

# The Water We Drink

## 2016 CCR

### Gretna Waterworks

#### Public Water Supply ID: LA1051003

**Quick Note:** This Annual Water Quality report is compiled from analytical data collected from January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2016. There also may be some data that predates this report. The reason you may see some predated results is that not all analytical data is collected on an annual basis, but certain data must be included in the report with the last recorded analytical date.

**It takes some time to compile all the necessary data for accuracy. That is why there may be a delay as much as six months to release this report.**

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for the year 2015. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of your water and the services we deliver to you every day (Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien). 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 quality of your water. Our water source is listed below:

Source Name: Surface Water Raw Intake – Source Location: Mississippi River – Source Type: Surface Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottle 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:

- 1 **Microbial Contaminants** – such as viruses and bacteria, which come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife
- 2 **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
- 3 **Pesticides and Herbicides** – which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses
- 4 **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
- 5 **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 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, please call the Gretna Waterworks at 504-363-1540.

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. Gretna Waterworks 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 contaminants 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>

2016 to December 31st, 2016. 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.

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:

- 1 **Maximum contaminant level (MCL)** – MCL is the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- 2 **Maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG)** – the “Goal” is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below, which there is no known risk.
- 3 **Maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL)** – the highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water.
- 4 **Maximum residual disinfectant level goal (MRDLG)** – the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk.
- 5 **Parts per billion (ppb)** – one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- 6 **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.
- 7 **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** – measure of radioactivity in water.
- 8 **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** – measure of cloudiness of water
- 9 **Treatment technique (TT)** – a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- 10 **Action level (AL)** – the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

In the table that follows, we have shown the regulated contaminants that were detected at levels **below** their maximum contaminant level. 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 chemical sampling results.

**Contaminant: Arsenic** – Sampling Period: 1/27/2016 / Level: **0.7** / Range: **0.7** / Unit: ppb / MCL: 10 / MCLG: 0 / Typical Source: Erosion of natural; Runoff from glass and electronic production waste.

**Contaminant: Gross Beta Particle Activity** – Sampling Period: 1/27/2016 / Level: **1.66** / Range: **1.66** / Unit: pCi/l / MCL: 50 / MCLG: 0 / Typical Source: Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

**Contaminant: Copper** – Sampling Period: 2012 - 2014/ Level: **0.4** 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile / Range: **0.1-0.5** / AL= 1.3 / Sites over AL: 0 / Unit: ppm / Major Sources: Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.

**Contaminant: Hexachlorocyclo Pentadiene** – Sampling Period: 1/27/2016 / Highest Value: **0.048** / Range: 0.048 / Unit: ppb / MCL 50 / MCLG 50 / Discharge from chemical factories.

**Contaminant: Combined Uranium** – Sampling Period: 1/27/2016 / Highest Value: **0.65** / Range: 0.65 / Unit: ug/l / MCL 30 / MCLG 0 / Erosion of natural deposits.

**Contaminant: Barium** – Sampling Period: 1/27/2016 / Highest Value: 0.05 / Range: **0.05** / Unit: ppm / MCL 2 / MCLG 2 / Discharge of drilling waste; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.

**Contaminant: Nitrate-Nitrite** – Sampling Date: 1/27/2016 / Highest Value: **1.8** / Range: **1.8** / MCL: 10 / MCLG: 10 / Unit: ppm / Typical or Major Sources: Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

**Contaminant: Fluoride** – Sampling Date: 1/27/2016/ Highest Value: **0.45** / Range: **0.45** / Unit: ppm / MCL 4 / MCLG 4 / Major Sources: Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from Factories; Water additive which promotes strong teeth

**Contaminant: Lead** - Sampling Period: 2012 - 2014/ Level: **2** 90<sup>th</sup> percentile / Range: **1- 7** / AL = 15 / Sites over AL **1** / Unit: ppb / Major Sources: Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

**DBP Contaminant: Disinfection By-Products Rule Monitoring / Total Haloacetic Acid (HAA5)** / Monitoring Period 1/01/2016 – 12/31/2016 / **Highest LRAA (Gretna Lab Tap) 49** / Range 22 – 58.5 / MCL: 60 / MCLG: 0 / Unit: ppb / Major Sources: By-product of drinking water disinfection

**DBP Contaminant: Stage Disinfection By-Products Rule Monitoring / TTHM** / Monitoring Period 1/1/2016-12/31/2016 / **Highest LRAA (Gretna Lab Tap) 54** / Range 34.7 – 62.4 / MCL: 80 / MCLG: 0 / Unit: ppb / Major Sources: By-product of drinking water chlorination

**Contaminant: Chloramines** – Date: 2016 / Result: **1.77** / Unit: ppm / Range: 0.5 – 2.7 / MRDL or MCL: 4 / MRDLG or MCLG: 4

**Contaminant: Turbidity** - Sampling Date: 12/15/2016 / Highest Level: **0.09** / MCL: TT = 1 / Range: **0.03-0.09** / MCL: 0.3/MCLG: n/a / Unit: NTU

**Contaminant: Turbidity** - Date: (Lowest Monthly % of Samples in 2016 Meeting less than 95%) **None** (All Samples in Each Month Were = to 100%) / MCL: TT=0.3 NTU (in 95% of samples) / Unit: %

Note: Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The major sources of turbidity include soil runoff.

Secondary Contaminants:	Collection Date:	Highest Value:	Range:	Unit:	SMCL:
Aluminum	3/16/2015	0.045	0.045	mg/l	0.05
Chloride	1/27/2016	16.5	16.5	mg/l	250
Manganese	1/27/2016	0.01	0.01	mg/l	0.05
PH	1/27/2016	7.4	7.4	SU	8.5
Sulfate	1/27/2016	28.5	28.5	mg/l	250
Zinc	1/27/2016	0.011	0.011	mg/l	5

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

**NO VIOLATIONS OCCURRED IN THE CALENDER YEAR 2016**

Our water system tested a minimum of 20 monthly sample(s) in accordance with Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. During the monitoring period covered by this report, we had the following noted detections for microbiological contaminates:

**Contaminant: COLIFORM (TCR)** – Month of January 2016: **1 Positive Sample** / MCL: Systems that collect less than 40 samples per month – No more than 1 positive monthly sample / MCLG: 0 / Naturally present in the environment

**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 (800-426-4791).