

City of Altus
Public Water System I.D. 1011501
Annual Water Quality Report
2010

We're pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we provide. We want you to be aware of our continuing efforts to improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. Our goal is to provide a safe high quality, and dependable supply of drinking water. We are committed to insuring the quality of your water. Our primary water source is The Mountain Park Conservancy District, which provides untreated water from Tom Steed Reservoir. The reservoir is located in southern Kiowa County approximately six miles north of Snyder, Oklahoma. Our emergency source of water is the Altus Reservoir, which is recharged from Lake Lugert-Altus located in eastern Greer and northwestern Kiowa County approximately 18 miles north of Altus. Both reservoirs are classified by the Environmental Protection Agency as "surface water sources". The Mountain Park Conservancy District has a source water protection plan with a copy available at our office that shows the vulnerability of our source water as HIGH. Additional information such as potential sources of contamination is listed. This plan is available for public view upon written request submitted to the office of Public Works at 509 S. Main, Altus OK 73521.

This report indicates the quality of our water and what it means to you.

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

If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please contact Gene Leister, Water Treatment Supervisor at 481-2270. We want all our 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 first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the city council chambers.

Altus Water Treatment personnel routinely monitor the drinking water for constituents according to Federal and State laws. The table below shows results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2010. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. **It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.**

In the 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)

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l)

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

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - a nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Action Level (AL) - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which 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 Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) -The 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The 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.

City of Altus Public Water Supply 2010 Lab Results I.D. # OK1011501

Contaminant	Violation Yes/No	Highest Level Detected	Range Detected	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
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Microbiological Contaminants

Total Coliform Bacteria	No	0		5 %	0	Naturally present in the environment
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Turbidity (NTU)	No	TT=0.20 NTU Less than 0.3 NTU's in 100% of monthly samples.	0.02-0.20	TT=5 NTU TT=Less than 0.3 NTU's in 95% of monthly samples	N/A	Soil runoff
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Volatile Organic Contaminates

TTHM (Total trihalomethanes (ppm))	No	.072 Highest quarterly avg.	.039-.111	.080	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
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THAA5 (Total haloacetic acids (ppm))	No	.027 Highest quarterly avg.	.018-.037	.060	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
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Inorganics Contaminates

Chlorites (ppm)	No	.91	.47-.91	1.0	0.8	Additive used to control microbes
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Fluoride (ppm)	No	1.27	0.40-1.27	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
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Nitrate (ppm) (as Nitrogen)	No	.22	.22-.22	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use, erosion of natural deposits.
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Lead 90 th percentile (ppm)	No	0	0.0-0.023	.015	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
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Copper 90 th percentile (ppm)	No	0.665	.015-1.34	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
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Contaminate	Violation Yes/No	Highest Level Detected	Range Detected	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
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Control of DBP precursors TOC (Avg. Yearly Ratio)	No	1.35	.67-1.71	Minimum removal ratio 1.0	N/A	Naturally present in the environment
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Radiochemistry

Gross Beta Particle activity (pCi/L)	No	7.804 pCi/L	7.804-7.804	50	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
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Gross alpha Particle activity (pCi/L)	No	1.555	1.555-1.555	15	0	Erosion of natural Deposits.
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What does this mean?

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We are proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water is SAFE at these levels.

In response to national attention being given to Chromium-6 and its potential presence in some of the nation's water supplies. The City of Altus voluntarily tested both our source and treated water supply for the presence of Chromium-6. The test results did not indicate Chromium-6 in our source or treated water supply.

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) 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 before we treat it include:

***Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from agricultural, livestock operations, wildlife, sewage treatment plants and septic systems.

***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 and residential uses.

***Radioactive contaminants**, which are naturally occurring.

***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.

*** MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink two liters of water everyday at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer and 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).

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we continually make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. We appreciate your support and understanding. Please call our office if you have questions. (580)-481-2270

* Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality Guidance dated 26 March, 2008.