

## THE WATER WE DRINK

Gardner Community Water Association, Inc.  
Public Water Supply ID: LA1079010

We're pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for the year 2014. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of your 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 drinking quality of your water.

Our water sources are listed below:

<u>Source Name</u>	<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Source ID Number</u>
Well #2 Larger/NW well	Ground Water	1079010-002
Well #1 Smaller/SE well	Ground Water	1079010-001
Well #3 Hwy 1200	Ground Water	1079010-003
Well #4 St. Clair Rd.	Ground Water	1079010-004

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 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. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants - such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants - which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

A Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) is now available from our office. This plan is an assessment of a delineated area around our listed sources 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 to contamination by the identified potential sources. According to the Source Water Assessment Plan, our water system had a 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.

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. 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. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you have any questions about this report, want to attend any scheduled meetings, or simply want to learn more about your drinking water, please contact Harlis Bass at 318-793-4568.

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. Gardner Community Water System 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>.

The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals/Office of Public Health routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The tables that follow show the results of our monitoring during the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

In the tables below, 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:

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.

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.

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

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.

Maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL) - 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.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal (MRDLG) - 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.

During the period covered by this report we had the below noted violations of drinking water regulations.

<b>Type</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Analyte</b>	<b>Compliance Period</b>
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**No Violations Occurred in the Calendar Year of 2014**

Our water system tested a minimum of 5 monthly samples in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. During the monitoring period covered by this report, we had the following noted detections for microbiological contaminants:

<b>Microbiological</b>	<b>Result</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>Typical Source</b>
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**No Detected Results were found in the calendar year of 2014**

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

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
DI(2-Ethylhexyl) Phthalate	1/3/2011	1.32	1.19-1.32	Ppb	6	0	Discharge from Rubber and Chemical factories
Fluoride deposits; Water additive which teeth; Discharge	2/3/2014	1.1	0.5-1.1	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural promotes strong

from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Nitrate 9.48 1/5/2011 9.48 0.101- Ppm 10 10 runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion

of natural deposits

Lead and Copper	Date	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Range	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
Copper Free	2012-2014	0.2	0.1-0.2	Ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of house-Hold plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead	2012-2014	2	1-4	Ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts	Sample Point	Period	Highest LRAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Source
Total Haloacetic acids (HAA5)	10793 Hwy 28	2014	7	6.8 6.8	ppb	60	0	Byproduct of disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	Rachal Rd.	2014	6	6.2 6.2	ppb	60	0	Byproduct of disinfection
TTHM	10793 Hwy 28	2014	21	20.9 20.9	ppb	80	0	Byproduct of chlorination
TTHM	Rachal Rd.	2014	19	18.8 18.8	ppb	80	0	Byproduct of chlorination

Unregulated contaminants are those that don't yet have a drinking water standard set by USEPA. The purpose of monitoring for these contaminants is to help USEPA decide whether the contaminants should have a standard.

Unregulated Contaminants	Date	Average Concentration	Range	Unit
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Germanium	10/21/2014	1.79	1.39-2.35	ug/L
Manganese	10/21/2014	4.69	4.01-5.94	ug/L
Strontium	10/21/2014	13.97	10.7-16.9	ug/L
Germanium	4/21/2014	1.9	1.5-2.5	ug/L
Manganese	4/21/2014	5.3	3.9-6.7	ug/L
Strontium	4/21/2014	13.0	10-16	ug/L

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+++++++**Environmental Protection Agency Required Health Effects Language**+++++++

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (300-4264791).

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

There are no additional required health effects violation notices.

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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 Gardner Community Water Association, Inc. 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 (318-793-4568) if you have questions.