



# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report 2014

Anderson Water Utility

PSWID 5248002

## *A Message From The New Director - Wat'er We Doing?!*

I am pleased to present this report on the quality of Anderson's drinking water for 2014. You will see that Anderson's treated water continues to meet or surpass all federal and state drinking water standards.

We are proud to inform you that we just completed a system-wide water main flushing and fire hydrants testing (including over 1,000 hydrants) for the first time in Anderson's recent history – this not only improves water quality by removing deposits from inside the pipes, but also ensures safety and fire protection.

While this is the drinking water quality annual report that is mandated for all community water systems, it is also our Consumer Confidence Report – We want to share with you (our valued customers) what our entire staff is doing and we want thank you for taking the time to read this report.

Anderson Water, a member of the City's family of utility services, has been providing essential around-the-clock water service for over a hundred years to keep our community strong and vital. This year we are beginning some major upgrades to the system including water supply, treatment and distribution infrastructure replacement, repair and improved maintenance. These projects will improve system reliability, service to our customers, fire safety, and will support economic development and also contribute to our vibrant community.

Anderson is fortunate to possess local water sources. However, some of the systems critical to delivering superior quality to every tap show clear signs of aging. We want your support and involvement in our decisions and priorities, including public health and safety, system efficiency, and future vitality. For any questions or concerns about any of our services, please contact your water professionals at Anderson Water (765) 648-6420.

*Yasser Abouaish, Director*

This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. 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 supplied by deep ground water supply wells: Our wells draw from the aquifer in the Indian Creek in Lafayette Township, and the White River and Killbuck Creek area.

Anderson Water Utility routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table provided in this report shows results from our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014. The year of testing is noted for constituents detected prior to 2014 as part of the Standardized Monitoring Framework established by the Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM). All testing required by IDEM and EPA was performed. **As you can see by the table, our system was in full compliance with regulatory requirements.** We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

## 2014 TEST RESULTS

Constituent	Compliance	Level	Unit	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>						
Total Coliform Bacteria	Y	0% highest month	%	0	5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Turbidity</b>						
Turbidity (highest single measurement)	Y	0.45 Max	NTU	n/a	1.0	Soil Runoff (TT)
Turbidity (lowest monthly % meeting limit)	Y	99%	NTU	n/a	95% <0.3	Soil Runoff (TT)
<b>Lead &amp; Copper</b>						
Copper <sup>(1)</sup> (2013)	Y	0.233	ppm	AL=0	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead <sup>(1)</sup> (2013)	Y	0.50	ppb	AL=0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Chromium	Y	2.0	ppb	100	100	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	Y	0.8	ppb	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	Y	0.132	ppm	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	Y	Avg.=0.77 Range=0.57-0.86	ppm	4	4	Water treatment additive; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	Y	0.7	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Disinfection By-Products &amp; Precursors</b>						
THM [Total trihalomethanes]	Y	<sup>(2)</sup> RAA=27.9 Range: 12.6-27	ppb	n/a	80	By-product of chlorination treatment
HAA5 [Total Haloacetic Acids]	Y	<sup>(2)</sup> RAA=14.6 Range:7.5-19.2	ppb	0	60	By-product of chlorination treatment
Treated Water TOC (Total Organic Carbon)	Y	Average 1.25	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>						
Trichloroethylene	Y	0.6	ppb	0	5	Discharge from industry
Cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	Y	0.7	ppb	70	70	Discharge from industrial factories
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides—No Detects</b>						
<b>Unregulated Contaminants</b>						
Sodium	Y	30.36	ppm	n/a	n/a	Naturally present in the environment

### Definitions

**Action Level (AL)**- the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow

**Parts per million (ppm)** - Milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**Parts per billion (ppb)** - Micrograms per liter (ug/L)

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)**: 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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)**: 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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL)**: The highest level of disinfection allowed in drinking water.

**Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal (MRDLG)**: The level of drinking water disinfection below which there is no known or expected health risk.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health. 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

### **Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?**

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 include:

- Microbial contaminants, 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 runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas productions, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemicals, 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 materials, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

### **Lead in Drinking Water**

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. Anderson Water Utility 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 thirty (30) seconds to two (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>.

### **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 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

### **Public Involvement Opportunities**

We at Anderson Water Utility work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. **Please call our office if you have questions (765) 648-6420. If you wish to participate in decisions that may affect water quality, the regularly scheduled public board meetings are held every Tuesday at 3:00 p.m.** at Anderson City Hall, 120 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Anderson, IN 46016. You can contact the Board of Works at (765) 648-6014.

**Water Department: (765) 648-6420**

**Board of Public Works: (765) 648-6014**

**Mayor Kevin S. Smith**

**City of Anderson**