Source water assessment information

The source of raw water for Owensboro Municipal Utilities is the Ohio River Alluvium, a groundwater source, in Daviess County. An analysis of the overall susceptibility to contamination of the Owensboro Municipal Utilities’ water supply indicated that this susceptibility is moderate. There are a total of 220 potential sources of contamination within the wellhead protection area with the following susceptibility rankings: 17 high, 165 medium, and 38 low. Sources of high potential impact include: above ground storage tanks, underground storage tanks, an auto repair facility and industrial land use. Sources of moderate to low potential impact include: above ground storage tanks, underground storage tanks, auto repair facilities, industrial land use, professional offices, dry cleaners, food service facilities, quarries, hazardous material storage, and municipal land use. This is a summary of the susceptibility analysis. The complete Susceptibility Analysis Report is available at the Green River Area Development District and at the Division of Water.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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 the 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).

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Our water system violated one or more drinking water standards two times over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2008 we did not complete all monitoring for Sodium and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

There is nothing you need to do at this time. You do not need to use an alternative (e.g., bottled) water supply.

The table below lists the contaminant we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for Sodium and how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>Required Sampling Frequency</th>
<th>Number of Samples Taken</th>
<th>Samples Should Have Been Taken</th>
<th>When Samples Were or Will Be Taken</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sodium</td>
<td>2 per year</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>June-08</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

What happened? Who is at risk? What is being done?

Owensboro Municipal Utilities completed all necessary sampling required for Sodium. The outside laboratory completing the analysis failed to submit results to the State. The results forms were generated and mailed in February 2009 (when OMU found out about the problem). The omission of the information resulted in the notice of violation. All results from Sodium were well below current State and Federal guidelines. At no time were OMU customers at any risk to public health.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.
This report is to inform you of the water quality for the calendar year 2008. OMU supplies water to over 55,398 residents in Owensboro. We also sell water to three districts that serve the remainder of Daviess County and customers in some surrounding counties. Owensboro Municipal Utilities’ mission is to serve our community by providing quality utility services at the most economical cost, and we never forget that commitment.

At OMU, we take water seriously. Just how seriously do we take it? We maintain our own water quality testing laboratories. The experienced and certified water quality personnel analyze chemical and bacteriological tests on water samples throughout the year. These samples are taken from each section of the system as well as from various sites around Owensboro and analyzed 365 days a year to ensure water safety and quality. Many of our customers also have their water tested. Some collect their own water samples using the water collection kits available from OMU’s offices.

Why are there contaminants in my water?

OMU’s Public Water Information Pumps water from deep wells to two water treatment plants. The wells are located in one aquifer that runs along US Highway 60 East and is protected by a clay layer. When the ground water reaches the treatment plants it is treated to remove any odors that may have been picked up from the extraction process and to begin oxidizing minerals picked up from the ground. The water is then softened with lime. Water from the ground tends to have a very high amount of hardness (250-350 ppm). OMU reduces this by almost half before the water is further processed (150-200 ppm). Next, the water is chlorinated to kill any microorganisms that may have survived the previous processes. The water is then filtered through an antrachite, sand and gravel to remove any turbidity. Lastly, fluoride and a polyphosphate are added to the water. A copy of the wellhead protection plan and the source water assessment for Daviess County residents in Owensboro can be obtained from the offices of Green River Area Development at 3860 US Highway 60 West or by calling 270-926-4433.

Regulated Contaminant Test Results

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 human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water used for public supplies or bottled water includes (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. (B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming. (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses. (D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile chemicals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, and synthetic and volatile chemicals. (E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to assure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must be followed to provide the same protection for public health.

The data presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with administrative regulations in 401 KAR Chapter 8. As of this writing, no changes have been made to the monitoring requirements and the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data in this table, though representative, may be of one year only. Unless otherwise noted, the report level is the highest level detected.

2008 WATER QUALITY INFORMATION

This report is to inform you of the water quality for the calendar year 2008.

The water quality information table provides a summary of the contaminant concentrations. The table includes the following information:

- **Applicable legislation**
- **Contaminant**
- **MCL**
- **MCLG**
- **Likely Source**
- **Regulated Contaminant Test Results**
- **Radioactive Contaminants**
- **Inorganic Contaminants**
- **Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts and Precursors**
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG**

The water quality table provides a summary of the contaminant concentrations. The table includes the following information:

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- **Contaminant**
- **MCL**
- **MCLG**
- **Likely Source**
- **Regulated Contaminant Test Results**
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