

**SEVERN  
TRENT  
SERVICES**



**2014 ANNUAL DRINKING  
WATER QUALITY REPORT**

## The Water We Drink

PORT SULPHUR WATER DISTRICT  
Public Water Supply ID: LA1075006

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We are 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 (Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo 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(s) are listed below:

| Source Name                | Source Water Type | Water Body Name   |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| SURFACE RAW WATER INTAKE   | Surface Water     | Mississippi River |
| BOOTHVILLE - VENICE INTAKE | Surface Water     | Mississippi River |

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 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.

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.

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 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: Rev. Michael Jiles at (504) 297-5561.

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. PORT SULPHUR WATER DISTRICT 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 1st to December 31st, 2014. 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 on the following page, 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 (ug/L) – 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 (AL) – the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- Maximum contaminant level (MCL) – the “Maximum Allowed” MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL’s are set as close to the MCLG’s as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- Maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG) – the “Goal” is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLG’s 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 below noted violations of drinking water regulations.

| Type                                   | Category | Analyte                       | Compliance Period      |
|--|----------|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| FAILURE SUBMIT OEL REPORT FOR HAA5     | RPT      | TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) | 7/31/2014 - 10/15/2014 |
| FAILURE SUBMIT OEL REPORT FOR TTHM     | RPT      | TTHM                          | 7/31/2014 - 10/15/2014 |
| INADEQUATE MINIMUM CHLORINE RESIDUAL   | TT       | CHLORINE                      | 9/1/2014 - 9/30/2014   |
| INADEQUATE MINIMUM CHLORINE RESIDUAL   | TT       | CHLORINE                      | 10/1/2014 - 10/31/2014 |
| INADEQUATE MINIMUM CHLORINE RESIDUAL   | TT       | CHLORINE                      | 11/1/2014 - 11/30/2014 |
| INADEQUATE MINIMUM CHLORINE RESIDUAL   | TT       | CHLORINE                      | 12/1/2014 - 12/31/2014 |
| MCL, AVERAGE                           | MCL      | TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) | 1/1/2014 - 3/31/2014   |
| MCL, LRAA                              | MCL      | TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5) | 4/1/2014 - 6/30/2014   |
| MCL, LRAA                              | MCL      | TTHM                          | 4/1/2014 - 6/30/2014   |
| PUBLIC NOTICE RULE LINKED TO VIOLATION | PN       | PUBLIC NOTICE                 | 5/8/2014 - 8/5/2014    |



***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).

***Additional Required Health Effects Language***

Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

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.

There are no additional required health effects violation notices.



***Plaquemines Parish Government***

8056 Highway 23, Suite 200 · Belle Chasse, LA 70037  
(504) 274-2460

|                               |                            |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Amos Cormier, Jr.</b>      | Parish President           |
| <b>Benny Rousselle</b>        | Council Chairman           |
| <b>John Barthelemy</b>        | Council Member             |
| <b>Beau Black</b>             | Council Member             |
| <b>Kirk Lepine</b>            | Council Member             |
| <b>Irvin Juneau</b>           | Council Member             |
| <b>Charlie Burt</b>           | Council Member             |
| <b>Audrey Trufant-Salvant</b> | Council Member             |
| <b>Jeff Edgecombe</b>         | Council Member             |
| <b>Nicole Smith Williams</b>  | Council Member             |
| <b>Stanley Wallace</b>        | Director of Operations     |
| <b>Rev. Michael W. Jiles</b>  | Director of Public Service |
| <b>Ed Theriot</b>             | Director of Administration |



***Severn Trent Environmental Services***

126 Sewer Plant Road · Belle Chasse, LA 70037  
(504) 392-4177

**Robert J. Morgan Jr.** Area Manager

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 PORT SULPHUR WATER DISTRICT 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 at 504-392-4177 if you have questions.

**Public Notification for Community Water System  
Port Sulphur Water District  
Public Water Supply ID: LA 1075006**

**This is not an emergency.** If it had been you would have been notified immediately. EPA and LDHH do not consider this violation to have any serious adverse health effects on human health as a result of short-term exposure; however, continued long term exposure to TTHMs levels above the standard (e.g., 20 years of exposure) has the potential to have serious adverse effects on human health.

The **Port Sulphur Water District** is currently in violation of the **maximum contaminant level (MCL)** for **total trihalomethanes (TTHMs)** and **haloacetic acids-five (HAA5)** as set forth by the State [Part XII of the Louisiana State Sanitary Code (LAC 51: XII)] and the Federal Primary Drinking Water Regulations (40 CFR Part 141).

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals (LDHH) set drinking water standards and requires the disinfection of drinking water. Where disinfection is used in the treatment of drinking water, disinfectants combine with naturally occurring organic and inorganic matter present in water to form chemicals called disinfection byproducts (DBPs). EPA and LDHH set standards for controlling the levels of disinfectants and DBPs in drinking water, including trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Some people who drink water containing THMs in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Also, some people who drink water containing HAAs in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

In December 1998, EPA set enforceable drinking water standards for TTHMs at 80 parts per billion (ppb) and for HAA5 at 60 parts per billion (ppb) to reduce the risk of cancer or other adverse health effects. Compliance with the TTHMs/HAA5 standards for public water systems serving less than 10,000 individuals initially became effective and enforceable on January 1, 2004. Compliance with the TTHMs/HAA5 standards is determined by calculating an annual average (AA) of quarterly TTHMs/HAA5 sample results. Compliance calculations performed for the second quarter of 2014 show that the system's current TTHMs LRAAs are 91 ppb at /DBP04 – Tiger pass and 101 ppb at DBP06 – Shell Heliport. The haa5 LRAAs are 70 ppb at DBP04 – Tiger Pass and 76 ppb at DBP06 – Shell Heliport; thus, the system is currently in violation of the TTHMs and HAA5 standards.

Steps are being taken to greatly reduce the DBBs formed in the water system. The four main factors controlling these DBB formations are temperature, time, precursors, and free chlorine. Higher temperature causes more rapid formation of DBBs, and has contributed largely to the problem seasonably. Because we have unusually long transmiton lines due to the unique geography of the parish, we reduce reaction time by extensive flushing. We are removing as much of the precursors as our equipment allows and we remain well within legal limits. Planed process improvements at Belle Chasse (UV) will decrease these an additional 40 to 60%, and help reduce the DBBs in the Port Sulphur system since the systems are connected. The state has mandated that we increasing the minimum distribution system residual by 60% which has the direct effect of increasing TTHMs and HAA5 formation. We will reduce the amount of free chlorine in the system and increase the chloramine by adding additional ammonia feeds.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact:  
Severn Trent Environmental Services at 504-392-4177.

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