JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER & SEWER COMMISSION'S

WATER QUALITY REPORT 2015

System Number : 3220003
Pelion System Number : 3210010

"There is no greater responsibility we have than delivering safe drinking water to our community, and we are vigilant in protecting the public health of our neighbors and families that we serve. We do this not only because it is our responsibility, but because we also rely on it for our own families and friends." *-JMWSC*

JMWSC is committed to delivering safe drinking water to our community.

JOINT MUNICIPAL WATER & SEWER COMMISSION DELIVERS QUALITY WATER

The Joint Municipal Water & Sewer Commission (JMWSC) is diligently committed to provide the highest quality of drinking water to the residents in our service area. The Environmental Protection Agency and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control have established standards for drinking water. These standards were designed to protect the consumer from bacteria and water borne illnesses. This report reflects on the Commission's commitment and represents a summary of the drinking water quality during the year 2015. Should you have questions concerning this report please call (803)359-8373.

WHERE DOES MY WATER COME FROM?

The Commission draws water from two connections with the City of West Columbia. Both connection points are supplied by the surface water treatment plant located on Old Cherokee Road, which uses Lake Murray for its water source and has the capacity to produce over twenty-two million gallons per day, of which the Commission has acquired approximately twelve million gallons per day of the total capacity.

DO I NEED TO TAKE SPECIAL PRECAUTIONS?

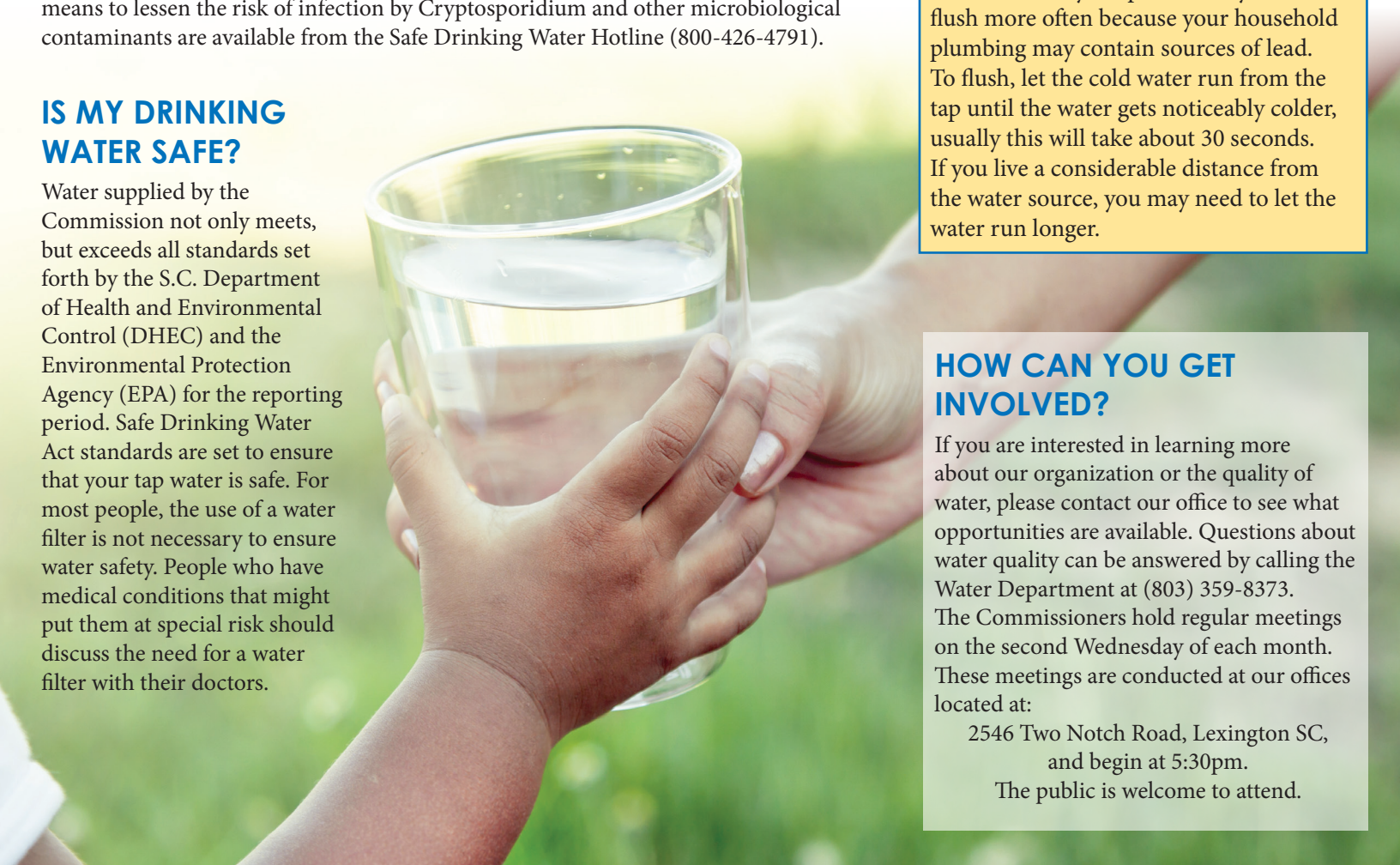
All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the 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 at 1-800-426-4791. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 (Centers for Disease Control) 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).

AN H2O LESSON: FLUSHING

It's a good practice to flush your own water distribution line and household plumbing if you have not used your water for an extended period of time, such as when returning from vacation. The longer water resides in your home's plumbing, the more lead it may contain. If lead is a problem, we recommend you let the water run from the tap for thirty seconds before using it for drinking or cooking anytime the water in a faucet has gone unused for more than six hours. Ask your plumber if you need to flush more often because your household plumbing may contain sources of lead. To flush, let the cold water run from the tap until the water gets noticeably colder, usually this will take about 30 seconds. If you live a considerable distance from the water source, you may need to let the water run longer.

IS MY DRINKING WATER SAFE?

Water supplied by the Commission not only meets, but exceeds all standards set forth by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for the reporting period. Safe Drinking Water Act standards are set to ensure that your tap water is safe. For most people, the use of a water filter is not necessary to ensure water safety. People who have medical conditions that might put them at special risk should discuss the need for a water filter with their doctors.



HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

If you are interested in learning more about our organization or the quality of water, please contact our office to see what opportunities are available. Questions about water quality can be answered by calling the Water Department at (803) 359-8373.
The Commissioners hold regular meetings on the second Wednesday of each month. These meetings are conducted at our offices located at:

2546 Two Notch Road, Lexington SC,
and begin at 5:30pm.
The public is welcome to attend.

REGULATED DETECTIONS

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Highest Detected Level	Typical Source	Sample Period
Nitrate	10 mg/L	10	0.16 Range = 0.10 - 0.16	Runoff from fertilizer use	2015
Fluoride	4 mg/L	40	0.74 Range = 0.72 - 0.74	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive to promote strong teeth	2015
Copper	1.3 mg/L	AL=1.3	90% = 0.045	Corrosion of household plumbing system	
Lake Murray Plant			0.045 ppm		2015
JMWSC			0.028 ppm		2013
Pelion			0.029 ppm		2015
Lead	0.0	AL=15 ppb	90th Percentile	Corrosion of household plumbing system	
Lake Murray Plant			0.0		2015
JMWSC			0.0		2013
Pelion			0.0		2015
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	N/A	60 ppb		Disinfection by-products	
Lake Murray Plant			LRAA = 50 ug/L Range = 29.8 - 65.9		2015
JMWSC			LRAA = 55 ug/L Range = 23.11 - 72.72		2015
Pelion			LRAA = 52 ug/L Range = 36.76 - 67.15		2015
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	N/A	80 ppb		Disinfection by-products	
Lake Murray Plant			LRAA = 37 ug/L Range = 13.2 - 52.4		2015
JMWSC			LRAA = 40 ug/L Range = 10.42 - 48.44		2015
Pelion			LRAA = 38 ug/L Range = 24.93 - 50.28		2015
Chlorine (ppm)					
Lake Murray Plant	MRDL = 4	MRDL = 4	3.58 Range = 2.10 - 3.58	Water additive used to control microbes	2015
Total Coliform	0	2 out of 30	0 out of 360	Bacteria present in the system	2015

Turbidity
Lake Murray Plant's highest dected level: 0.72 ntu
MCLG: <0.3 ntu in 95% of samples per month
Possible sources: soil runoff
Met MCLG 100%

Total Organic Carbon	
MCLG	**N/A**
MCL	**TT**
Range	**33.3 - 71.6%**
Level Found	**47.4% removal (35% required)**
Source	**Naturally present**

- **Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow
- **Inorganic Contaminants (IOC's):** chemicals that do not arise from living growth, such as metals and minerals
- **Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA):** the average of all compliance samples taken over the past 4 quarters at each sampling site
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk of health
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** the highest level of a residual disinfectant that is allowed in drinking water
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water (MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology)
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU):** a measure of the clarity of the water
- **Not Applicable (N/A):** does not apply
- **Not Detected (ND):** not detectable at testing limit
- **Parts per million (ppm) or millligrams per liter (mg/L):** a measure of concentration that corresponds to one minute in two years; a single penny in $10,000; one second in 12 days; or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water, etc.
- **Parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (ug/L):** a measure of concentration corresponding to one minute in 2,000 years; one penny in $10,000,000; one second in 32 years; or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water, etc.
- **Pico curies per liter (pCi/L):** a measure of the radioactivity in water
- **Running Annual Average (RAA):** an average of the four quarters
- **Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM):** a group of four organic compounds that may form when natural organic matter reacts with chlorine
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

PO Box 2555
Lexington, SC 29071

Public safety is our top priority, and there are measures of water quality assurance that JMWSC takes every day as a regular course of operation in our own system. Although these are standard processes for any water system, they are especially vital to us at JMWSC as we recognize that we are the direct connection between our customers and their drinking water. Our staff employs a variety of important steps on a regular schedule to keep us informed of the quality of water we supply to your tap. This includes collecting water samples for water quality testing from locations across our system, routine system flushing, and regular tank maintenance.

The City of West Columbia Source Water Assessment Plan is available for your review at:
http://www.scdhec.gov/HomeAndEnvironment/Water/SourceWaterProtection/
If you do not have internet access, please contact the City of West Columbia at (803) 957-4596 to arrange to review the plan.

EPA's Hotline: 1-800-426-4791

Important Information About Your Drinking Water - Availability of Monitoring Data for Unregulated Contaminant for JMWSC:
Our water system has sampled for a series of unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminants 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 contaminants should have a standard. As our customer, you have a right to know that this data is available. If you are interested in examining the results, please contact Jay Nicholson at **(803) 359-8373** or by mail at **PO Box 2555, Lexington, SC 29071.**

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Approximately seventy three thousand tests were performed at each water treatment facility to ensure the drinking water quality for the City of West Columbia and JMWSC's Customers.