

2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report  
Harmony Water Association, Inc.  
PWS #120018 Elwood  
May, 2024

We're very pleased to present to you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. 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 resourced. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

### **About Our System**

The Harmony Water Association (HWA) has been providing water service to its customers for 58 years. At this time, we serve approximately 2,350 connections in Clarke County. Our system extends to the Lauderdale and Jasper County lines and covers about 500 miles in the county. HWA works hard to provide top quality water to our customers. HWA consists of five Board of Directors. All Board Members have received the required Board Management Training and two members have received the Advanced Board Training. The board of directors along with management and employees attend training in order to continue to serve our customers to the best of our ability. The HWA office is located at 118 Long Boulevard, Quitman, MS. The office is open Monday through Friday 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM. HWA has had a busy year making repairs on all our well site buildings, we have cased several water main lines in creek crossings, and did routine maintenance on several elevated tanks. HWA's future plans are to upgrade water lines in several areas, add small extensions, and to better serve our customers by adding Automatic Meter Reading.

### **Contact & Meeting Information**

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Daniel Dearman at 601-776-2593 or 118 Long Blvd. Quitman. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the third Tuesday of every month at 5:00 PM at the Harmony Water Association office located at 118 Long Blvd. Quitman, MS 39355 and our annual meeting is held the third Monday of October. You will receive a notice of location and time.

### **Source of Water**

Our water source is from wells drawing from the Sparta Sand and Lower Wilcox Aquifers. The source water assessment has been completed for our public water system to determine the overall susceptibility of its drinking water supply to identify potential sources of contamination. A report containing detailed information on how the susceptibility determinations were made has been furnished to our public water system and is available for viewing upon request.

### **Period Covered by Report**

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. This report is based on results of our monitoring period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31, 2023. In cases where monitoring wasn't required in 2023, the table reflects the most recent testing done in accordance with the laws, rules, and regulations.

As water travels over the land or underground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials and can pick up substances or contaminants 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 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. EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

### **Terms and Abbreviations**

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions.

**Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

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

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary to control microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk of health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter:** one part by weight of analyte to 1 billion parts by weight of the water samples.

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l):** one part by weight of analyte to 1 million parts by weight of the water samples.

PWS #120018 Elwood – Lower Wilcox Aquifer / Lower susceptibility to contamination

TEST RESULTS								
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
8. Arsenic	N	2020*	.0006	No Range	ppb	n/a	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
10. Barium	N	2022*	.0109	No Range	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
13. Chromium	N	2022*	.0008	No Range	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	01/01/2020 To 12/31/2022*	0.2	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
16. Fluoride	N	2022*	.131	No Range	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits: water additive which promotes strong teeth: discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	1/1/2020 To 12/31/2022*	1	0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
22. Thallium	N	2020*	.0005	No Range	ppb	0.5	2	Leaching from ore processing sites: discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories
Sodium	N	2021*	97.2	No Range	ppm	20	None	Road Salt, Water Treatment Softeners and Sewage Effluents
<b>Disinfection By Products</b>								
81. HAA5	N	2023	1.56	No Range	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water disinfection
82. TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes)	N	2023	< 1	No Range	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine	N	1/1/2023 To 12/31/2023	0.70	0.50 to 0.80	Mg/l	0	MDRL = 4	Water Additives; used to control microbes

\*Most recent sample. No sample required for 2023

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a monthly basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. In an effort to ensure systems complete all monitoring requirements, MSDH now notifies systems of any missing samples prior to the end of the compliance period.

### **LEAD INFORMATION**

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. Our 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 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. Please contact 601.576.7582 if you wish to have your water tested.

### **VIOLATIONS**

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some contaminants have been detected however the EPA has determined that your water is safe at these levels.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or manmade. 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. 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline 800-426-4791.

We at Harmony Water Association work hard to provide top quality water at every tap. We ask that all customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

This report being published on the Web Page will not be mailed. Please call our office at 601/776-2593 if you would like a copy.