



A better longitude on life.

2011 Annual Drinking Water
Quality Report
June 15th, 2012
PWG ID # 0380005

The City of Meridian is pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the water we produce and services we deliver to you everyday. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and to protect our water resources. We are committed to insuring the quality of your drinking water.

Our water source consists of eight wells pumping from the LOWER WILCOX AQUIFIER. The depth of these wells range from 747' to 948'. A source water assessment has been completed by the Mississippi State Department of Health and can be reviewed in the utility billing office at 311 27th Ave.

THE CITY IS PLEASED TO REPORT THAT OUR DRINKING WATER MEETS OR EXCEEDS ALL FEDERAL AND STATE REQUIREMENTS.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Hugh Smith, Director of Utilities, at 4609 48th Place or call 601-484-6836. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more please attend our scheduled meeting on Tuesday, June 19, 2012 at 4:00 PM, in the Auditorium on the 3rd floor of City Hall at 601 23rd Avenue.

The City of Meridian routinely monitors for 154 constituents or potential contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State Laws. Of these 154 constituents, we had **0 detects in 2011**. The table on the back shows the results of our monitoring for the period of **January 1st to December 31st, 2011**.

Mailing Address Line 1
Mailing Address Line 2
Mailing Address Line 3
Mailing Address Line 4
Mailing Address Line 5

As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

QUESTIONS:

Please call our office if you have questions: **601- 484 -6836**.

We at the City of Meridian work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Sincerely,

Monty Jackson, Public Works Director

MORE INFORMATION:

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your tap water, you may wish to have your water tested. You may also want to flush your tap for at least 30 seconds before consumption. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (**1-800-426-4791**).

VIOLATIONS: Important Information Regarding Your Drinking Water

A MESSAGE FROM MSDH CONCERNING
RADIOLOGICAL SAMPLING

In accordance with the Radionuclides Rule, all community public water supplies were required to sample quarterly for radionuclides beginning January 2007—December 2007. Your public water supply completed sampling by the scheduled deadline; however, during an audit of the Mississippi State Department of Health Radiological Health Laboratory, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) suspended analyses and reporting of radiological compliance samples and results until further notice. Although this was not the result of inaction by your public water supply, MSDH was required to issue a violation. This is to notify you that as of this date, your water system has not completed the monitoring requirements. The Bureau of Public Water Supply has taken action to ensure that your water system be returned to compliance by March 31, 2013. If you have any questions, please contact

Melissa Parker, Deputy Director, Bureau of Public Water Supply, at 601-576-7518.

Otherwise, we're proud that **your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements**. All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or manmade. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **1-800-426-4791**.

VULNERABILITY:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 advise 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 (**1-800-426-4791**).

MORE INFORMATION:

(16) **Fluoride.** To comply with the "Regulation Governing Fluoridation of Community Water Supplies", the CITY OF MERIDIAN is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system. The number of months in the previous calendar year that the average fluoride sample results were within the optimal range of 0.7—1.3 ppm was 12. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.7—1.3 ppm was 100%.

(17) **Lead.** Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS

<u>Contaminant</u>	<u>Violation Y/N</u>	<u>Date Collected</u>	<u>Level or Range of Level Detected</u>	<u>#of Samples Taken</u>	<u>Unit Measurement</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>MCL</u>	<u>Likely Source of Contamination</u>
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform	N	Jan—Dec	0	40/month	N/A	0	Presence in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and E. coli	N	Jan—Dec	0	40/month	N/A	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste
Inorganic Contaminants:								
10. Barium *	N	2009	.029458	2	Ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
13. Chromium *	N	2009	.000753	2	Ppm	.1	.1	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
14. Copper	N	2011-2013	.0121	32	Ppm	1.3	AL 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
16. Fluoride**	N	Jan—Dec	0.8-1.1	12/month	Ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2011-2013	.002	32	Ppm	0	AL 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
19. Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	March	< 0.08	2	Ppm	10	10	By product of drinking water chlorination.
20. Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	N	March	< 0.02	2	Ppm	1	1	By product of drinking water chlorination.
Nitrate + Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	N	March	<0.1	2	Ppm	10	10	By product of drinking water chlorination.
Volatile Organic Contaminants:								
73. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	July	14.98	1	Ppb	NA	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
HAA5 Haloacetic Acids	N	July	3.0	1	Ppb	NA	60	By product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	N	Jan.—Dec	Low - High 1.65 - 2.57	40/month	Ppm	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes
Radionuclides								
Alpha particles	Y	2011	n/a	2	Ug/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation
Radium 226 & Radium 228 (combined)	Y	2011	n/a	2	Pci/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	Y	2011	n/a	2	Pci/l	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits

* No Samples required in 2011. - ** We boost the fluoride levels for dental hygiene. - *** Non-regulated contaminants which EPA requires monitoring.

TERMINOLOGY:

In this 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) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per Billion (Ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Action Level - 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 (MCL) - The "Maximum Allowed" - 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.

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 of health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

DID YOU KNOW? The City of Meridian:

Was incorporated on February 10, 1860.

Has a population of 41,148.

Has approximately 17,579 water services in place with an average of 14,300 active accounts.

Maintains approximately 425 miles of water lines and 425 miles of sewer lines.

Has two freshwater treatment plants that produced 1.94 billion gallons of water in 2011.

Has two wastewater treatment plants that treated approximately 2.29 billion gallons of raw sewage last year

Maintains approximately 60 lift stations.

Covers 54.3 square miles.

Has 438 miles of paved streets.

Has 6,603 street lights

Employs 500 full time workers and approximately 30—80 part time workers during the summer

Bad Debt was less than .00677 of 1% of total services billed. For every \$100 billed all but \$.68 cents was collected.

Has 5 above ground storage tanks that have the total capacity of storing 12 million gallons of water.

**City of Meridian - Public Works
Freshwater Treatment Plant
4609 48th Place
Meridian, MS 39305**

**Phone: 601 - 484-6836
Contact: Hugh Smith - Director of Utilities**