

The Water We Drink

Slidell Water Supply

Public Water Supply ID: LA1103041

We are pleased to present to you the Annual Water Quality Report for the year 2008. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of your water and 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(s) are listed below:

Source Name	Source Water Type	Source Water Body Name
West Hall Street Well	Ground Water	
Kostmeyer Street	Ground Water	
Robert Road Well	Ground Water	
Northshore Hospital Well	Ground Water	

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 'MEDIU'. 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.

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. Slidell Water Supply 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>.

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 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, want to attend any scheduled meetings, or simply want to learn more about your drinking water, please contact The Honorable "Ben" Morris at 985-646-4333.

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, 2008. 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:

Non-Detects (ND – laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (ng/L) – one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (pg/L) – one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) – measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Million fibers per liter (MFL) – million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

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.

Variations & Exemptions (V&E) – State or EPA permission not to meet MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Action level (AL) – the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

Treatment technique (TT) – a treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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
MCL (TCR), MONTHLY	Maximum Contaminant Level Violation	COLIFORM (TCR)	07/01/2008 - 07/31/2008
MCL (TCR), MONTHLY	Maximum Contaminant Level Violation	COLIFORM (TCR)	08/01/2008 - 08/31/2008

Our water system tested a minimum of 40 samples per month monthly sample(s) in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. During the monitoring period covered by this report, we had the following noted detections for microbiological contaminants:

Microbiological	Result	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COLIFORM (TCR)	In the month of August, 15.79% of samples returned as positive.	MCL: Systems that Collect 40 or More Samples per Month - No more than 5% positive monthly samples;	0	Naturally present in the environment
E. COLI	In the month of October, 1 sample(s) returned as positive.	MCL: A Routine Sample and a Repeat Sample are Total Coliform Positive, and One is also Fecal Positive/E. Coli Positive	0	Human and animal fecal waste

In the tables below, we have shown the regulated contaminants that have detectable levels. These samples, except for Lead and Copper results and surface water systems, were collected at the raw water source and represent water before any treatment, blending or distribution. As much, the consumer tap levels could be less. 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.

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
BARIUM	11/26/2007	0.0249	0.0114 - 0.0249	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE	11/26/2007	0.32	0.21 - 0.32	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NITRATE-NITRITE	11/26/2007	0.02	0.02	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
TURBIDITY	8/5/2004	1	0.25 - 1	NTU	1		

Lead and Copper	Date	90th Percentile	95th Percentile	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2008 - 2010	0.2	0.2	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
LEAD	2008 - 2010	4	6	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Radionuclides	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
No Detected Results were Found in the Calendar Year of 2008							
DBP Contaminants	Monitoring Period	RAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
No Detected Results were Found in the Calendar Year of 2008							

+++++Environmental Protection Agency Required Health Effect 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:

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Fecal coliforms and E. Coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

There are no additional required health effects violation notices.

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. Please call our office if you have any questions.

We at the Slidell Water Supply work around the clock to provide top quality drinking water to every tap. We ask that 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.

"We are required to monitor your drinking water for disinfection byproducts (total trihalomethanes [HAA5]) every calendar year during warm water temperature months (May-September). Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During the compliance monitoring period of January 1, 2008 through December 31, 2008, Slidell Water Supply did not monitor for total trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and haloacetic acids five (HAA5) as required, and therefore we cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. 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.

This violation occurred because of the failure to collect the required samples for total trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and haloacetic acids-five (HAA5) from the water system's distribution system. Based upon previous trihalomethanes and haloacetic samples Slidell Water Supply has met all State required sampling requirements.

Necessary action has been taken to prevent this violation from recurring. Should you have any questions, please contact (insert owner/manager/operator's name here) at Slidell Water Supply at telephone number 985-646-4291.