

1999 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
Mt. Sherman Water Association

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. 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, can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Our water source consists of two wells that draw from the Roubidoux Aquifer. Well #1 is located South of Hwy 74 and North of Lick Hollow. Well #2 is located North of Hwy 74 between Mt. Sherman and Kilgore Mountain. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: Microbial contaminants such as 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, of 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.

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Ivan Reynolds, Water Manager, at (870) 446-5352. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Monday of each month in the Mt. Sherman Fire Department building at 7:00 P.M.

Mt. Sherman Water Association routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 1999. All 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.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

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

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - Measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 - The "Goal" (MCLG) is 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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-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/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).

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants						
Beta/photon emitters Well#1	N	4.8	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/l to be the level of concern for Beta particles.
Beta/photon emitters Well#2	N	Average 7.45 Range 5.4to9.5	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/l to be the level of concern for Beta particles.
Alpha emitters Well # 1	N	4.5 3.4to5.7	AveragePCi/l Range PCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Alpha emitters Well # 2	N	8.5	PCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium Well#1	Y	2.4 0to5.1	Average PCi/l Range PCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium Well#2	Y	8.45 0to21.2	Average PCi/l Range PCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits

Combined Radium 226/228. Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

LEAD AND COPPER TAP MONITORING

	Number of sites over Action level	90% percentile result	95% percentile result	Unit of measurement	Action level	SOURCE
Lead	0	0.006	N/A	mg/L	0.015	Corrosion from household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	0	0.14	N/A	Mg/L	1.3	Corrosion from household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits. Leaching from wood preservatives.

Mt. Sherman Water Association is on a reduced monitoring schedule and required to sample once every three years for lead and copper at the customer's tap. Our last monitoring period was in 1998. Our next required monitoring period is the year 2001.

VIOLATIONS

TYPE:	FROM:	TO:	CORRECTIVE ACTION:
Exceeded the chemical MCL for Radium 226 & 228	1-1-99	10-1-99	Alternate source or treatment

The table shows that our system uncovered some problems this year. The duration of the violation was from 1-1-99 to 10-1-99 the potential adverse health effects are Combined Radium 226/228. Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. We can only correct this by going to an alternate source.

Please call our office if you have questions.

We at Mt. Sherman Water Association work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap, said Ivan Reynolds. 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.