

Is my drinking water safe?

Yes, our water meets all of EPA's health standards. In the last few years, tests, some annually, have been conducted for over 80 contaminants that may be in drinking water. As you'll see in the chart, we detected 9 contaminants, and found all those contaminants at safe levels.

What is the source of my water?

Your water comes from the McClellan Springs and from the Sabin Spring. Each is ground water under direct influence of surface water. We also purchased some water from the City of Lafayette. Their water comes from Spring Creek Spring, Adams Spring which are groundwater sources under the direct influence of surface water, and the Barren River (surface water). The Tennessee Dept. of Environment has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program Report for the untreated water sources. The Report assesses the susceptibility of untreated water sources to **potential** contamination. To ensure safe drinking water, all public water systems treat and routinely test their water. Water sources have been rated as reasonably susceptible, moderately susceptible, or slightly susceptible based on geological factors and human activities in the vicinity of the water source. Our rating is reasonably susceptible. An explanation of the Tennessee Source Water Assessment Program, the Source Water Assessment summaries, susceptibility scorings and the overall TDEC report to EPA can be viewed at <https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/wr-water-resources/water-quality/source-water-assessment.html>

or you may contact the water system to obtain copies of specific assessments.

Why are there contaminants in my water?

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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

For more information about your drinking water, please call us at 615 699 2011.

How can I get involved?

For more information about your drinking water, please call us at 615-699 2011. Our City council meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at City Hall. Please feel free to attend these meetings.

Este informe contiene información muy importante. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Other Information

Our water system has a Wellhead protection Program that is approved by the Tennessee Division of Water Supply. We are working with other agencies and local watershed groups to educate the community on ways to keep the water safe. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- 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.
- 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 can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain

contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Red Boiling Spring's **water treatment processes are designed to reduce any such substances to levels well below any health concern.** FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Is our water system meeting other rules that govern our operations? In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the State and EPA requires us to test for contaminants and report on our water on a regular basis. FDA regulations establish limits on contaminants in bottled water. We have always met all of these requirements. We want you to know that we will pay attention to all the rules.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS? 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 under-gone 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 their personal sanitation, food preparation, handling infants and pets, and 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).

Water System Security

Following the events of September 2001, we realize that our customers are concerned about the security of their drinking water. We urge the public to report any suspicious activities at any utility facilities, including treatment plants, tanks, fire hydrants, etc. to 615-896-9022.

Think before you flush!

Flushing unused or expired medicines can be harmful to your drinking water. Properly disposing of unused or expired medication helps protect you and the environment. Keep medications out of Tennessee's waterways by disposing in one of our permanent pharmaceutical take back bins. There are nearly 100 take back bins located across the state, to find a convenient location please visit: <https://dconline.tn.gov/rxtakeback/>

Lead in Drinking Water

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The Red Boiling Springs water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact The Red Boiling Springs water system a 615-699-2011. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Lead Service Line Inventory

A Lead Service Line Inventory has been completed for our system and is accessible by contacting our office during regular business hours.



Water Quality Data

What does this chart mean?

- **MCLG** - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal, or 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.
- **MCL** - Maximum Contaminant Level, or 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. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.
- **MRDL**: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the 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.
- **AL** - Action Level, or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** – explained in relation to time one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years. **Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter** - explained in relation to time as one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years.
- **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.
- **TT** - Treatment Technique, or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **RTCR** – Revised Total Coliform Rule. This rule went into effect on April 1, 2016 and replaces the MCL for total coliform with a Treatment Technique Trigger for a system assessment.
- **EP-A** – Entry point into the Distribution System. Identifier for McClelland Springs Water Treatment Plant.
- **EP-C** – Entry point into the Distribution System. Identifier for Sabins Springs Water Treatment Plant.
- **LRAA**- Locational Running Annual Average
- N/A- Not applicable.

| Contaminant | MCLG in CCR units | MCL in CCR Units | Level found | Range of detections | Violation Y / N | Date of sample | Typical source of Contaminant |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|-----------------|----------------|---|
| Total Coliform Bacteria (RTCR) | | TT Trigger | 0 | | No | 2025 | Naturally present in the environment |
| Turbidity ¹ | N/A | TT | .28 EP-A .02 EP-C | .02 – .28 NTU | No | 2025 | Soil run-off |
| Copper * | 1.3 | AL = 1.3 ppm | 90 th % = 0.1420 | 0.0156-0. 2810 | No | 2024 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives |
| Lead * | 0 | AL=15 ppb | 90 th % = <2.0 | <2.0-2.2 | No | 2024 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Nitrate | 10 ppm | 10 ppm | 1.71 EP-A 0.863 EP-C | | No | 11/25 | Water additive for strong teeth, erosion of natural deposits |
| Nitrate (Lafayette) | 10 ppm | 10 ppm | 1.74 ppm | | No | 10/25 | Water additive for strong teeth, erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium | N/A | N/A | 5.84 EP-A 3.79 EP-C | | No | 2025 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Sodium (Lafayette) | N/A | N/A | 2.10 | | No | 03/25 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| TTHMs Total | 0 | 80 ppb | 29.58 ppb LRAA | 14.30 – 31.50 | No | 2025 | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
| HAA Haloacetic Acids | 0 | 60 ppb | 20.53 ppb LRAA | 8.66 – 25.80 | No | 2025 | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
| Chlorine | MRDLG = | MRDL = 4 | 2.04 avg | 1.8 -2.4 | No | 2025 | Drinking water disinfectant |
| Chlorine (Lafayette) | MRDLG = | MRDL = 4 | 2.1 avg | 1.0 -2.8 | No | 2025 | Drinking water disinfectant |
| Total Organic Carbon ** | TT | TT | | | No | 2025 | Naturally present in the environment |

¹100% or more of our samples were below the turbidity limit. Turbidity is a measure of cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

*0 out of 20 sites sampled had a level exceeding the lead or copper action level.

** The Treatment Technique requirements for Total Organic Carbon were met in 2025 Unregulated Contaminants:

No unregulated contaminants were above the MRL.

MRL – Minimum Reporting Level is the lowest analyte concentration that meets Data Quality Objectives that are developed based on the intended use of this method.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. For additional information call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

