

What is a Water Quality Report?

This report provides you with information about the water quality and explains the results. Our goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. For more information on the drinking water quality, call (615) 459-3574. The Town of Smyrna Council meets in the Town Hall Council Room every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Here, there are opportunities for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of the water. For more information on the Council meetings please contact Roseanne Peppers at 459-2553.

For any other information on you water quality, please contact Kevin Relford or Bryan Warden at the Smyrna Water Treatment Plant at (615)459-3574.

We at Smyrna Utilities work hard to maintain the best quality water for the Town of Smyrna, Nolensville, and adjacent customers on our system.

Thank you for spending time reviewing this report on the Town of Smyrna Utilities water quality.

Where does my water come from?

Your water, which is surface water, comes from the Stones River/ J. Percy Priest Lake. Our goal is to protect our water from contaminants and we are working with the state to determine the vulnerability of our water source to potential contamination. The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) has prepared a source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for the 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 (high), moderately susceptible (moderate), or slightly susceptible (low) based on geologic factors and human activities in the vicinity of the water source. The Smyrna Water System sources rated as reasonably susceptible to potential contamination.

An explanation of Tennessee's Source Water Assessment Program, the Source Water Assessment summaries, susceptibility scorings and the overall TDEC report to EPA can be viewed online at:

<http://www.state.tn.us/environment/dws/dwassess.shtml>

Copies of this source water assessment can also be viewed at Smyrna Town Hall in the Utilities department, the Smyrna Library, or the Smyrna Water Treatment Plant.

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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).

How hard is our water?

The water drawn from J. Percy Priest Lake is hard/very hard with a 2007 hardness average of 210 ppm (mg/l) or about 12.3 grains/gallon. Hardness is caused by naturally-occurring calcium and magnesium found in the water. Smyrna Utilities is aware of the problems caused by water hardness and is currently researching methods of softening the water to an average of 100 ppm (mg/l). We will keep the customer informed of any major changes dealing with water softening.

Why is there someone flushing the fire hydrant in my neighborhood?

The Smyrna Water System regularly flushes hydrants to prevent the build-up of mineral deposits and to better regulate chlorine residuals in the system.

Smyrna Utilities will be continuing its efforts developing the flushing program in 2008 to what is termed a "Unidirectional Flushing Program". This program will assist in providing the customer with a much better water quality at the tap.

TOWN OF SMYRNA WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

SMYRNA is growing.....and with this growth more demands have been placed on our Town's water supply requiring the implementation of a Water Conservation Program.

Like many things around us we tend to take for granted what is plentiful and easily obtained. All we do to get water is turn on the faucet any time and there it is ready to use...right? Think again...the water we use doesn't just magically flow to our homes and businesses. Treated water comes to your homes/businesses after a lengthy treatment process and traveling through miles and miles of pipeline.

Water is an extremely valuable resource and shouldn't be wasted so take time to evaluate your water use and help us conserve Smyrna's water. You will be receiving more information regarding our Water Conservation Program in the near future.

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

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2007 Water Quality Report Town of Smyrna Water System

The big question...Is the water safe to drink?

Absolutely! Drinking water provided to you by the Smyrna Water System meets or exceeds all federal and state drinking water standards. The water is tested and checked continuously each day to make sure it is safe. Thousands of tests are performed each month on the water that leaves the filtration plant, as well as the water that travels through the distribution system to your homes, businesses, and industries. 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Water Quality Enhancements on the Horizon

Smyrna Utilities is currently researching alternative treatment techniques not only to produce a safer water, but to provide a much better tasting finished water product. Organic matter found in Smyrna's source has historically been extremely hard to treat with the technology present at the water plant. The water plant added a carbon feed system in 2004 to improve the taste and odor of the water. We completed a treatability study in October 2007 using technology to improve the over all finished water quality in areas of hardness reduction, taste and odor, manganese and organic removal. We intend moving forward with these improvements this upcoming year.

With the new and more stringent EPA and state regulations, Smyrna Utilities continues to provide you with an excellent supply of safe drinking water.