Source
Turbidity (NTU)	Less than 0.5 NTU 95% of samples each month			0.885	98%	N	Soil runoff
Contaminant [code] (units)	MCL	MCLG	Highest Detection	Range	Date of Sample	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium [1010] (ppm)	2	2	0.05	0.05-0.05	7-20-00	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride [1025] (ppm)	4	4	1.24	0.77-1.24	7-20-00	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) [1040] (ppm)	10	10	2.48	1.46-2.48	7-20-00	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides							
2,4-D [2105] (ppb)	70	70	0.70	N/D-0.07	5-23-00	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Atrazine [2050] (ppb)	3	3	0.40	0.20-0.40	5-23-00	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Ethylene dibromide [2946] (ppt)	50	0	0.03	N/D-0.03	8-7-00	N	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Simazine [2037] (ppb)	4	4	0.46	0.10-0.46	5-23-00	N	Herbicide runoff
Unregulated Contaminants Test Results							
Contaminant [code]	Unit	Average	Range				
Bromodichloromethane [2943]	ppb	10.9	5.50-14				
Chloroform [2941]	ppb	60.3	36-80				
Dibromochloromethane (Chlorodibromo) [2944]	ppb	0.68	0.40-2.7				
Metolachlor [2045]	ppb	0.1	N/D-0.3				
<p>Fluoride Fluoride has been added to the drinking water for dental health purposes. The water system monitors the fluoride levels on a daily basis and sends out samples twice a month to an independent state certified lab for analysis.</p>							
<p>Nitrates: As a precaution we always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply. Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.</p>							