



Proudly Presented By:
OLDHAM COUNTY
WATER DISTRICT

ANNUAL
WATER
QUALITY
REPORT

Water testing performed in 2006



PWS ID#: KY0930333

Where Does My Water Come From?

Oldham County Water District customers are fortunate because we enjoy an abundant water supply from a groundwater source. The Oldham County Water Treatment Plant draws water from the Ohio River alluvium, which holds several billion gallons of water. The Oldham County Water Treatment Plant was constructed in 1983 to draw from this underground water supply. This groundwater supply is constantly being replenished with water from the Ohio River along with natural trans-evaporation. The treatment facility provides roughly 1.5 billion gallons of clean drinking water every year.

Water Conservation Tips

Water conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our water supply. Such measures not only save the supply of our source water, but can also save you money by reducing your water bill. Here are a few suggestions:

Conservation measures you can use inside your home include:

- Fix leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
- Replace old fixtures; install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances.
- Wash only full loads of laundry.
- Do not use the toilet for trash disposal.
- Take shorter showers.

You can conserve outdoors as well:

- Water the lawn and garden in the early morning or evening.
- Use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- Repair leaks in faucets and hoses.

Information on other ways that you can help conserve water can be found at www.epa.gov/safewater/publicoutreach/index.html.

Continuing Our Commitment

Once again we proudly present our annual water quality report. This edition covers all testing completed from January 1 through December 31, 2006. We are pleased to tell you that our compliance with all state and federal drinking water laws remains exemplary. As in the past, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users.

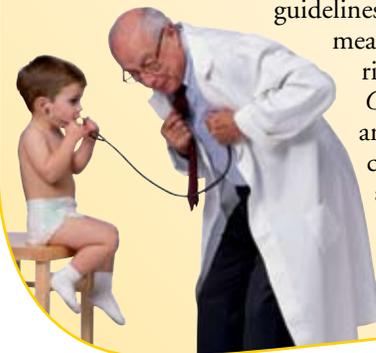
For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please contact Phillip Ward, Superintendent, at (502) 222-1690 or visit our Web site at www.oldhamcountywater.com.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the first Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. at the Buckner Office, 3707 West Highway 146, LaGrange, Kentucky.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention)



guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Substances That Might Be in Drinking Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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, in some cases, radioactive material; and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances 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, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may 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 which may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 may be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Information on the Internet

The U.S. EPA Office of Water (www.epa.gov/watrhome) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) Web sites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation and public health. Also, the Kentucky Division of Water, Drinking Water Branch, has a Web site (www.water.ky.gov/dw) that provides complete and current information on water issues in Kentucky, including valuable information about our watershed.

Is it Safe to Drink Water From a Garden Hose?

Substances used in vinyl garden hoses to keep them flexible can get into the water as it passes through the hose. These chemicals are not good for you nor are they good for your pets. Allow the water to run for a short time in order to flush the hose before drinking or filling your pet's drinking containers. There are hoses made with "food-grade" plastic that will not contaminate the water. Check your local hardware store for this type of hose.



New Arsenic Regulation

Arsenic contamination of drinking water sources may result from either natural or human activities. Volcanic activity, erosion of rocks and minerals, and forest fires are natural sources that can release arsenic into the environment. Although about 90 percent of the arsenic used by industry is for wood preservative purposes, it is also used in paints, drugs, dyes, soaps, metals, and semiconductors. Agricultural applications, mining, and smelting also contribute to arsenic releases. Arsenic is usually found in the environment combined with other elements such as oxygen, chlorine, and sulfur (inorganic arsenic); or combined with carbon and hydrogen (organic arsenic). Organic forms are usually less harmful than inorganic forms.

Low levels of arsenic are naturally present in water – about 2 parts arsenic per billion parts of water (ppb). Thus, you normally take in small amounts of arsenic in the water you drink. Some areas of the country have unusually high natural levels of arsenic in rock, which can lead to unusually high levels of arsenic in water.

In January 2001, the U.S. EPA lowered the arsenic Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) from 50 to 10 ppb in response to new and compelling research linking high arsenic levels in drinking water with certain forms of cancer. All water utilities were required to implement this new MCL in January 2006.

Removing arsenic from drinking water is a costly procedure but well worth the expenditure considering the health benefits. For a more complete discussion visit the U.S. EPA's arsenic Web site at www.epa.gov/safewater/arsenic.html.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Oldham Co. Water District Monitoring Requirements Not Met

Our water system violated one or more drinking water standards over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During July 2006 we did not complete all monitoring or testing for coliforms and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for this contaminant and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were taken.

CONTAMINANT	REQUIRED SAMPLING FREQUENCY	NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN	WHEN ALL SAMPLES SHOULD HAVE BEEN TAKEN	WHEN SAMPLES WERE OR WILL BE TAKEN
Coliforms	Monthly	25	July 6, 2006	August 6, 2006

What happened? Who is at risk? What is being done?

Oldham Co. Water District failed to submit any bacteriological repeat samples following a positive result for total coliform bacteria in a routine sample in the compliance period of 7/1/2006-7/31/2006. Oldham Co. Water District is required to collect three repeat samples for each coliform positive sample. Three samples were received by the DWB. There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply. A sample was taken at the violation location August 6, 2006, and tested negative for coliforms.

For more information contact:

Phillip Ward

Phone: 502-222-1690

Mailing Address: PO Box 51, Buckner, KY 40010-0051

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by Oldham Co. Water District

Public Water System ID # KY0930333

Date 3/15/2007



What Causes the Pink Stain on Bathroom Fixtures?

The reddish-pink color frequently noted in bathrooms on shower stalls, tubs, tile, toilets, sinks, toothbrush holders and on pets' water bowls is caused by the growth of the bacterium *Serratia marcescens*. *Serratia* is

commonly isolated from soil, water, plants, insects, and vertebrates (including man). The bacteria can be introduced into the house through any of the above-mentioned sources. The bathroom provides a perfect environment (moist and warm) for bacteria to thrive.

The best solution to this problem is to continually clean and dry the involved surfaces to keep them free from bacteria. Chlorine-based compounds work best, but keep in mind that abrasive cleaners may scratch fixtures, making them more susceptible to bacterial growth. Chlorine bleach can be used periodically to disinfect the toilet and to help eliminate the occurrence of the pink residue. Keeping bathtubs and sinks wiped down using a solution that contains chlorine will also help minimize its occurrence.

Serratia will not survive in chlorinated drinking water.

How Long Can I Store Drinking Water?

The disinfectant in drinking water will eventually dissipate even in a closed container. If that container housed bacteria prior to filling up with the tap water the bacteria may continue to grow once the disinfectant has dissipated. Some experts believe that water could be stored up to six months before needing to be replaced. Refrigeration will help slow the bacterial growth.

Sampling Results

During the past year we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. Although all of the substances listed here are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chlorine (ppm)	2006	[4]	[4]	0.8	0.30–1.30	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Fluoride (ppm)	2006	4	4	1.30	0.83–1.35	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive to promote strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAA] (ppb)	2006	60	NA	8.5	4.2-8.5	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2006	10	10	1.07	0.87–1.39	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2006	80	NA	19.7	4.7-19.7	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Coliform Bacteria (# positive samples)	2006	1 positive monthly sample	0	1	NA	Yes	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU) ¹	2006	TT	NA	0.37	0.10–0.37	No	Soil runoff

Tap water samples were collected from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	ACTION LEVEL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90 th %tile)	SITES ABOVE ACTION LEVEL	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2006	1.3	1.3	0.333	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

¹ Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of disinfectants.

Table Definitions

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system shall follow.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

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 control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a 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.

NA: Not applicable

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of

water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

TON (Threshold Odor Number): A measure of odor in water.

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