



# WATER AUTHORITY OF DICKSON COUNTY

## WATER QUALITY REPORT

### 2024

#### Is my drinking water **SAFE**?

Yes, your drinking water is safe. Water treated and distributed by the Water Authority of Dickson County (WADC) meets all the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) health standards. In 2024, we conducted tests for more than 80 contaminants potentially found in drinking water. As you will see on the attached chart, there were only 11 contaminants found in our water supply, and they were at levels determined safe by the EPA. The State and the EPA also require that we test our water and report the findings on a regular basis to ensure the water achieves safety and quality standards. WADC always meets each of these requirements. We continually strive to maintain and improve the water you drink because our families drink it, too.

#### Where does our **WATER** come from?

Your water, surface water, comes from either the Piney River, Turnbull Creek, or the Cumberland River. Our goal is to protect our water from contaminants, and we are working with the State to determine the vulnerability of our water supplies to contamination. WADC, along with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) report for the untreated water sources serving this water system. The SWAP report assesses the susceptibility of untreated 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, moderately, or slightly susceptible, based on geologic factors and human activities near the water source. The SWAP rates the WADC system as reasonably susceptible to potential contamination. A source water assessment is available for review during normal business hours at WADC's Dickson Water Treatment Plant located at 206 West Chestnut Street.

#### Is the water system **SECURE**?

Following the events of September 11, 2001, we realize 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, hydrants, etc. to (615) 441-9511.

#### What are the **HEALTH** impacts of our water?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people can be particularly at risk for infections. This includes those undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV-AIDS or other immune system disorders, and some elderly and infants. These people should seek advice from a health care provider about their drinking water. More information about EPA guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium or other microbial contaminants and potential health effects are available by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 800-426-4791.

#### Why are there **CONTAMINANTS** in my water?

There is a reasonable expectation that drinking water, including bottled water, may contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. Community water systems are required to disclose the detection of contaminants. However, bottled water companies are not required to comply with this regulation. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health threat. Because all water contains dissolved contaminants, occasionally your water may exhibit slight discoloration. We strive to maintain the standards to prevent this, and we work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask our customers to help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. More information is available by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 800-426-4791.

The sources of drinking water (both bottled and tap) 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 include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from wastewater treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or from oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may come from gas stations, urban storm water 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 that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

**Cryptosporidium:** A microbial parasite found in surface water throughout the United States. Although filtration can remove Cryptosporidium, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee removal. Monitoring our raw water source indicated the presence of Cryptosporidium in 0 out of 27 samples tested. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals are able to overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people have more difficulty and are at a greater risk of developing severe, life threatening illness.

Immuno-compromised individuals are encouraged to consult their doctors regarding appropriate precautions to take to prevent infection. For more information on Cryptosporidium, contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

**Total Trihalomethanes:** Some people who drink water that contains trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level) over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**Lead:** 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. Water Authority of Dickson County 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 Water Authority of Dickson County at (615) 441-9511. 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>.

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.

## Lead Service Line Inventory

Water Authority of Dickson County has completed a lead service line inventory. For access to this inventory, contact Jimmy Murphy at (615) 441-9511.

**To understand the possible health effects of many of the contaminants, a person would have to drink two liters of water at the MCL for a lifetime to have a one in one million chance of having the described health effects.**

## About the DATA

Most data presented in the following table represents testing done between January 1, 2024 and December 31, 2024. WADC monitors for some contaminants less than once per year. For those contaminants, the table shows the date of the last sample.

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION YES/NO	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	DATE OF SAMPLE	UNIT OF MEASURE	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Turbidity	No	0.12 MAX	0.01-0.18	2024	NTU	N/A	TT	Soil runoff.
Total Organic Carbon	No	1.74 MAX	0.50-1.87	2024	ppm	N/A	TT	Soil runoff.
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	0	0	2024		0	<2	Normally present in environment.

### INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Chlorine	No	2.40 AVG	0.30-3.50	2024	ppm	4.0	4.0	Additive to control microbes.
Fluoride	No	0.62 AVG	0.33-0.92	2024	ppm	4.0	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits. Additive to promote strong teeth.
Nitrate	No	0.77 MAX	0.53-0.77	10/03/24	ppm	10.0	10.0	Soil runoff from fertilizer.
Sodium	No	9.6 MAX	4.4-9.6	05/1/24	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits.

### VOLATILE CONTAMINANTS

Total Trihalomethanes	No	43 AVG	13-73	2024	ppb	80 ppb	80 ppb	By-product of chlorination.
Haloacetic Acid	No	41 AVG	12-64	2024	ppb	60 ppb	60 ppb	By-product of chlorination.

### LEAD AND COPPER

Lead	No	1.0 <sup>^</sup>	1.0-1.0	2023	ppb	0	AL-15	Corrosion of plumbing. Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	No	0.0753 <sup>*</sup>	0.005-0.0854	2023	ppm	1.3	AL-1.3	Corrosion of plumbing. Erosion of natural deposits. Leaching of wood preservatives.

During the most recent round of lead and copper testing, 0 of 30 households sampled contained concentrations exceeding the action level.

<sup>^</sup>The level detected for lead was less than the lowest accurate lab detection level of 1.0.

<sup>\*</sup>90th percentile

**AL - Action Level** – The concentration of contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that the water system must follow.

**BDL - Below Detection Limit**

**MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal** - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

**MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level** - The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.

**MDRL - Maximum Disinfection Residual Level Goal** - The level of drinking water disinfection below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

**MDRL - Maximum Disinfection Residual Level** - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.

**N/A - Not Applicable**

**NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit** - A measure of the clarity of water.

**PPB - Part Per Billion** (e.g., one penny in ten million dollars)

**PPM - Part Per Million** (e.g., one penny in ten thousand dollars)

**TT - Treatment Technique** - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Turbidity** - Does not present any risk to your health. WADC monitors turbidity (the measure of the cloudiness of water,) because it's a good indicator the filtration system is functioning properly. WADC met the treatment technique for turbidity with 100% of monthly samples below the limit of 0.3 NTU.

**Level 1 Assessment:** A level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (If possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Level 2 Assessment:** A level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (If possible) why an E-coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

The Water Authority of Dickson County Board of Commissioners meets on the second Monday of each month at 5:00 pm at our 101 Cowan Road facility. Please feel free to participate in these meetings. WADC's Board is comprised of two members appointed by the Dickson County Mayor, two members appointed by the Mayor of Dickson, and one member appointed by the other four Board members. The five members serve staggered terms. The WADC Board of Commissioners exercises all governmental powers of WADC. All decisions by the Board on customer complaints may be reviewed by the Utility Management Review Board pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-82-702(7).

**For more information about your drinking water, please call Jimmy Murphy at 615-441-9511.**

**Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.**