

2023
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
AIKEN WATER COMPANY
PWSID #6420010

Spanish translation – *Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you every day. 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 protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is from two wells. Both wells (Well #1 and well #2) are located one mile from the treatment plant in Lafayette Township. They are both approximately 260 feet deep.

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all EPA and state drinking water health standards. Local water vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and, once again, we are proud to report that our system has never violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Dale Parry at 814-331-2636. We want our valued 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 third Monday of every month at 5pm at the water plant.

Aiken Water Company routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2023. Drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonable 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 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.

Non-Detects (ND) – laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at a detectable level.

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 – 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) – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

Action Level – (mandatory language) the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level – (mandatory language) The “Maximum Allowed” (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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – (mandatory language) The “Goal”(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.

DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS & RESIDUALS					
Contaminant	High	Low	MCL Limit (Range)	Source	Violation Y/N
Chlorine (Free)	1.88 mg/l	0.38 mg/l	4.0 – 0.20	Water additive used to control microbes	N
TTHM's	Less than 100 ppb	-	100 ppb	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination	N
HAA	22.9 ppb	-	60 ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection	N

Footnotes:

- (a) The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.
- (b) None of the ten samples we collected lead and copper exceeded the action level.

We routinely collect samples for Total Coli form bacteria testing one sample per month. None of the samples collected in 2023 contained any Total Coli form bacteria.

We test for free chlorine near the farthest point in our distribution system on a monthly basis and report it to the DEP. All samples taken are in the desired range.

We constantly monitor the water supply for various constituents. This year, We had one test reading for VOC's in the second quarter that was slightly above the MCL. (0.571 milligrams per liter verses 0.500 milligrams per liter.) Due to this, the DEP move us to quarterly testing for VOC's instead of annual. Since Then, we have had no further out of limit readings.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or manmade. These constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. 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 the 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.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels for health effects. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day 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 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

We at Aiken Water Company 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.