



Paducah Water

# 2018

## *Water Quality Report*

### OVERVIEW

This Water Quality Report (also known as a Consumer Confidence Report) presents information about the steps we take to ensure we provide the highest quality product and service our customers expect. The data shown in this report are the results of testing conducted from January through December 2017.

Just like many employers in our community, Paducah Water is experiencing retirement of employees in the baby boomer generation while embracing the changes associated with having a younger workforce. More than half of our employees have ten years or less experience, with over 30% having less than five years. PW is approaching this employment shift with

aggressive training and mentoring. Seasoned employees are sharing a wealth of knowledge with the younger generation in order to provide a seamless transition in the service our company provides. Investing time and money on training is very important, because many of the individuals in this younger group of employees will be serving our community for the next two or three decades.

Paducah Water will continue to hire and train the very best employees we can find so that we can provide clean, safe drinking water for our community. That's why Paducah Water is still the Clear, Clean Choice.

—Bill Robertson, GENERAL MANAGER

### PADUCAH WATER CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions about the quality of our drinking water or about this report, call PW's Water Quality Department at 270.444.5572. The members of the Commissioners of Waterworks meet at 5 p.m. on the last Wednesday of each month at the Paducah Water office, 1800 North 8th Street. Board meetings are open to the public.

Customer Service  
Department

270.442.2746

Water Quality  
Department

270.444.5572

Paducah Water  
PWSID-KY0730533  
[pwwky.com](http://pwwky.com)



# PADUCAH WATER PWSID KY0730533 TEST RESULTS FROM 2017

<b>Turbidity (NTU) TT</b> * Representative samples of filtered water	<b>Allowable Levels</b> No more than 1 NTU* (Less than 0.3 NTU in 95% of monthly samples)	<b>Highest Single Measurement</b> 0.19	<b>Lowest Monthly %</b> 100	<b>Violation</b> No	<b>Likely Source of Turbidity</b> Soil runoff
-------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------	--------------------------------	------------------------	--------------------------------------------------

*\*Treatment Technique (TT) for Turbidity is a representative sample of filtered water. No more than 1 NTU and less than 0.30 NTU in at least 95% of the samples is required to meet TT.*

## REGULATED CONTAMINANT TEST RESULTS

Contaminant [code] (units)	MCL	MCLG	Report Level	Range of Detection		Date of Sample	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
----------------------------	-----	------	--------------	--------------------	--	----------------	-----------	--------------------------------

### RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS

Combined radium (pCi/L)	5	0	2.3	2.3	to	2.3	Apr-14	No	Erosion of natural deposits
-------------------------	---	---	-----	-----	----	-----	--------	----	-----------------------------

### INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Arsenic [1005] (ppb)	10	N/A	0.3	0.3	to	0.3	Jan-17	No	Natural erosion; runoff from orchards or glass and electronics production wastes
Barium [1010] (ppm)	2	2	0.021	0.021	to	0.021	Jan-17	No	Drilling wastes; metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium [1020] (ppb)	100	100	0.7	0.7	to	0.7	Jan-17	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Copper [1022] (ppm) sites exceeding action level 0	AL = 1.3	1.3	0.112 (90th percentile)	0.0087	to	0.215	Sep-15	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Fluoride [1025] (ppm)	4	4	0.40	0.4	to	0.4	Jan-17	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Lead [1030] (ppb) sites exceeding action level 0	AL = 15	0	0 (90th percentile)	0	to	9	Sep-15	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Nitrate [1040] (ppm)	10	10	0.3	0.3	to	0.3	Jan-17	No	Fertilizer runoff; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

### DISINFECTANTS/DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS AND PRECURSORS

Total Organic Carbon (ppm) (measured as ppm, but reported as a ratio)	TT*	N/A	1.31 (lowest average)	1.20	to	1.48	2017	No	Naturally present in environment
--------------------------------------------------------------------------	-----	-----	--------------------------	------	----	------	------	----	----------------------------------

*\*Treatment Technique (TT) for TOCs is based on the lowest running annual average of the monthly ration of the %TOC removal achieved to the % TOC removal achieved to the % TOC removal required. A minimum ratio of 1.00 is required to meet the TT.*

Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	0.98 (highest average)	0.2	to	2.03	2017	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite (ppm)	1	0.8	0.65 (average)	0.31	to	0.67	2014	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine dioxide (ppb)	MRDL = 800	MRDLG = 800	171	0	to	171	2014	No	Water additive used to control microbes
HAA (ppb) (Stage 2) [Haloacetic acids]	60	N/A	31 (high site average)	12	to	38	2017	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (ppb) (Stage 2) [total trihalomethanes]	80	N/A	58 (high site average)	20.2	to	77.7	2017	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

### OTHER CONTAMINANTS

Cryptosporidium [oocysts/L]	0	TT (99% removal)	0 (positive samples)	24 (no. of samples)		Oct-15 to Sep-17	No	Human and animal fecal waste
-----------------------------	---	---------------------	-------------------------	------------------------	--	------------------	----	------------------------------

### UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT TEST RESULTS

Sodium (ppm)	EPA guidance level = 20 ppm	15.7	15.7	to	15.7	Jan-17	No	
--------------	-----------------------------	------	------	----	------	--------	----	--

*Beginning in October 2015, Paducah Water began monitoring the Ohio River monthly for Cryptosporidium, a tiny intestinal parasite often found in the surface waters. All 24 samples taken resulted in no detection for Cryptosporidium.*



*The data presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with administrative regulations in 401 KAR Chapter 8. As authorized and approved by EPA, the State has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data in this table, though representative, may be more than one year old. Unless otherwise noted, the report level is the highest level detected.*

## WATER SOURCES

The sources of the water supply for Paducah Water customers are the Ohio and Tennessee Rivers. These are considered to be surface water sources. A final source water assessment for this system has been completed and is contained in the Source Water Assessment and Protection Plan Susceptibility Analysis and Protection Recommendations for McCracken County. The completed plan is available for inspection and can be obtained at the Purchase Area Development District office at 270.247.7171. A summary of the susceptibility analysis is as follows. An analysis of the susceptibility of PW's water supply to contamination indicates that this susceptibility is generally high. There are numerous petroleum storage facilities along the Ohio and Tennessee Rivers that provide fuel to land and river transportation. Numerous bridges cross the Ohio and Tennessee Rivers, as well as major tributaries such as the Clarks River and Island Creek. These bridges are of greater concern due to the possibility of hazardous materials infiltrating the water source near the intake due to traffic accidents, structural collapse of the bridge, or illegal dumping. River traffic is a concern that has become more prevalent in the past few years due in part to increased news coverage of accidents and collisions. Other potential areas of concern are Island Creek and local farming practices.

## DEFINITIONS & ABBREVIATIONS

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** 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.

**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 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 contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** 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.

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

**Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

### > GREATER THAN < LESS THAN

**Not Applicable (N/A):** Does not apply.

**Nephelometric Turbidity (NTU):** A measure of water clarity.

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/l):** A measure of radioactivity in water.

**Parts per billion (ppb):** Micrograms per liter.

**Parts per million (ppm):** Milligrams per liter.

**LRAA:** Locational running annual average. The annual average of one monitoring location.

**Below Detection Level (BDL):** Laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.



Paducah Water  
P.O. Box 2377  
Paducah, KY 42002-2377

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
Paducah, KY  
Permit #138

## SOURCE WATER CONTAMINANTS

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 may pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- (B) 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.
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agricultural, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- (D) 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.
- (E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## SPECIAL HEALTH INFORMATION

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. Paducah Water 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 two 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 by going to [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

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 (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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).

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

