

Water Quality Report January 1 - December 31, 2020
St. Bernard Parish's Water & Sewer Division - Public Water Supply ID 1087001

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual Water Quality Report. This report is required by the Environmental Protection Agency through the Safe Drinking Water Act and is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day (Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien). 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 one surface water intake on the **Mississippi River (ID # 1087001-001)**. 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 land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases radioactive materials 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 sewerage 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 natural-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

A Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) is available from our office. This plan is an assessment of a delineated area around our listed source through which contaminants, if present, could migrate and reach our source water. It also includes an inventory of potential sources of contamination within the delineated area, and a determination of the water supply's susceptibility rating of 'high'. If you would like to review the Source Water Assessment Plan, please feel free to contact our office at the number provided in the following paragraph. The Source of the Water Treated in St. Bernard Parish is the ***Mississippi River***.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. the Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. We are pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water quality or simply want to learn more about your drinking water, please contact **Jacob Groby, Superintendent Environmental Dept. at (504) 271-1681**. We want our customers to be informed about their water utility.

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. St. Bernard Parish Water 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 about 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 have you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safer Drinking Water Hotline or at **<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>**.

The Louisiana Department of Health/Office of Public Health routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. These tables below show the results of our monitoring for the period of **January 1 to December 31, 2020**. We detected the following regulated contaminants at levels well below the maximum contaminant level. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts

of some constituents. It is important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. Additionally, we wish to inform you that these samples, except for lead and copper results, were collected at our treatment plant. The last chemical sampling of our treated water was collected **3/10/2020**. We at St. Bernard Parish Water 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. If you have any questions Please contact Jacob Groby, Superintendent Environmental Dept. at 504-271-1681 x 234.

In the tables 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:

Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Level 1 Assessment – A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determines (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment – A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why a total coliform bacteria have been found in our drinking water system on multiple occasions.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The “Maximum Allowed” is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL’s are set as close to the MCLG 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 to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL) - The “Maximum Allowed” is the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The “Goal” level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Millirems per year liter (pCi/l) – Measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - Nephelometric Turbidity Unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

Non-Detects (ND) - **Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.**

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligram 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 Microgram per liter (µg/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) - Picocuries per liter is a measurement of radiation in the water.

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

Variations & Exemption (V&E) – State or EPA permission not to meet the MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions.

During the period covered by this report, below are noted any violations of drinking water regulations.

| Compliance Period | Analyte | Type |
|----------------------|---------|------|
| 1/1/2020- 12/31/2020 | NONE | NONE |

No Violations Occurred in the Calendar year of 2020

Our water system tested a minimum of 50 samples per month, Monthly samples are in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminates. During the monitoring period covered by this report we had the following noted detections for microbiological contaminates.

| Microbiological | Result | MCL | MCLG | Typical Source |
|-----------------|--|---|------|--|
| Coliform | No Samples were positive 100% Compliant | MCL: Systems that collect 40 or more samples per month - no more than 5% can be positive monthly | 0 | Naturally present in the environment. |

In the table below, we have shown the regulated contaminates that have been detected. Chemical Sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, information provided in the tables refers back to the latest date of chemical sampling results.

| Regulated Contaminates | Collection Date | Highest Value | Range | Unit | MCL | MCLG | Typical Sources |
|---------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------|------|-----|------|--|
| Atrazine | 11/18/20 | 0.074 | 0-0.074 | ppb | 3 | 3 | Runoff from herbicide used on row crops |
| Simazine | 11/18/20 | 0.042 | 0.042 | ppb | 4 | 4 | Runoff from herbicide |
| Hexachlorocyclopentadiene | 11/18/20 | 0.072 | 0-0.072 | ppb | 50 | 50 | Discharge from Chemical Factories |
| Nitrate-Nitrite | 3/10/20 | 1.0 | 1.0 | ppm | 10 | 10 | Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewerage, erosion of natural deposits. |

In the table below we have listed the Triennial Lead and Copper Testing Results performed by the Department of Health and Hospitals. ***2019 was our Triennial Sampling Year; all sampling was completed on September 30th, 2019.**

| Lead and Copper | Collection Date | 90th. Percentile | Range | Unit | AL | Sites over AL | Typical Source |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|-------|------|-----|---------------|--|
| Copper, Free | 2017-2019 | 0.4 | 0-.6 | ppm | 1.3 | 0 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives |
| Lead | 2017-2019 | 2 | 0-5 | ppb | 15 | 0 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems Erosion of natural deposits. |

We sample for Lead and Copper Compliance every 3 years, as per DHH regulations. We have never had any exceedances.

Our water plant continuously tests the turbidity level in the water being pumped to the distribution system, below is the average for **2020**.

| Regulated Contaminate | Collection Date | Highest Value | Range | Unit | MCL | MCLG | Typical Source |
|-----------------------|-----------------|---------------|-----------|------|------|------|----------------|
| Turbidity HSS | 7/5/20 | 0.12 | 0.01-0.12 | NTU | 0.15 | 0 | Soil Runoff |
| Turbidity LMA | September | 0.03 | | | | | 100% Complaint |

Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The major sources of turbidity include soil runoff.

HSS = Highest Single Sample

LMA = Lowest Monthly Average.

Our water plant continuously tests the chlorine level in the water being pumped to the distribution system, below is the average for **2020**. **All samples are 100% in compliance.**

| Disinfectant | Date | Highest Running Annual Average | Unit | Range | MRDL | MRDLG | Typical Source |
|--------------|------|--------------------------------|------|------------|------|-------|---|
| Chloramines | 2020 | 3.7 | ppm | .55 – 6.61 | 4 | 4 | Water additive used to control microbes |

Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

In the table below we have listed the data for the Total Trihalomethane and Haloacetic Acids. **All samples are 100% in compliance.**

| Disinfection By-products | Sample Point | Period | Highest LRAA | Range | Unit | MCL | MCLG | Typical Source |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------|--------------|-----------|------|-----|------|---|
| Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) | 5401 Paris Rd. | 2020 | 40 | 28.8/42.6 | ppb | 60 | 0 | By-Product of Drinking Water Disinfection |
| Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) | Southlake Food Store | 2020 | 43 | 30.3/42.7 | ppb | 60 | 0 | By-Product of Drinking Water Disinfection |
| Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) | 300 Florissant | 2020 | 43 | 33/40.7 | ppb | 60 | 0 | By-Product of Drinking Water Disinfection |
| Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) | Water Treatment Plant | 2020 | 41 | 29.4/41.6 | ppb | 60 | 0 | By-Product of Drinking Water Disinfection |
| Total Trihalomethanes | 5401 Paris Rd. | 2020 | 49 | 35.6/62.7 | ppb | 80 | 0 | By-Product of Drinking Water Chlorination |
| Total Trihalomethanes | Southlake Food Store | 2020 | 52 | 37.5/68.5 | ppb | 80 | 0 | By-Product of Drinking Water Chlorination |
| Total Trihalomethanes | 300 Florissant | 2020 | 54 | 38.9/68.1 | ppb | 80 | 0 | By-Product of Drinking Water Chlorination |
| Total Trihalomethanes | Water Treatment Plant | 2020 | 40 | 37.5/63.8 | ppb | 80 | 0 | By-Product of Drinking Water Chlorination |

In the table below, we have shown the unresolved significant deficiencies that were identified during a survey done on the water system that we are currently working to resolve.

| Date Identified | Facility | Code | Activity | Due Date | Description / Corrective Action |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|-----------|--|
| 9/28/2018 | Water System | OT103 | IESWTR** Address Deficiencies | 4/1/2019 | Routine Leaks in System |
| 9/28/2018 | Water System Arabi Tank | ST27 | IESWTR* Address Deficiencies | *12/17/20 | *Drain upgraded and completed 12/17/20 |

**IESWTR – Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule.

In the table below we have listed the data for the annual Radionuclides; **All Samples are 100% in Compliance.**

| Radionuclides | Collection Date | Highest Value | Range | Unit | MCL | MCLG | Typical Source |
|------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------|-------|-----|------|---|
| Combined Radium (226 & 228) | 3/10/20 | 0.741 | 0.741 | pCi/l | 30 | 0 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Gross Beta Particle Activity | 3/10/20 | 2.55 | 2.55 | pCi/l | 50 | 0 | Decay of natural and man-made deposits. Note: The gross beta particle activity MCL is 4 millirems/year annual dose equivalent to the total body or any internal organ. 50 pCi/L is used as a screening level. |

In the table below we have listed the data for the Secondary Contaminates; **All Samples are 100% in Compliance.**

| Secondary Contaminates | Collection Date | Highest Level | Range | Unit | SMCL |
|------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------|------|------|
| Aluminum | 3/10/20 | 0.08 | 0.08 | Mg/L | 0.20 |
| Chloride | 3/10/20 | 22 | 22 | Mg/L | 250 |
| pH | 3/10/20 | 5.64 | 5.64 | pH | 8.50 |
| Sulfate | 3/10/20 | 38 | 38 | Mg/L | 250 |

Unregulated Contaminates are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by EPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help EPA decide whether the contaminate should have a standard. In the table below are the contaminants found.

| Unregulated Contaminate | Collection Date | Average Concentration | Range | Unit |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-------|------|
| NONE FOUND | 2020 | | | |

If you wish to learn more about Unregulated Contaminates, you can visit the following web page:

www.epa.gov/dwucmr#ucmr2013

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 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).

MCL: For the systems that collect more than 40 samples per month, if 5 percent are positive for coliform. For systems that collect less than 40 samples per month, if 1 sample is positive for coliform. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Fecal coliforms and E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

Total Organic Carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, TOC provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts (DBPs). These byproducts include Trihalomethanes (THMs) and Haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking water containing these byproducts in excess of the MCL may lead to adverse health effects, liver or kidney problems, or nervous system effects, and may lead to an increase risk of getting cancer.

Some people who drink water containing Haloacetic Acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. We at the ST BERNARD PARISH WATERWORKS work around the clock to provide top quality drinking water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect and conserve our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life, and our children's future. Please call our office if you have questions about this report or would like further information on your water quality. It is our pleasure to serve you.

