



# Winchester Municipal Utilities

KY0250473

## DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT 2017

150 North Main Street  
PO Box 4177  
Winchester, KY 40392-4177



The Winchester Municipal Utilities (WMU), your drinking water provider, works around the clock to provide exceptional water, wastewater, and solid waste utility services to every consumer. This Drinking Water Quality Report provides you with information regarding your drinking water. For additional information, call WMU at 744-5434.

Este informe contiene informacion importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, o hable con alguien que lo entienda.

Website: [www.wmutilities.com](http://www.wmutilities.com)

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION ABOUT WMU

The Winchester Municipal Utilities (WMU) is pleased to provide its Drinking Water Quality Report for 2017. The report is designed to inform you about the quality of your drinking water and is based on monitoring and test results for the year January 1 through December 31, 2016. Water treatment is a complex and highly regulated activity. WMU strives to continually improve the quality of its drinking water and of the many other utility services provided to you, our customer.

MU's raw (untreated) water sources are the Kentucky River (Pool 10) and the Carroll E. Ecton Reservoir, which are surface water sources. The Kentucky River supplied 69% and the Carroll E. Ecton Reservoir supplied 31% of the water treated in 2016. WMU treated 1,734,159,000 gallons of water during 2016 from the Kentucky River and the Carroll E. Ecton Reservoir. The Kentucky River is most vulnerable to contamination from agricultural runoff, which may include pesticides, nutrients and silt from croplands, and substances resulting from the presence of animals on pasture lands. The Carroll E. Ecton Reservoir is most vulnerable to urban storm water runoff, which may include heavy metals from paved areas, nutrients, pesticides and organics (e.g., yard waste) from lawn care. Industrial and construction runoff in urban areas may include silts, synthetic chemicals and metals.

WMU's overall susceptibility to contamination shall be labeled as Moderate. Microbial contaminants, such as Total Coliform, Fecal Coliform, and E Coli are naturally present in the environment, and their presence is tested regularly. Inorganic contaminants, such as copper, fluoride, nitrates, and nitrites are also potential sources of contamination. WMU has a very stringent water sampling program and we take great pride in continuing to ensure our public has the purest drinking water at all hours of the day. All water quality standards are being met by the dedication of our staff and with the assistance of Microbac Laboratories. A complete source water assessment can be obtained or reviewed at WMU, 150 N. Main Street, Winchester, Kentucky.

The water treatment plant has a rated maximum treatment capacity of 6.0 million gallons per day (MGD). WMU operates its water treatment plant 24 hours per day, 365 days per year. The treatment process utilizes conventional flocculation, sedimentation, high-rate filtration, and disinfection.

WMU provides water service to a customer base of 11,758 direct customers and through water sold for resale, to 2,409 customers of the East Clark County Water District and 192 customers of the Kentucky American Water Company. In total, WMU serves 14,359 water customers in Clark County. Future growth, along with increasing regulatory requirements demands that WMU address the potable water supply to continue to provide high quality drinking water to you, our customer.

### SUMMARY OF 2016 WATER QUALITY

WMU routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State regulations. The following table provides the results of our monitoring averages for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2016. Important notes and explanatory definitions are provided at the end of the table.

	Allowable Levels	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly %	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination		
Turbidity (NTU) <small>*Representative samples of filtered water</small>	No more than 1 NTU Less than 0.3 NTU in 95% of monthly samples	0.28	100%	No	Soil runoff		
<b>Regulated Contaminant Test Results</b>							
Contaminant [code] (units)	MCL	MCLG	Report Level	Range of Detection	Date of Sample	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
Beta photon emitters(pCi/L)	50	0	3.9	3.9 to 3.9	Jun 14	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Alpha emitters [4000] (pCi/L)	15	0	2.6	2.6 to 2.6	Jun 14	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined radium (pCi/L)	5	0	1.53	1.53 to 1.53	Jun 14	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Barium [1010] (ppm)	2	2	0.015	0.015 to 0.015	Mar 16	No	Drilling wastes; metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper [1022] (ppm) sites exceeding action level 0	AL =1.3	1.3	0.12 (90th percentile)	0.0 to 0.2	Aug 16	No	Corrosion of household plumbing Systems
Lead [1030] (ppb) Sites exceeding action level = 0	AL =15	0	0 (90th percentile)	0 to 3.3	Aug 16	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Fluoride [1025] (ppm)	4	4	0.88	.88 to .88	Mar 16	No	Water additive which promotes strong teeth
Nitrate [1040] (ppm)	10	10	0.56	0.56 to 0.56	Feb 16	No	Fertilizer runoff; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Disinfectants/Disinfection Byproducts and Precursors</b>							
Total Organic Carbon (ppm) (measured as ppm, but reported as a ratio)	TT*	N/A	1.81 (lowest average)	1.20 to 2.81 (monthly ratios)	2016	No	Naturally present in environment
Chlorine (ppm)	MRDL= 4	MRDLG= 4	1.19 (highest average)	0.30 to 1.8	2016	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
HAA (ppb) (Stage 2) [Haloacetic acids]	60	N/A	51 (High site average)	17 to 68 (range of individual sites)	2016	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
TTHM (ppb) (Stage 2) [total trihalo-methanes]	80	N/A	62 (high site average)	24 to 79 (range of individual sites)	2016	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
<b>Other Contaminants</b>							
Cryptosporidium	0	TT (99% removal)	0 (positive samples)	3 (no. of samples)	2016	No	Human and animal fecal waste

\*TT for TOCs; % TOC removal achieved to the % TOC removal required. A minimum ratio 1.0 is required to meet the TT.

EPA has not established drinking water standards for unregulated contaminants. There are no MCL's and therefore no violations if found.

BDL - Below Detection Limit

### IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

#### Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Winchester Municipal Utilities

Our water system violated drinking water requirements over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing (did) to correct these situations.

*\* We are required to monitor you drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During 2016 we did not complete all monitoring by failing to report or correctly report a monitoring plan schedule for Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment (LT2ESWTR) which includes Cryptosporidium, E.Coli and Turbidity. Therefore, we could not verify the quality of your drinking water to the primacy agency during that time.\**

#### What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time. The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not submit a monitoring plan schedule for, how many samples we are required to take, when samples should be taken, and the date on which samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required Sampling Frequency	Number of Samples Taken (Required)	When samples were and will be taken	When samples were taken
Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment (LT2ESWTR)	1 sample every month	24	Beginning October 18, 2016 through September 18, 2018 (3 <sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of every month)	Per sampling schedule

#### What is being done?

On August 17, 2016 Winchester Municipal Utilities (WMU) submitted a monitoring plan schedule for Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment (LT2ESWTR) which includes Cryptosporidium, E.Coli and Turbidity. The monitoring plan schedule was approved on August 18, 2016 by Kentucky Division of Water. Monitoring according to this schedule was initiated on October 18, 2016 and will extend through September 18, 2018. For more information, please contact Michael H. Flynn, General Manager, at (859) 744-5434.

*\* 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, businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.\**

### DETECTED CONTAMINANTS

The data presented in this report are from the most recent testing done in accordance with administrative regulations in 401 KAR Chapter 8. As authorized and approved by EPA, the State has reduced monitoring requirements for certain contaminants to less often than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data in this table, though representative, may be more than one year old. Unless otherwise noted, the report level is the highest level detected.

## OTHER TESTS

WMU regularly tests your drinking water for 77 other primary standards, 16 secondary standards, and other standards for which results were found to be within acceptable levels. In order to make this report easier to read and understand, results of those tests are not reported here.

## 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. WMU 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 and 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>.

## REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires that every water system provide consumers with an annual consumer confidence or water quality report as a result of the Safe Drinking Water Act Amendments of 1996. The report is intended to provide consumers with information regarding the quality of their drinking water and to encourage actions by consumers to protect drinking water supplies. WMU is providing you with this report so that you might be better informed about the quality of your drinking water.

## IMPORTANT DEFINITIONS

### MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level

The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

### MCLG - 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.

### MRDL - 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.

### MRDLG - Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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.

### ND or N/A

Not detected; does not apply; not available

### NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units

A measure of water turbidity. Turbidity is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

### pCi/L - Picocuries per Liter

A unit of measure of radioactivity.

### ppm - Parts per Million

A unit of measure; equal to milligrams per liter (mg/L).

### ppb - Parts per Billion

A unit of measure; equal to micrograms per liter (mg/L).

### Primary Standards

Mandatory standards established and enforced by EPA and the Kentucky Division of Water that relate to water quality health effects and for which monitoring is required.

### TT - Treatment Technique

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

### AL - Action Level

That concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

## CRYPTOSPORIDIUM

WMU has voluntarily tested its source water supplies and it's finished (treated) water for the presence of *Cryptosporidium*. *Cryptosporidium* is a microbial parasite which is found in surface waters throughout the United States and has been found to be present in both the Kentucky River and the Carroll E. Ecton Reservoir. **Cryptosporidium has not been detected in WMU drinking water.** Although conventional treatment can remove cryptosporidium, commonly used sedimentation and filtration methods cannot guarantee 100% removal. Symptoms of *Cryptosporidium* infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals are able to overcome the infection within a few weeks. However, immunocompromised people have more difficulty and are at greater risk of developing severe, life-threatening illness.

## WHY ARE THERE CONTAMINANTS IN 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 may be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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 may pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before treatment include:

- *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock, 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, 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.

- *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, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. US FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that shall provide the same protection for public health. EPA has determined that drinking water is safe at these levels.

## 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 and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 at (800) 426-4791.

## WATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS

Previous decisions by the WMU and City Commissions have provided for construction of a new water treatment plant and associated infrastructure. Construction includes a new water treatment plant, raw water transmission improvements, and finished water transmission improvements. Final effective capacities will be determined by the Division of Water (DOW) with design of the new facilities. Raw and Finished Water Transmission Improvements were completed in January 2016. Kentucky River Pump Station upgrades are expected to be completed in December 2016. The transmission improvements included approximately 9 miles of 24-inch ductile iron pipe beginning at the Kentucky River Pumping Station extending along Boonesboro Road, interconnecting with the existing water treatment plant facilities and ending with connection at the Winchester Bypass.

The new Water Treatment Plant design is expected to be completed by May 2017 with initiation of construction planned for August 2017 and completion calendar year 2019. Total costs associated with water system improvements are expected to be 35-40 million dollars.

## CONSENT DECREE

The Consent Decree is the settlement agreement between the United States Environmental Agency (EPA), the Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet (EEC, formerly known as the Environmental and Public Protection Cabinet), City and WMU detailing actions to be taken by City and WMU for violations of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1319. The basic tenants of the Consent Decree call for City and WMU to

- Eliminate existing and recurring sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs)
- Reduce the potential for future SSOs

Such is being achieved through a defined capital program and structured capacity, maintenance, operation, and management (CMOM) program.

During 2016 WMU spent \$652,995.26 on Consent Decree capital projects. Since entry of the Consent Decree in April 2007 WMU has expended \$71,149,434.03 for capital projects to address requirements of the Consent Decree and eliminate I/I.

Calendar year 2016 expenditures for CMOM related activities totaled \$110,656.69. Total cost to-date for development and implementation of WMU's CMOM programs is \$2,956,965.70.

## CAPITAL PROJECTS

Projects under or scheduled for construction include:

New Water Treatment Plant (estimate)	\$24,110,961
West Hickman Street Water Improvements	\$ 215,306
Hampton Manor Sewer Improvements (bid)	\$ 1,250,700
Short Street Sewer Improvements	\$ 90,000

## INFORMATION AND PUBLIC INPUT

If you have questions regarding the information provided in this report or about utility services provided by WMU, please contact WMU (859) 744-5434 or visit WMU's website at [wmutilities.com](http://wmutilities.com). We want you to be informed about the drinking water quality and the utility services provided by WMU.

WMU operates as an enterprise fund of the city of Winchester. Regular public meetings of the WMU Commission are held on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 5:30 p.m. at the WMU administrative offices located at 150 North Main Street, Winchester. The regular meeting agenda for each meeting provides an opportunity for public comment regarding WMU services and operations. The WMU Commission is comprised of local community leaders who are WMU customers and who are very interested in your input. You are invited to avail yourself of this opportunity for public input.

