

LEBANON WATER QUALITY REPORT 2010

WHAT IS IN OUR WATER?

Each year, Lebanon Utilities conducts thousands of tests on the drinking water we serve you to make sure it is safe. We are pleased to provide you with the results of these tests.

The format of this report follows the guidelines set by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) as part of the Safe Drinking Water Act. The USEPA requires all public water providers to deliver this information to all customers on an annual basis in a single report that provides water quality data to the public in an understandable manner.

Lebanon's General			Range			(EPA's	Ideal Goals	Sources of Contaminants
Water Quality Characteristics						MCL)	(EPA's	
(Year)							MCLG)	
Secondary Contaminants			Min	Max	Avg			
Total Hardness	(98)	ppm	260 or	340 or	300	n/a	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Divide ppm by 17.1 to get grains			15 grains	20 grains	17.5			This remains consistent from year to year
Sodium	(08)	ppm	39.56	43.13	41.35	n/a	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Chloride	(08)	ppm	7.3	38	22.65	250	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Primary Contaminants								
Arsenic	(08)	ppb	.6	1.9		10	n/a	Erosion of Natural Deposits; Runoff for orchards; Runoff from glass and electric production waste
Barium	(08)	ppm	.319	.329		2	2	Discharge of drilling waste; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	(08)	ppb	<.7	.9		100	100	Discharge from steel and pul mills; Erosion of Natural Deposits
Nickel	(08)	ppb	<1.0	1.1		n/a	100	
Fluoride (Natural)	(08)	ppm	.832	1.1		4.0	4.0	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Nitrate	(10)	ppm	0.56	0.8		10.0	10.0	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Radioactive Contaminants								
Gross Beta	(08)	pCi/l	0.33	2				Decay of natural or man made deposits
Corrosion from Household					90%			
Copper	(08)	ppm			1.257	1.3	1.3	Corrosion from Household Plumbing and Service
Distribution results – 90 Percentile								
Lead	(08)	ppb			2.9	15	15	Corrosion from Household Plumbing and Service
Distribution results – 90 th Percentile								
Disinfection and Byproducts						(RAA)		
Chlorine Residual	(10)	ppm	.09	.68		4	n/a	
						MRDL		
Total Trihalomethanes	(10)	ppb	12.0	45.	27.8	80	n/a	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids	(10)	ppb	ND	13.7	5.78	60	n/a	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Coliform	(10)		0			1	0	Human and Animal Waste
						Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present		

Listed above are detected contaminants in Lebanon's drinking water in 2010. All are below allowed levels. We don't list hundreds of other contaminants for which we tested that were not detected.

Definitions:

ppm – One part per million, 0.001 ppb – One part per billion, 0.000001 pCi/L – pico Curies per liter ND – Not Detected
 Maximum contaminant Level (MCL): 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.
 Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow a margin of safety.
 Action Level – The concentration of a contaminant that triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
 Lead & Copper are reported at the 90th percentile. Sample levels ranged from 0.029 to 1.579 ppm for copper testing and the lead testing ranged from less than 0.1 to 3.2 ppb.
 Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's) and Haloacetic Acids (HAA5's) are based on a running average (RA) of samples taken from both plants from the 2nd quarter of 2009 thru the 4th quarter of 2010. The range is the low and highest detection levels.
 Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
 Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking 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 land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and 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 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 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, storm water runoff and residential uses.
- ❖ Organic chemicals, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also, come from gas stations, urban run-off, and septic systems.
- ❖ Radioactive materials, 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 prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 providers. The presence of contaminants in drinking water does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. EPA / CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water hotline at (800) 426-4791. For questions about the quality of our drinking water, call Lebanon Utilities at (765) 482-8843.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Lebanon Utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

PROTECT AND PRESERVE WATER QUALITY



More than one million tons of hazardous waste from products used around the house enters the waters of our continent every year.

To protect water quality:

- Do not flush unused medications down the toilet. Return them to your pharmacist for proper disposal.
- Reduce the use of fertilizers, pesticides and toxic cleaners. As rainwater passes through the ground, it takes pesticides and fertilizers with it which can contaminate water.
- Sweep up debris before it can be washed away with storm water and obstruct the storm drain or contaminate a waterway.
- Use paints or solvents in small amounts, and be sure to clean up spills and properly dispose of rags and brushes. Remember to donate unused paint to community groups or to take it to a recycling center.
- Purchase non-toxic or biodegradable products whenever possible.
- Plant a Rain Garden! Rain gardens reduce the amount of storm water and pollutants that enter streams and lakes. Rain gardens are shallow, perennial gardens that soak up rain water, mainly from your roof but also from your driveway and lawn. For more information on Rain Gardens visit our website or contact our office.

Controlling what goes down the drain is the easiest and most effective way to protect the environment, and you can start today!

OUR WATER SOURCE

The City of Lebanon's drinking water comes from an underground aquifer.

Before distribution, the drinking water is processed at either our Chicago Street Treatment Facility or our Sugar Creek Treatment Facility. Each facility has five groundwater wells ranging from 90 to 180 feet deep that draw water from the aquifer. The total daily pumping capacity of these wells is just over 4 million gallons a day.

The well water is treated using aeration to reduce volatile organic compounds, hydrogen sulfide (an odor causing compound) and iron. The water is then run through filters to remove the iron. The water is then disinfected using (chlorine gas), prior to sending it into the distribution system and to you, the consumer.

If you would like to attend one of our Utility Service Board meetings they are normally scheduled for the first Wednesday after the first Monday of the month with another meeting following two weeks later again on Wednesday at 4:00 PM

Please visit our website to keep informed on changes going at the Lebanon Utilities

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