



# TOWN OF WALNUT GROVE WATER SYSTEM

## 2009 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

PWS-ID 400011

### Is my water safe?

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. Local Water vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

### 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/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

### Where does my water come from?

Walnut Grove water is pumped from three wells that comes out of the Meridian-Upper Wilcox aquifer.

### Source water assessment and its availability.

Walnut Grove completed a source water assessment and is available at Town Hall.

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

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). 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 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: microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that 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 water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. 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 which must provide the same protection for public health.

### How can I get involved?

The Town of Walnut Grove has a monthly meeting on the first Tuesday at 6:00 pm at Town Hall, if anyone would like to attend.

### Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 350 gallons of water per day? Luckily there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Water your lawn at the least sunny times of the day. Fix toilet and faucet leaks. Take short showers – a 5 minute shower uses 4-5 gallons of water compared to 50 gallons for a bath. Turn the faucet off while brushing your teeth and shaving. 3-5 gallons of water go down the drain per minute. Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!

### A MESSAGE FROM MSDH CONCERNING RADIOLOGICAL SAMPLING

In accordance with the Radionuclides Rule, all community public water supplies were required to sample quarterly for radionuclides beginning January 2007 - December 2007. Your public water supply completed sampling by the scheduled deadline; however, during an audit of the Mississippi State Department of Health Radiological Health Laboratory, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) suspended analyses and reporting of radiological compliance samples and results until further notice.

Although this was not the result of inaction by the public water supply, MSDH was required to issue a violation. The Bureau of Public Water Supply is taking action to resolve this issue as quickly as possible. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Parker, Deputy Director, Bureau of Public Water Supply, at 601.576.7516.

### Water Quality Data Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Contaminant	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	Your Water	Range		Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
				LOW	HIGH			
<b>Antimony (ppb)</b>	.006	.006	.0005	.0005	.0005	2009	NO	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder; test addition.
<b>Arsenic (ppb)</b>	.010	.010	.0005	.0005	.0005	2009	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
<b>Barium (pap)</b>	2	2	.0059	.0028	.0059	2009	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Beryllium (ppb)</b>	.004	.004	.0005	.0005	.0005	2009	NO	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
<b>Cadmium (ppb)</b>	.005	.005	.0005	.0005	.0005	2009	NO	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
<b>Chromium (ppb)</b>	0.1	0.1	.0017	.0017	.0017	2009	NO	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Cyanide [as Free Cn] (ppb)</b>	0.2	0.2	.015	.015	.015	2009	NO	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories
<b>Fluoride (ppm)</b>	4	4	.136	.136	.136	2009	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
<b>Mercury [Inorganic] (ppb)</b>	.002	.002	.0005	.0005	.0005	2009	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland
<b>Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)</b>	10	10	.02	.02	.02	2009	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen] (ppm)</b>	1	1	.005	.005	.02	2009	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Selenium (ppb)</b>	0.05	0.05	.0025	.0025	.0025	2009	NO	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
<b>Thallium (ppb)</b>	.002	.002	.0005	.0005	.0005	2006	NO	Discharge from electronics, glass, and Leaching from ore-processing sites; drug factories.

Contaminant	MCLG or MRDLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	NO. SAMPLES EXCEEDING AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
<b>Lead (ppb)</b> Action Level @ Consumer Taps	0	1.5	3	2008	0	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

### Additional Information for Lead

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. ABC Water Association 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 Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health Laboratory offers lead testing for \$10 per sample. Please contact 601.576.7582 if you wish to have your water tested.

### For more information please contact:

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Ph. 601-507-7448

### TABLE ABBREVIATIONS, TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

<b>MCLG:</b>	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
<b>MCL:</b>	Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
<b>TT:</b>	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
<b>AL:</b>	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
<b>Variances &amp; Exemptions:</b>	State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
<b>MRDLG:</b>	Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.
<b>MRDL:</b>	Maximum residual disinfectant level. 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.
<b>PPM</b>	ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
<b>PPB</b>	ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
<b>NA</b>	NA: not applicable
<b>ND</b>	ND: Not detected
<b>NR</b>	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended.