



2017 Annual

# Water Quality Report

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



MISSOURI  
AMERICAN WATER



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 is blessed with great water. From the confluence of the nation’s two largest rivers, to numerous smaller rivers, streams and creeks, to underground aquifers, we are lucky to have access to some of the best water resources in the United States and even the world.

Our Annual Water Quality Report serves as a description of the source and quality of your drinking water. It outlines and describes your water in detail, both before and after treatment. It is meant to answer the often-asked question, “What is in our water?”



I’m proud of Missouri American Water. Our surface water plants have won multiple Director’s Awards from the American Water Works Association, including a 15-year Director’s Award in 2017 for our four treatment plants in St. Louis County and our Joplin treatment plant. Our groundwater systems also maintain outstanding water quality.

Our nation and state face an ongoing need for investment in water infrastructure. At Missouri American Water, we continue to prioritize water treatment as we make investments in our water system. Only the highest-quality, cleanest, safest water is acceptable.

I hope you’ll take a few minutes and read the following report. It provides important information about your drinking water, its quality, and the testing we’ve conducted. We’re proud to show you the excellent quality of our water.

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.

With a history dating back to 1886, American Water is the largest and most geographically diverse U.S. publicly traded water and wastewater utility company. The company employs more than 6,900 dedicated professionals who provide regulated and market-based drinking water, wastewater and other related services to an estimated 15 million people in 46 states and Ontario, Canada. American Water provides safe, clean, affordable and reliable water services to our customers to make sure we keep their lives flowing. For more information, visit [amwater.com](http://amwater.com) and follow American Water on Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

## 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/pwssid.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.

**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 LEAST, 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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The advertisement features a 3D illustration of a water tap on a green island with a house, a water tower, and a water treatment plant. A hand is shown holding a glass of water being poured from the tap. The background shows a river and a landscape.

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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.medlineplus.gov/drinkingwater.html

## 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		
Atrazine (ppb)	2017	3	3	0.3	ND – 0.6	ND	ND	Yes	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Chloramines (ppm)	2017	TT	NA	1.8	1.8 – 3.2	1.6	1.6 – 3.0	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
Fluoride (ppm)	2017	4	4	0.6	0.6 – 0.7	0.6	0.6 – 0.7	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene (ppb)	2017	50	50	0.01	ND – 0.1	ND	ND	Yes	Discharge from chemical factories
Nitrate (as N) (ppm)	2017	10	10	1.5	0.9 – 2.3	0.5	0.4 – 0.5	Yes	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon	2017	TT	NA	1.2	1.2 – 1.5	1.3	1.3 – 1.9	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)	2017	TT	NA	0.18	0.11	Yes	Soil runoff

## Bacterial Results (In the Distribution System)

Substance (units)	Year Sampled	MCL	MCLG	Highest Percentage Detected	Compliance Achieved	Typical Source
E. Coli	2017	TT	0	0%	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)	2017	MRDL = 4	MRDLG = 4	2.8	2.2 – 2.8	Yes	Water additive used to control microbes
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids] (ppb)	2017	60	NA	32.1	8.6 – 34.3	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2017	80	NA	59.6	2.1 – 73.9	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)	2016	AL = 1.3	1.3	50	ND	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2016	AL = 15	0	50	3	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	
Calcium (ppm)	2017	25	14 – 35	17	12 – 38	Naturally-occurring
Chlorate (ppb)	2017	NA	NA	183	150 - 240	By-product of disinfection process; Agricultural defoliant or desiccant; Used in production of chlorine dioxide
Chloride (ppm)	2017	17	16 – 17	29	22 – 35	Naturally-occurring; Runoff from road de-icing, fertilizers, septic tanks, industrial uses
Magnesium (ppm)	2017	16	3 – 26	18	2 – 28	Naturally-occurring
Potassium (ppm)	2017	5	5	ND	ND	Naturally-occurring
Sodium (ppm)	2017	20	19 – 22	15	12 – 18	Naturally-occurring
Strontium (ppb)	2017	100	100	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)	2017	73	69 – 76	14	14 – 15	Naturally-occurring; Mining or industrial waste
Vanadium (ppb)	2017	5	4 – 7	ND	ND	Naturally-occurring elemental metal; used as vanadium pentoxide which is a chemical intermediate and a catalyst

## 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 in 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  
 1,1,2-Trichloroethane  
 1,1-Dichloroethene  
 1,2-Dibromoethane (EDB)  
 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene  
 1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane  
 1,2-Dichlorobenzene  
 1,2-Dichloroethane  
 1,2-Dichloropropane  
 1,4-Dichlorobenzene  
 2,4,5-T  
 2,4,5-TP (Silvex)  
 2,4-D  
 2,4-DB  
 3,5-Dichlorobenzoic acid

3-Hydroxycarbofuran  
 Acifluorfen  
 Alachlor  
 Aldicarb  
 Aldicarb Sulfone  
 Aldicarb Sulfoxide  
 Aluminum – Total  
 Alpha emitters  
 Antimony – Total  
 Aroclor-1016  
 Aroclor-1221  
 Aroclor-1232  
 Aroclor-1242  
 Aroclor-1248  
 Aroclor-1254

Aroclor-1260  
 Arsenic – Total  
 Barium – Total  
 Bentazon  
 Benzene  
 Benzo(a)pyrene  
 Beryllium – Total  
 Boron  
 Bromate  
 Cadmium – Total  
 Carbaryl (Sevin)  
 Carbofuran  
 Carbon tetrachloride  
 Chlorobenzene  
 Chromium – Total  
 (continued on next page)



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

(Continued from previous page)

cis-1,2-Dichloroethene	Heptachlor epoxide	Pentachlorophenol
Cobalt – Total	Hexachlorobenzene	Perchlorate
Copper – Total	Iron – Total	Picloram
Cyanide – Total	Lead – Total	Radium, Combined
Dacthal	m,p-Xylene	Selenium – Total
Dalapon	Manganese – Total	Silica – Total
Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	Mercury – Total	Silver – Total
Di(2-Ethylhexyl)phthalate	Methiocarb	Simazine (Princep)
Dicamba	Methomyl	Styrene
Dichloroprop	Methoxychlor	Technical Chlordane
Dinoseb	Methyl tert-Butyl ether (MTBE)	Tetrachloroethene (PCE)
Diquat	Methylene chloride	Thallium – Total
Endothall	Molybdenum – Total	Toluene
Endrin	Nickel – Total	Total PCBs
Ethyl Benzene	Nitrite – N	Toxaphene
gamma-BHC (Lindane)	Oxamyl (Vydate)	trans-1,2-Dichloroethene
Glyphosate	o-Xylene	Trichloroethene (TCE)
Heptachlor	Xylene – Total	Zinc – Total
Vinyl Chloride		



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