Harrison County Water

PWS ID#: KY0490179



2012 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

How can I learn more about my drinking water?

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Danny Northcutt by calling (859) 234-4284. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. You can attend regular board meetings on the third Wednesday of each month, at the water office, on US 27 South. The meetings begin at 7:30 pm.

Harrison County Water
PO Box 215
Cynthiana, KY 41031

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Source Water Assessment

As required by the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act amendments, a source water assessment plan (SWAP) for each of our purchased water sources has been completed. These reports include a delineation of areas providing water to each of their water sources, an inventory of the regulated and unregulated drinking water contaminants within the delineated area, and a determination of the systems' relative susceptibility to contamination. These reports gave a susceptibility rating for the following contaminants: Volatile Organic Compounds, Nutrients, Radio-nuclides, Radon, Pathogens, Pesticides, Disinfection Byproduct Precursors, Inorganic Compounds and Synthetic Organic Compounds. The final source water assessments revealed that KAW's Kentucky River source is most vulnerable to contamination from agricultural runoff which can typically include pesticides, nutrients and silt from croplands and potential pathogens from pasture lands. The Jacobson Reservoir source is most vulnerable to urban stormwater runoff which may include heavy metals from paved areas, nutrients, pesticides and organic (yard waste) from lawn care. An analysis of the susceptibility to contamination of Cynthiana, the City of Paris, Millersburg Water and the City of Carlisle water supplies indicate that their susceptibility is generally moderate. An analysis of the susceptibility of the Western Fleming Water District's raw water supply to contamination indicates that the susceptibility potential is generally high. **If a system is rated highly susceptible for a contaminant category, it does not mean a customer is or will be consuming contaminated drinking water. The rating reflects the potential for contamination of source water, not the existence of contamination.** KAW's completed Source Water Assessment and Protection Plans are available by contacting Kentucky American at 800-678-6301. For questions about Cynthiana's SWAP please call (606) 234-7159 or write to PO Box 67, Cynthiana, KY 41031. The completed SWAPs for WFWD and Buffalo Trail can be reviewed at the Buffalo Trace Area Development District. The City of Carlisle's SWAP is contained in the Bath County Water Supply Plan. The City of Paris water system's SWAP is available for inspection by calling Kevin Crumpt at (859) 987-2118.

KAW and the City of Paris use chloramines during the treatment process of your water. Chloramines are a state and federally approved alternative to free chlorine, which allows maintaining good distribution disinfection while minimizing disinfection by-product formation. Chloramines are the same as chlorine for all typical water uses with the exception that chloramines must be removed from the water used in kidney dialysis and fish keeping. Treatments for removing chloramines are different from treatment used to remove chlorine. Please contact your physician or dialysis specialist for questions pertaining to kidney dialysis water. Contact your pet store for information concerning fish as well as other aquatic life upkeep. You may also contact KAW for more information on chloramines.

KAW water services the northern part of Bourbon County. Cynthiana, Nicholas County and Millersburg water is blended before it is distributed; this blended water services all of Harrison County, parts of Nicholas County and parts of Scott County. Water purchased from the City of Paris is distributed to approximately 40 homes located on Peacock Road and Colter Road.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wants you to know:

In order to assure tap water is safe to drink, EPA has 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

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 from human activity.

Violations:

Some of the systems we purchase water from violated one or more drinking water standards during 2012. Even though these were not emergencies, we want you, our customer, to be aware of these violations and what was done to correct the situations.

Cynthiana Water Works

Our water system violated a drinking water standard over the past year. Even though this was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation.

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 the compliance period of July-September, 2012 we did not complete all monitoring or testing for contaminants and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

There is nothing you need to do at this time. The table below lists the contaminant 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 (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required Sampling Frequency	Number of Samples Taken	3rd Quarter	Each Quarter
Nitrate	Quarterly	3	Samples Should Have Been Taken	When Samples Were or Will Be Taken

Cynthiana Water Works failed to sample for nitrate during the 3rd quarter of 2012. We have communicated with our lab to determine and implement countermeasures so that this oversite will not happen in the future.

Nicholas County Water District – Western Fleming Water District

Western Fleming Water District violated the MCL for Turbidity by exceeding 1.0 NTU in a combined filter effluent sample collected in the compliance period 12/1/2012-12/31/2012. The highest single measurement was 4.28 as can be seen in the Turbidity table found in this report. The water treatment plant had a chemical feed malfunction that caused the violation. The chemical feed pump has been repaired, and this problem has not occurred again. 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.

Millersburg Municipal Water Works

The Millersburg Water Department had levels of Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) above drinking water standards. Our water system violated a drinking water standard.

We routinely monitor for the presence of drinking water contaminants. Testing results received from 01/01/11-03/31/11 show that our system exceeded the standard or Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for disinfectant byproduct TTHM. The standard for TTHMs is 80 ppb, and our average level during this time period was 83 ppb.

City of Paris Combined Utilities

The City of Paris Combined Utilities exceeded drinking water standards in 2012. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do and what we are doing to correct the situation.

Levels of Haloacetic Acids (HAA) were above drinking water standards. Testing results showed that our system exceeded the standard, or Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), from 01/01/2012-03/31/2012. The standard for HAAs is 60 parts per billion. The running annual average for 01/01/2012-03/31/2012 was 65 ppb. You do not need to use an alternative water supply. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor. This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. However, some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. What happened? What is being done? We know that Total Organic Carbon (TOC) levels in Stoner Creek, our water source, were elevated. The amount of TOC (which has no health effects) in the source water is directly related to the amount of disinfection byproducts (which includes HAAs) that are formed in the water by the chlorination process. Chlorination is necessary to disinfect the water from harmful bacteria and other microbes. We continually enhance our treatment processes to try to remedy this situation.

The City of Paris Combined Utilities had a level of trichloroethylene above drinking water standards. Testing results for 03/07/12 show that our system exceeds the standard, or MCL, for trichloroethylene. Results indicated 428 ppb. The MCL for trichloroethylene is 5 ppb. Test results taken since then indicate levels below the MCL. This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Some people who drink water containing trichloroethylene in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Trichloroethylene can be found in discharges from metal degreasing sites and other factories. It is not known why the trichloroethylene level was above the MCL as there are no known discharges above the intake of the water treatment plant. Test results since exceeding the MCL have been and continue to be below the detection limits for trichloroethylene. We are now on a quarterly monitoring schedule to ensure that the trichloroethylene level says below the MCL.

We also received monitoring violations for Total Organic Carbon (TOC) for the compliance periods of 03/01/12-03/31/12 and 07/01/12-07/31/12. The contract laboratory that performs the analyses for TOCs exceeded the holding time for the samples during these compliance periods, thus making them invalid. The laboratory's standard operating procedures have been reviewed and corrected by the Kentucky Division of Water. We can't be sure of the quality of your drinking water regarding the above-mentioned contaminants during these periods. Parts did not receive an MCL violation for TOCs during 2012. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether your drinking water meets health standards.

Please share the information about these violations with all 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. For more information on these violations, please contact Harrison County Water at (859) 234-4284.

Harrison County Water

What's the quality of my water?

The Harrison County Water Authority is pleased to share this water quality report with you. It describes to you, the customer, the quality of your drinking water. This report covers January 1 through December 31, 2012. Harrison County Water Authority strives to comply with the strict regulations of both the state of Kentucky and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which requires all water suppliers to prepare reports like this every year.

Where Does Our Drinking Water Come From?

Our water source is purchased pretreated water from the City of Cynthiana, Kentucky American Water (KAW), the City of Paris Combined Utilities, Nicholas County Water District and Millersburg Municipal Water Works. Cynthiana relies on surface water from the South Fork of the Licking River, which begins in Bourbon County. The South Fork of Licking River is made up of Hinkson and Stoner Creeks at Ruddles Mills. KAW utilizes surface water. They rely on three purification plants, which are located within Fayette County and obtain the majority of source water from the Kentucky River and Jacobson Reservoir. Lake Ellerslie may supplement their water supply as needed. The City of Paris utilizes surface water from Stoner Creek. Nicholas County utilizes purchased pretreated water from Western Fleming Water District (WFWD) which purchases from Greater Fleming Regional Water Commission (GFRWC). Their sources of water are surface water from the Licking River and Ohio River, respectively. Nicholas Water District also purchases water from the City of Carlisle. The City of Carlisle's water source is surface water from the Licking River to Carlisle Lake. All of our water suppliers treat your water using disinfection and filtration to remove or reduce harmful contaminants that may come from the source water.

Lead and Drinking Water

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. Harrison County Water Authority 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 2 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 at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Public Water System ID Numbers

Harrison County	KY0490179
Cynthiana	KY0490096
Kentucky American	KY0340250
Western Fleming	KY0910675
Nicholas County	KY0910314
Millersburg	KY0090287
City of Paris	KY0090343
City of Carlisle	KY0910065
GFRWC	KY0351008