

ABILENE, CITY OF

Consumer Confidence Report – 2006

Covering Calendar Year – 2005



This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. It is important that customers be aware of the efforts that are made continually improve their water systems. To learn more, please attend any of the regulated scheduled meetings, are held (Date\Time\Location of regular scheduled meeting).

For more information please contact, MARK ARBUTHNOT at 785-263-2550.

Your water comes from 11 Ground Water wells.

We treat your water to remove several contaminants and we also add disinfectant to protect you against microbial contaminants. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) required states to develop a Source Water Assessment (SWA) for each public water supply that treats and distributes raw source water in order to identify potential contamination sources. The state has completed an assessment of our source water. For results of the source water assessment, please contact us or view the results on line at www.kdhe.states.ks.us/nps/swap/SWreports.html.

Message from EPA

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer under going 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) included 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 before we treat it include:

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 storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

Pesticides and herbicides, may come from a variety of sources such as storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity

Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulation which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system tested a minimum of 7 per Month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presences in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio.

Water Quality Data

The tables following below list all of the drinking water contaminants, which were detected during the 2005 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1-December 31, 2005. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. The bottom line is that the water that is provided to you is safe.

City of Abilene
Public Works Department
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Terms & Abbreviations

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): the "Maximum Allowed" MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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

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

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. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Non-Detects (ND): laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

Parts per Million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

Parts per Billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

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.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL): million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

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.

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Testing Results for ABILENE, CITY OF

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Result	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIUM	1/24/2005	0.091	ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE	1/24/2005	0.97	ppm	4	4	Water additive which promotes strong teeth
NITRATE (AS N)	5/9/2005	1.9	ppm	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits
SELENIUM	1/24/2005	3.5	ppb	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHM)	2005	4.3	ppb	80	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper 90 th Percentile	Collection Date	Result	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER	2005	0.12	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
LEAD	2005	ND	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Result	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
ALKALINITY, TOTAL	2/22/2005	180	MG/L	300	60	
CALCIUM	1/24/2005	44	MG/L	200	75	
CARBON, TOTAL ORGANIC (TOC)	12/6/2005	2.5	ppm	10000		Naturally present in the environment
CHLORIDE	1/24/2005	8.5	MG/L	250	20	
CONDUCTIVITY	1/24/2005	350	UMHO S/CM	1500		
CORROSIVITY	1/24/2005	0.18	LANG	0		
HARDNESS, TOTAL (AS CaCO ₃)	1/24/2005	140	MG/L	400	200	
MAGNESIUM	1/24/2005	7.5	MG/L	150	50	
PH	1/24/2005	8	PH	8.5		
PHOSPHORUS	1/24/2005	0.057	MG/L	5		
POTASSIUM	1/24/2005	2.2	MG/L	100	20	
SILICA	1/24/2005	13	MG/L	50		
SODIUM	1/24/2005	16	MG/L	100	20	
SOLIDS, TOTAL DISSOLVED (TDS)	1/24/2005	210	MG/L	500		
SULFATE	1/24/2005	33	MG/L	250		
ZINC	1/24/2005	0.011	MG/L	5		