



2015 Annual

# Water Quality Report

St. Louis County/St. Charles County  
PWS ID: M06010716



Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

## A Message from the Missouri American Water President

To Our Valued Customers:

Missouri American Water is proud to be your local water service provider, and I am pleased to share good news about the quality of your drinking water. Each year, we provide you with our Annual Water Quality Report -- a description of the source and the quality of your drinking water. Like so many years prior, we continue to supply water that meets or surpasses all state and federal water quality regulations.



Delivering water requires miles of pipeline, facilities that draw water from the source and water plants that test and treat the water that is delivered to homes and businesses. Our plant operators, water quality experts, engineers and maintenance crews work around the clock to make sure that water is there when you need it. Delivering high-quality, reliable water service also requires significant investment to upgrade aging facilities. Every year, we invest approximately \$80 to \$130 million in water and wastewater system improvements statewide

We're proud to supply quality, reliable water service for about a penny per gallon – an exceptional value. Every day we deliver a key resource for public health, fire protection, the economy and overall quality of life. Our job is to ensure that quality water keeps flowing today, and well into the future.

We hope you agree that water is a great value and worth learning more about. This report provides information about the source and quality of your drinking water using the data from water quality testing conducted for your local water system from January through December 2015.

We appreciate the opportunity to serve you.

Cheryl Norton  
President

## What is a Water Quality Report?

To comply with state and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) regulations, Missouri American Water issues a report annually describing the quality of your drinking water. The purpose of this report is to raise your understanding of drinking water and awareness of the need to protect drinking water sources. Last year, we conducted tests for hundreds of contaminants. This report provides an overview of the most recent water quality data available. It includes details about where your water comes from and what it contains.

If you have any questions about this report or your drinking water, please call our Customer Service Center at (toll-free) (866) 430-0820.



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## About Missouri American Water

Missouri American Water, a subsidiary of American Water (NYSE: AWK), is the largest investor-owned water utility in the state, providing high-quality and reliable water and/or wastewater services to approximately 1.5 million people.

American Water is the largest and most geographically diverse publicly traded U.S. water and wastewater utility company. Marking its 130th anniversary this year, the company employs 6,700 dedicated professionals who provide regulated and market-based drinking water, wastewater and other related services to an estimated 15 million people in 47 states and Ontario, Canada. More information can be found by visiting [www.amwater.com](http://www.amwater.com).

## How to Contact Us

For more information regarding this report or any of the other services provided by Missouri American Water, please call our Customer Service Center at (toll-free) (866) 430-0820, or you may visit us at [www.missouriamwater.com](http://www.missouriamwater.com).

## Partnership for Safe Drinking Water Program

Our water treatment plants are members of the Partnership for Safe Water. The Partnership is a national voluntary initiative developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and other water organizations to recognize water suppliers that consistently achieve water treatment standards that surpass USEPA regulatory requirements. Fewer than one percent of water utilities in the U.S. have achieved this recognition.



## Source Water Information

Missouri American Water supplies quality drinking water to around 365,000 customers in St. Louis County, St. Charles County and northern Jefferson County. Approximately 80 percent of our surface water comes from the Missouri River, which borders our service area on the north and the west. Nearly 20 percent comes from the Meramec River in south St. Louis County. Both rivers have a plentiful supply of water that responds well to conventional, though rigorous, drinking water treatment processes. Missouri American Water occasionally purchases a small quantity of water from the City of St. Louis Water Division, which also uses the Missouri River as a source of water. For more information about this water supply, contact the [City of St. Louis Water Division](http://www.cityofstlouis.gov) at (314) 868-5640. More information on your source water is available at <http://drinkingwater.missouri.edu/swip/swipmaps/pwsid.htm>. To access the information for your water system you will need the State-assigned code (PWSID), which is printed at the top of this report.

## Protecting our Water Quality at the Source

We can all help protect the quality of water coming from our faucets by first protecting the quality of water in our rivers.

We all live in a watershed – an area of land that drains to a waterway. When it rains or snows, water travels across the ground on its journey to a river or stream. Along the way, it picks up any pollutants that may be found on lawns, streets and farmland.

Working together we can minimize these pollutants and protect our rivers, starting with six simple steps.

- Recycle – don't litter.
- Remember that storm inlets drain to rivers – don't pour oil or chemicals in the street.
- Plant native plants. They support wildlife, help preserve our natural diversity and require no fertilizer or herbicides.
- Use lawn chemicals sparingly and follow directions.
- Plant a rain garden to capture runoff from rainwater.
- Join a local stream clean-up team.

Missouri American Water supports river clean-ups, watershed protection programs and environmental events across Missouri. In 2015, Missouri American Water's community outreach program deployed about 374 employee volunteers to more than 40 community events across the state.



**There's a lot more to your water bill than just water.**

When you turn on the tap, it's easy to see what your water bill buys. What's not as easy to see is what it takes to bring that water to your home. The miles of pipeline hidden below the ground. The facilities that draw water from the source. The plant where it's treated and tested. The scientists, engineers, and maintenance crews working around the clock to make sure that water is always there when you need it. Your water payments are helping to build a better tomorrow by supporting needed improvements that will keep water flowing for all of us—today and well into the future. All for less than a penny a gallon.

**AT LESS THAN A PENNY PER GALLON WATER IS A GREAT VALUE.**

**WE CARE ABOUT WATER. IT'S WHAT WE DO. FIND OUT WHY YOU SHOULD, TOO, at [amwater.com](http://amwater.com).**

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## Water Information Sources

### Missouri American Water

www.missouriamwater.com

### Missouri Department of Natural Resources

www.dnr.mo.gov

### United States Environmental Protection Agency

www.epa.gov/safewater

**Safe Drinking Water Hotline:** (800) 426-4791

### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

www.cdc.gov

### American Water Works Association

www.drinktap.org

### Water Quality Association

www.wqa.org

### National Library of Medicine/National Institute of Health

www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus

## Substances Expected to be in Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater 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.

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.

### 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 may 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 naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

For more information about the contaminants and potential health effects, call the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Special Health Information

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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

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. Missouri American 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 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>.

To ensure that tap water is of high quality, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain substances in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.



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## How to Read the Tables

Missouri American Water conducts extensive monitoring to ensure that your water meets all water quality standards. The most recent results of our monitoring are reported in the following tables. Certain substances are monitored less than once per year because the levels do not change frequently. For help with interpreting these tables, see the “Definitions of Terms” section.

Starting with a **Substance**, read across. **Year Sampled** is the most recent test year. **MCL** shows the highest level of substance (contaminant) allowed. **MCLG** is the goal level for that substance (this may be lower than what is allowed). **Results** represents the measured amount (less is better). **Range** tells the highest and lowest amounts measured. A **Yes** under **Compliance Achieved** means the amount of the substance met government requirements. **Typical Source** tells where the substance usually originates.

Unregulated substances are measured, but maximum contaminant levels have not been established by the government.

## Definitions of Terms

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

**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.

**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.

**MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** 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.

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** The level of 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 contamination.

**NA:** Not applicable

**ND:** Not detected

**pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** Measurement of the natural rate of disintegration of radioactive contaminants in water (also beta particles).

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water, or milligrams per liter.

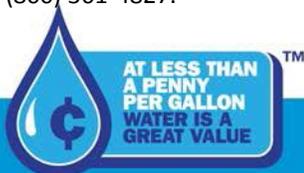
**ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water, or micrograms per liter.

**TT (Treatment Technique):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

## Water Quality Statement

**We are pleased to report that during the past year, the water delivered to your home or business complied with all state and federal drinking water requirements.** For your information, we have compiled tables showing the most recent water quality data available. Although all of the substances listed below are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) set by the USEPA, we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water. For additional information concerning our results, please contact our customer service department at (toll-free) (866) 430-0820. Monitoring is also done under the USEPA Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR). Data is available on the [USEPA’s web site](#).

There are many unforeseen and unpredictable factors that may introduce contaminants into our source water. The Missouri Department of Natural Resources routinely monitors all public water supplies to ensure public health is protected. Source Water Assessments have been assembled by the Missouri Department of Natural Resources to evaluate the susceptibility of contamination to our drinking water sources. For more information about these assessments call the Missouri Department of Natural Resources at (800) 361-4827.



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# Water Quality Results

## Regulated Substances (Water Leaving the Treatment Facility)

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Missouri River Facilities		Meramec River Facilities		Compliance Achieved	Typical Source
				Results	Range Low-High	Results	Range Low-High		
2,4-D (ppb)	2015	70	70	0.04	ND – 0.3	ND	ND	Yes	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Atrazine (ppb)	2015	3	3	0.2	ND – 0.5	ND	ND	Yes	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Chloramines (ppm)	2015	TT	NA	1.7	1.7 - 3.3	1.8	1.8 – 3.1	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Ethylene dibromide (ppt)	2015	50	0	ND	ND	3	ND – 20	Yes	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Fluoride (ppm)	2015	4	4	0.6	0.5 – 0.7	0.6	0.6	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene (ppb)	2015	50	50	ND	ND	0.01	ND – 0.1	Yes	Discharge from chemical factories
Nitrate (as N) (ppm)	2015	10	10	1.3	1.0 – 1.4	0.5	0.4 – 0.5	Yes	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon	2015	TT	NA	1.4	1.4 – 1.6	1.7	1.7 – 2.3	Yes	Naturally present in the environment

## Turbidity - A Measure of the Clarity of the Water (Water Leaving the Treatment Facility)

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Missouri River	Meramec River	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source
				Highest Single Measurement	Highest Single Measurement		
Turbidity (NTU)	2015	TT	NA	0.26	0.22	Yes	Soil runoff

## Bacterial Results (In the Distribution System)

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Highest Percentage Detected	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source
Total Coliform Bacteria	2015	5% Positive Samples	0	0.3%	Yes	Naturally present in the environment

## Regulated Substances (In the Distribution System)

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Results	Range Low-High	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source
Chloramines (ppm)	2015	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	2.7	2.4 – 2.7	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids] (ppb)	2015	60	NA	25.1	6.8 – 46.6	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2015	80	NA	45.3	5.5 – 72.8	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection

## Lead and Copper Results (In the Distribution System)

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	Action Level	MCLG	Number of Samples	90th Percentile	Number of Samples Above Action Level	Typical Source
Copper (ppm)	2013	AL = 1.3	1.3	50	ND	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2013	AL = 15	0	50	2	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits



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## Unregulated Substances (Water Leaving the Treatment Facility)

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	Missouri River		Meramec River		Typical Source
		Results	Range Low-High	Results	Range Low-High	
1,4-Dioxane (ppb)	2013	0.02	ND – 0.2	0.03	ND – 0.1	Cyclic aliphatic ether; used as a solvent or solvent stabilizer in manufacture and processing of paper, cotton, textile products, automotive coolant, cosmetics and shampoos
Aluminum (ppm)	2015	0.003	ND – 0.01	ND	ND	Naturally-occurring; Industrial waste
Boron (ppm)	2015	0.08	0.08 – 0.09	ND	ND	Naturally-occurring
Calcium (ppm)	2015	26	21 – 42	19	10 - 36	Naturally-occurring
Chlorate (ppb)	2013, 2015	ND	ND	260	170 - 590	Agricultural defoliant or desiccant; Used in production of chlorine dioxide
Chloride (ppm)	2015	25.9	25.3 – 26.9	35.0	31.2 – 38.8	Naturally-occurring; Runoff from road de-icing, fertilizers, septic tanks, industrial uses
Chromium – 6 (ppb)	2013	1.3	1.0 – 1.4	1.3	0.9 – 1.6	Naturally-occurring element; used in making steel and other alloys; chromium-3 or -6 forms are used for chrome plating, dyes and pigments, leather tanning, and wood preservation
Magnesium (ppm)	2015	16	16 – 17	13	12 – 13	Naturally-occurring
Potassium (ppm)	2015	1.7	ND – 5	ND	ND	Naturally-occurring
Sodium (ppm)	2015	47.1	46.8 – 47.7	13.7	12 – 15.4	Naturally-occurring
Strontium (ppb)	2015	200	200	ND	ND	Naturally-occurring element; historically, commercial use of strontium has been in the faceplate glass of cathode-ray tube televisions to block x-ray emissions
Sulfate (ppm)	2015	151	143 – 157	18.8	18.7 – 18.8	Naturally-occurring; Mining or industrial waste
Testosterone (ppt)	2013	ND	ND	0.04	ND – 0.2	Androgenic steroid naturally produced in the human body; and used in pharmaceuticals
Vanadium (ppb)	2015	2.7	ND – 4.0	ND	ND	Naturally-occurring elemental metal; used as vanadium pentoxide which is a chemical intermediate and a catalyst

## Unregulated Substances (In the Distribution System)

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	Missouri River		Meramec River		Typical Source
		Results	Range Low-High	Results	Range Low-High	
Chlorate (ppb)	2013	ND	ND	221	90 - 370	Agricultural defoliant or desiccant; used in production of chlorine dioxide
Chromium-6 (ppb)	2013	1.3	0.9 – 1.5	1.2	0.9 – 1.6	Naturally-occurring element; used in making steel and other alloys; chromium-3 or -6 forms are used for chrome plating, dyes and pigments, leather tanning, and wood preservation
Molybdenum (ppb)	2013	2.8	1.2 – 4.2	1.0	ND – 1.9	Naturally-occurring element found in ores and present in plants, animals and bacteria; commonly used form molybdenum trioxide used as a chemical reagent
Strontium (ppb)	2013	163	90 - 220	40	30 - 79	Naturally-occurring element; historically, commercial use of strontium has been in the faceplate glass of cathode-ray tube televisions to block x-ray emissions
Vanadium (ppb)	2013	2.9	1.3 – 4.4	1.0	0.4 – 1.6	Naturally-occurring elemental metal; used as vanadium pentoxide which is a chemical intermediate and a catalyst



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## Additional Water Quality Research

*Cryptosporidium* is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the United States. Although *Cryptosporidium* can be removed through commonly-used filtration methods, USEPA issued a rule in January 2006 that requires systems with higher *Cryptosporidium* levels in their source water to provide additional treatment. An initial round of monitoring showed elevated levels of *Cryptosporidium* in the Missouri River, so in 2011 we completed a year-long Demonstration of Performance project, approved by the MDNR, which shows that our current treatment process is effective at removing *Cryptosporidium*. A second round of monitoring began in 2015, which has shown elevated levels of *Cryptosporidium* on the Meramec River. Preliminary tests show that the treatment in place for the Meramec River is also effective at removing *Cryptosporidium*. We continue to monitor our processes to ensure all applicable standards are met.

Missouri American Water performs annual radionuclide testing on the Missouri River in North St. Louis County. Results are available at [http://www.amwater.com/ccr/stlouisregion\\_rads.pdf](http://www.amwater.com/ccr/stlouisregion_rads.pdf). Additionally, 2015 tests conducted on the water leaving all four St. Louis County treatment facilities found no radiologicals present.

## Substances Tested For But Not Detected (Water Leaving the Treatment Facility)

1,1,1-Trichloroethane	cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	Selenium – Total
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	Cobalt – Total	Silica – Total
1,1-Dichloroethene	Copper – Total	Simazine (Princep)
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	Cyanide – Total	Styrene
1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane	Dacthal	Technical Chlordane
1,2-Dichlorobenzene	Dalapon	Tetrachloroethene (PCE)
1,2-Dichloroethane	Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	Thallium – Total
1,2-Dichloropropane	Di(2-Ethylhexyl)phthalate	Toluene
2,4,5-T	Dicamba	Total PCBs
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	Dichloroprop	Toxaphene
2,4-DB	Dinoseb	trans-1,2-Dichloroethene
3,5-Dichlorobenzoic acid	Diquat	Trichloroethene (TCE)
3-Hydroxycarbofuran	Endothall	Vinyl Chloride
Acifluorfen	Endrin	Xylene – Total
Alachlor	Ethyl Benzene	Zinc – Total
Aldicarb	gamma-BHC (Lindane)	
Aldicarb Sulfone	Glyphosate	
Aldicarb Sulfoxide	Heptachlor	
Alpha emitters	Heptachlor epoxide	
Antimony – Total	Hexachlorobenzene	
Aroclor-1016	Iron – Total	
Aroclor-1221	Lead – Total	
Aroclor-1232	m,p-Xylene	
Aroclor-1242	Manganese – Total	
Aroclor-1248	Mercury – Total	
Aroclor-1254	Methiocarb	
Aroclor-1260	Methomyl	
Arsenic – Total	Methoxychlor	
Barium – Total	Methyl tert-Butyl ether (MTBE)	
Bentazon	Methylene chloride	
Benzo(a)pyrene	Molybdenum – Total	
Beryllium – Total	Nickel – Total	
Bromate	Nitrite – N	
Cadmium – Total	Oxamyl (Vydate)	
Carbaryl (Sevin)	o-Xylene	
Carbofuran	Pentachlorophenol	
Carbon tetrachloride	Perchlorate	
Chlorobenzene	Picloram	
Chromium – Total	Radium, Combined	



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