

Why should you read this?

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided to you last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State standards. We are committed to providing you with quality water and to keep you fully aware of the efforts that are made continually to improve your water system. For more information please contact Stephen Gillis, Water Treatment Plant Superintendent, or attend City Commission meetings scheduled at 5:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at the Law Enforcement Center, 201 N. Pine.

Where does it come from?

Your water comes from four ground water wells drilled into the Roubidoux formation of the Ozark Aquifer. We treat your water to remove several contaminants and also add disinfectant to protect you against microbial contaminants. An assessment of our source water is completed. For results of the assessment, please contact us or download the results at www.kdhe.state.ks.us/nps.

For more information:

Matt Bacon

Director of Public Utilities

(620) 240-5138

Email: matt.bacon@pittks.org

Stephen Gillis

Water Treatment Plant

Superintendent

(620) 230-5630

Email: stephen.gillis@pittks.org

**Environmental Protection
Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking
Water Hotline:**

(800) 426-4791



201 W. 4th STREET
PITTSBURG, KS 66762-0688
www.pittks.org



Water Quality Report

City of Pittsburg, Kansas

Water Quality Data

City of Pittsburg, Kansas 66762



Unless noted, the data presented is from testing done January 1st- December 31st, 2015. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. All regulated and some unregulated contaminants that were detected in the water, even in the most minute traces, are included. The Key to Table explains our findings, and there is a key to units of measurement below. Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) is defined as “the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water”. Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) is “the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health”. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety. The tables list the name of each substance, unit, MCLs, the amount detected, and MCLGs. SMCLs are recommended level for contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.

Contaminants that may be present in source water includes:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals
- Pesticides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses
- Organic chemical contaminants from industrial or petroleum use
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities

The bottom line is that the water that is provided to you is safe.

Detected Regulated Contaminants							
Inorganic Contaminants	Unit	Highest Value	MCL	MCLG	Range Low (low/high)	Sampling Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	ppm	0.023	2	2	0.023	04/13	Discharge form metal refineries
Fluoride	ppm	0.8	4	4	0.44-0.8	04/15	Erosion of Natural Deposits, additive which promotes strong teeth
Arsenic	ppb	1.2	10	10	1.2	04/13	Soil Run Off
Selenium	ppb	3.6	50	50	3.6	04/13	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Chromium	Ppb	1.3	4	4	1.3	04/13	Discharge from steel and pulp mills
Volatile Organic Contaminants	Unit	Highest Value RAA	MCL	MCLG	(low/high) Range	Monitoring Period	Likely Source of Contamination
THM-Total (Trihalomethanes)	ppb	27	80	0	8.1-30	2015	Chlorination byproduct
HAAS	ppb	5	60	0	2.3-8.4	2015	Chlorination byproduct

Microbiological Contaminants

Analyte	Unit	Result	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Coliform(TCR)	samples	1 sample returned positive in March	No more that 1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment.

Metals in Drinking Water from Taps

Analyte	Unit	90th Percentile	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Sampling Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead	ppb	ND	AL-15	0	N	09/13	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Copper	ppm	0.049	AL-1.3	0	N	09/13	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily for materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Your water system 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 let 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>.

Detected Secondary (Unregulated) Water Quality

Parameter	Unit	Highest Value	Range	SMCL	Sampling Date
Aluminum	ppm	0.022	0.022	0.05	04/13
Calcium	ppm	13	13	200	04/13
Magnesium	ppm	14	14	150	04/13
Sodium	ppm	87	87	100	04/13
Potassium	ppm	5.2	5.2	100	04/13
Chloride	ppm	110	110	250	04/13
Sulfate	ppm	47	47	250	04/13
Total Hardness	ppm	91	91	400	04/13
Alkalinity as CaCO₃	ppm	79.3	79.3	300	04/13
pH	ph Units	8.3	8.3	8.5	04/13
Specific Conductivity	µmho/cm	640	640	1500	04/13
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	330	330	500	04/13
Total Phosphorus (P)	ppm	0.19	0.19	5	04/13
Silica	ppm	8	8	50	04/13

During the 2015 calendar year, we had no violations of drinking water regulations.

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.

Please note: Because of sampling schedules, results may be older than 1 year.

Key to Table

Key	Description
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
ppb	Parts per billion, or micrograms per Liter (µg/L)
ppm	Parts per million, or milligrams per Liter (mg/L)
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
SMCL	Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level
LI	Langelier's Index
WTP	Water Treatment Plant
ND	Non-Detected
RAA	Running Annual Average
AL	Action Level = Any samples that contain over this amount of a contaminant require corrosion control action by the utilities.
90th Percentile	In a ranking of the 10 samples with the highest level of a contaminant, the ninth highest sample is the value that represents the 90th percentile

A message from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water from public water systems.

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 EPA Safe Drinking Hotline (800) 426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons who can particularly be at risk for infections include those who have undergone chemotherapy or organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, and some elderly persons and infants. These people should seek advice about the quality of drinking water from their health care providers. The EPA / Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA Hotline or their web site. www.epa.gov

This annual **Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)**, required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), tells you where your water comes from, what our tests show about it, and other important facts you should know about drinking water.

The **Consumer Confidence Report** is based

upon tests conducted by the Kansas Department of Health & Environment (KDHE). Tests were conducted on the finished water produced by the City Of Pittsburg's Water Treatment Plant (WTP).

How often is Pittsburg's water tested?

Certified staff at the City of Pittsburg's Water Treatment Plant conduct the following tests:

Daily : Hardness, Alkalinity, Turbidity, Fluoride and Phosphate. (every 4 hours)

Hourly: ph and Chlorine residual

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) in Topeka conduct the following tests:

Monthly: Bacteriological (20 samples collected from the distribution system)

Quarterly: Fluoride

Annually: Trihalomethanes, Volatile Organic Chemicals, Organic Analysis and Nitrate

Tri-annually: Lead, Copper, Synthetic Organic Chemicals, and Inorganic analysis

How much water does Pittsburg

Treat? In 2015 the water plant pumped 793,410,000 gallons of water from our wells. There was 751,651,989 gallons of treated water that was pumped into the distribution system. This was an average of 2,059,320 gallons per day. Water sold amounted to 1,736,370 gallons per day, with a total water loss of 16%.

Water Quality Information:

Our water system is required to test a minimum of 20 samples per month in accordance with the Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded the City of Pittsburg will notify the public.

Contaminants that may be present in sources of water before we treated include:

- Microbial contaminant, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, 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 waste water discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as storm water runoff, agriculture, and residential users.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity.
- Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulation, which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water, according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

**THE CITY OF PITTSBURG'S
DRINKING WATER MEETS OR
SURPASSES ALL FEDERAL AND
STATE DRINKING-WATER
STANDARDS.**