

**Water Quality Report**  
For  
**The City of Pascagoula**  
ID # 300006

We are pleased to present to you our Annual Water Quality Report for the year 2016. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of 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. In view of this goal, we are pleased to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state requirements.

Our water comes from wells drilled deep into aquifers 300 to 800 feet below the surface. These aquifers are the Pascagoula and the Graham's Ferry formations. Each well is evaluated on an annual basis for purity and content. The City of Pascagoula uses a Reverse Osmosis/Ozone water filtration system to purify the well water. If you want to learn more about your water and how the City of Pascagoula works to keep your water safe please contact Jeff Hutchison (228) 938-6623, Water Superintendent, at our 14<sup>th</sup> St. offices between 7:00 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. or write to us at P.O. Drawer 908, Pascagoula, MS 39568-0908. Our City Council meets on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. Information is also available on our website [www.cityofpascagoula.com](http://www.cityofpascagoula.com)

The source water assessment has also been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water to identify potential sources of contamination. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our Public Works Department and is available for viewing at our office upon request.

The City of Pascagoula routinely monitors for substances and contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016. As water travels over the land or underground, it may pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, is suspected to contain small amounts of some substances or contaminants. It is important to remember that the presence of these substances or contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you understand these terms; we have provided the following definitions:

*Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring (UMCR)*

*Running Annual Average (RAA)*

*Maximum Residual Disinfectant Levels (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.*

*Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that substances or contaminants are 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 (nanograms/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 (picograms/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.*

*Minimum Reporting Level (MRL)*

*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 - The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which 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 - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 - The "Goal"(MCLG) is 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.*

**TEST RESULTS**

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Your Water	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Volatile Organic Compounds</b>								
Xylenes, Total	N	08/12/14 10/17/14	1.4 0.506	0.506-1.4	Ppb	10	10000	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Chromium	N	04/10/15 04/10/15	0.0012 0.0006	0.0006- 0.0012	Mg/l	100	0.1	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	04/10/15 04/10/15 04/10/15	1.02 0.937 0.815	0.815-1.02	Mg/l	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Barium	N	04/10/15 04/10/15 04/03/15	0.0047 0.0011 0.00276	0.0011- 0.00276	Mg/l		2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Disinfection By-Products</b>								
Chlorine	N	01/01/16 12/31/16	1.00 (RAA)	0.20/1.43 (MRDL)	Mg/l		4	Water Additive used to control microbes.
THM	N	01/01/16 12/31/16	5.79 (RAA)	1.63-13.57	Ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5	N	01/01/16 12/31/16	2.33 (RAA)	1.0-4.0	Ppb		60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Bromate	N	08/05/13 08/05/13	0.008 0.008		Mg/l		0.010	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
<b>Lead &amp; Copper</b>								
Lead	N	07/27/16	2 (90th)		Ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Copper	N	07/27/16	0.3 (90th)		Mg/l	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
<b>Additional Monitoring (UCMR 3)</b>								
Chloromethane	N	02/19/14	0.37	0.37	Ug/l		MRL 0.20	Halogenated alkane; used as foaming agent, in production of other substances, and by-product that can form when chlorine is used to disinfect drinking water

Strontium	N	02/20/14 02/20/14	1.1 8.5	1.1-8.5	Ug/l		MRL 0.30	Naturally-occurring element; historically, commercial use of strontium has been in faceplate glass of cathode-ray tube televisions to block x-ray emissions
Vanadium	N	08/30/13	0.21	0.21	Ug/l		MRL 0.20	Naturally-occurring element; Used as vanadium pentoxide which is a chemical intermediate and a catalyst
Hexavalent Chromium	N	02/20/14	0.041	0.041	Ug/l		MRL 0.030	Naturally-occurring element; Used in making steel and other alloys. Chromium-3 or -6 forms are used for chrome plating, dyes and pigments, leather tanning and wood preservation.
Chromium	N	02/20/14	0.073	0.073	Ug/l		MRL 0.067	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.

To comply with the "Regulation Governing Fluoridation of Community Water supplies", **City of Pascagoula** is required to report certain results pertaining to fluoridation of our water system. The number of months in the previous calendar year in which average fluoride results were within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 was 10. The percentage of fluoride samples collected in the previous calendar year that was within the optimal range of 0.7-1.3 ppm was 88%.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested by a private laboratory. Letting the water run for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water may reduce your exposure to lead. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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 increased risk of getting cancer.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All 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 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. People whose immune system is compromised 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 diseases. 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 (bacteria more commonly found in surface water) and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

If you want additional information about your drinking water, you may contact our certified waterworks operator or you may prefer to log on to the Mississippi Department of Health website and obtain specific information about your system and its compliance history at the following address: [http://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/\\_static/30,0,76.html](http://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/30,0,76.html) Information including current and past boil water notices, compliance and reporting violations, and other information pertaining to your water supply including "Why, When, and How to Boil Your Drinking Water" and "Flooding and Safe Drinking Water" may be obtained.

Our water resources are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. You can help us in our efforts to provide you with quality water and services by keeping alleys clear of debris, fences, and other obstructions, by protecting your water meter so that it may be read accurately, by preventing backflows and back siphons, by using pesticides wisely, and by not wasting this precious natural resource.