FPU FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC UTILITIES®

2025 Water Quality Report

408 COLLEGE ST. WEST, FAYETTEVILLE, TN | 931.433.1522 | FPU-TN.COM

FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC UTILITIES

WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2025

IS MY DRINKING WATER SAFE?

Yes, we have conducted numerous tests for over 75 contaminants that may be in our drinking water. Fayetteville Public Utilities' (FPU) water meets all of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) health standards.

WHAT IS THE SOURCE OF MY WATER?

Your main source of water is surface water that comes from the Elk River. We also have an emergency secondary source that is ground water under the direct influence of surface water called the Teal Hollow Springs. Our goal is to protect our water from contaminants, and we are working with The Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC) to determine the vulnerability of our water source to potential contamination. TDEC has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Report for the untreated water sources serving this water system. The SWAP Report assesses the susceptibility of untreated water sources to potential contamination. To ensure safe drinking water, all public water systems treat and routinely test their water. Water sources have been rated as reasonably susceptible, moderately susceptible or slightly susceptible based on geologic factors and human activities in the vicinity of the water source. The Elk River source was rated as slightly susceptible to potential contamination and Teal Hollow is moderately susceptible.

An explanation of Tennessee's Source Water Assessment Program, the Source Water Assessment summaries, susceptibility scorings and the overall TDEC report to EPA can be viewed online at *https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/wr-water-resources/water-quality/source-water-assessment.html* , or you may contact FPU to obtain copies of specific assessments and Wellhead Protection Plans.

WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN MY 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

For more information about your drinking water, please call Lee Williams at 931-433-1522, extension 321.

HOW CAN I GET INVOLVED?

The FPU Board of Directors meets on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 8:00 a.m. at the main FPU office. Meetings are open to the public and customers are welcome to address questions and comments to the board.

IS OUR WATER SYSTEM MEETING OTHER RULES THAT GOVERN OUR OPERATIONS?

TDEC and the EPA require FPU to test and report on our water on a regular basis to ensure its safety. We have met all of these requirements. Results of unregulated contaminant analysis are available upon request.

OTHER INFORMATION

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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water:

- *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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and TDEC prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FPU's water treatment processes are designed to reduce any such substances to levels well below any health concern. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

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 had 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 not only their drinking water but food preparation, personal hygiene, and precautions in handling infants and pets from their health care providers. EPA and the Centers of 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 at 800-426-4791.

LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Fayetteville Public Utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need

to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Lee Williams at 931-433-1522, extension 321. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at *https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.*

LEAD HEALTH EFFECTS

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.

LEAD SERVICE LINE INVENTORY

Fayetteville Public Utilities completed the required LSLI. If you would like more information about the LSLI, please come by the main office at 408 College Street West.

WATER SYSTEM SECURITY

Following the events of September 2001, we realize that our customers are concerned about the security of their drinking water. We urge the public to report any suspicious activities at any utility facilities, including treatment plants, pumping stations, tanks, fire hydrants, etc. to Local Authorities (911) and FPU at 931-433-1522.

WATER QUALITY DATA

WHAT DOES THIS CHART MEAN?

- MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or 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 or 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. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.
- MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or the highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.
- AL - Action Level or the concentration of a contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)** - explained as a relation to time and money as one part per million corresponds to 1 minute in 2 years or a single penny in $10,000.
- **Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter** - explained as a relation to time and money as one part per billion corresponds to 1 minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.
- **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.
- RTCR - Revised Total Coliform Rule. This rule went into effect on April 1, 2016, and replaces the MCL for total coliform with a Treatment Technique Trigger for a system assessment.
- TT - Treatment Technique or a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

ELK RIVER

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION YES/NO	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	DATE OF SAMPLE	UNIT MEASUREMENT	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Total Coliform Bacteria (RTCR)	No	0	0	>=15 samples/ month		0	TT Trigger	Naturally present in the environment
E-coli Bacteria[1]	No	0	0	>= 15 samples/ month		0	See footnote 1	Human or animal wastes
Turbidity[2]	No	0.21	0.02 – 0.21	Daily	NTU	N/A	TT	Soil runoff
Atrazine	No	0.19	0 – 0.19	Yearly	ppb	3	3	Runoff from herbicide used on crops
Barium	No	0.0175		2020	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine	No	1.72 avg.	0.58 – 2.22	Daily	ppm	4	MRDL= 4	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide	No	310	0 – 310	Daily	ppb	800	MRDL= 800	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite	No	0.715	0.027 – 0.715	Daily	ppm	0.8	1.0	By-product of drinking water disinfection

CONTAMINANT	VIOLATION YES/NO	LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	DATE OF SAMPLE	UNIT MEASUREMENT	MCLG	MCL	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
Copper	No	90th%= 0.0610	0.00260 – 0.0651	2025	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead[3]	No	90th% = 1.10	0.5 – 2.2	2025	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	No	0.703 avg.	0.62 – 0.74	Quarterly	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	0.385		2025	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks or sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	No	2.07		2025	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; used in water treatment
Total Trihalomethanes[4] *(TTHM)*	No	36.8 avg.	14.6 – 87.0	Quarterly	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	No	36.0 avg.	12.1 – 111.0	Quarterly	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon[5]	No	33.3% avg.	19.1% – 51.0%	Quarterly	percent removal	N/A	TT	Naturally present in the environment

1* E. coli: A system is in compliance with the MCL for E. coli for samples unless any of the conditions identified in parts one through four, listed below, occur.
1. The system has an E. coli-positive repeat sample following a total coliform positive routine sample.
2. The system has a total coliform positive repeat sample following an E. coli-positive routine sample.
3. The system fails to take all required repeat samples following an E. coli-positive routine sample.
4. The system fails to test for E. coli when any repeat sample tests positive for total coliform.

2* We met the treatment technique requirement for turbidity with 100% of our monthly samples below the turbidity limit of 0.30 NTU. Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

3* During the most recent round of Lead and Copper testing of 30 households, none of the homes we sampled contained concentrations exceeding the action level.

4* Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

5* We met the Treatment Technique requirement for Total Organic Carbon in 2025.

NOTICE: *FLUSHING MEDICATIONS CONTAMINATES WATER SUPPLY*

Flushing unused or expired medicines can be harmful to you drinking water. Proper disposal of unused or expired medication helps protect you and the environment. Keep medications out of Tennessee's waterways by disposing of them in a permanent pharmaceutical take-back bin. There are 384 take-back bins located across the state in all 95 counties, including one at the Lincoln County Sheriff's Department and the Fayetteville Police Department. To find a convenient location in the surrounding area, please scan the QR or visit *tdeconline.tn.gov/rxtakeback/.*

SCAN TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MEDICATION TAKE-BACK BINS

WATER TREATMENT PROCESS