



Pawnee Tribal Complex

2019 Consumer Confidence Report

PWS ID# 064026001

(Released: June 2020)

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

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 advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Our source water is categorized as groundwater. Groundwater is located beneath the ground surface in soil pore spaces and in the fractures of rock formations. A unit of rock or an unconsolidated deposit is called an aquifer when it can yield a usable quantity of water. The depth at which soil pore spaces or fractures and voids in rock become completely saturated with water is called the water table. Groundwater is recharged from, and eventually flows to the surface naturally; natural discharge often occurs at springs and seeps and can form oases or wetlands. Groundwater is also withdrawn for

agricultural, municipal and industrial use by constructing and operating wells. We draw our water from one groundwater well that is active at the moment.

Source Water Assessment and its availability

The 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act authorize a Source Water Assessment Program to determine the susceptibility of a public drinking water supply to contamination. Sources of contaminants regulated by the Safe Drinking Water Act are required to be inventoried during the assessment process. The EPA Region 6 Source Water Protection Program in cooperation with Pawnee nation conducted this assessment in September 2010.

Based on the following factors, your water system was determined to have a **Low** susceptibility to contamination: The physical integrity of the well, the characteristics of the hydrologic system around the well, the characteristics of the contaminants inventoried and the likelihood of those contaminants to reach the source of the drinking water supply. Our source water has some protection from human and natural elements, but source water protection should always be of great importance for our community's water supply. A copy of this assessment can be obtained or reviewed at the Division of Tribal Operations, 361 Clinic Road, Pawnee, Oklahoma, on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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 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 from human activity:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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 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; and

Radioactive contaminants, 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.

How can I get involved?

Information about meetings of the Pawnee Nation Utility Authority will be posted on the website at www.pawneenation.org and posted in the main administrative building at 881 Little Dee Drive, Pawnee, OK 74058, and at the Division of Tribal Operations, 361 Clinic Road, Pawnee, OK; on the Pawnee Nation Tribal Reserve.

Source Water Protection Tips

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides - they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water." Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

Additional Information for Lead

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. Pawnee Tribal Complex 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>.

Additional Information for Arsenic

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs

of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

2019 Water Quality Data Tables

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels.

Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

Detected Regulated Contaminants

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Highest Detected In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants)								
Chlorine (as Cl ₂) (ppm)	4	4	3.0	1.9	3.0	2019	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	No Goal for the Total	60	1.77	NA	NA	2017	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	No Goal for the Total	80	10.8	NA	NA	2017	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	6.3	NA	NA	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Highest Detected In Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				Low	High			
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.12	NA	NA	2018	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.19	NA	NA	2018	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	2.99	NA	NA	2019	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	5.2	NA	NA	2018	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Radioactive Contaminants								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	1.91	1.2	1.91	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	0	50	1.05	NA	NA	2017	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits. The EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for Beta particles.
Uranium (ug/L)	0	30	1.1	NA	NA	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Rad 226/228 (pCi/L)	0	5	0.39	NA	NA	2017	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminants	ALG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
Lead and Copper (Inorganic Contaminants)								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.22	2017	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	4.1	2017	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
ug/L	Number of micrograms of substance in one liter of water
ppm	Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NA	Not applicable
ND	Not detected

Unit Descriptions	
Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
ALG	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exemptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG	Maximum residual disinfection level goal. The 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.
MRDL	Maximum residual disinfectant level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MNR	Monitored Not Regulated
MPL	State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

For more information please contact:

Contact Name: Jimmy Jestes
Address: P.O Box 470
Pawnee, OK 74058
Phone: 918.762.2273