

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 Superintendent or attend City Commission meetings scheduled at 7:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Tuesday of every month at City Hall, 201 West 4th Street.

Where does it come from?

Your water comes from four 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:

John H. Bailey, P.E., PhD

Director of Public Utilities

(620) 231-4170

Email: john.bailey@pittks.org

Stephen Gillis

Water 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

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**Water Quality
Report**

City of Pittsburg, Kansas

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

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 2009 the water plant pumped 848,508,000 gallons of water from our wells. There was 820,308,000 gallons of treated water that was pumped into the distribution system. This was an average of 2,247,419 gallons per day. Water sold amounted to 1,890,670 gallons per day, with a total water loss of 16%.

Water Quality Information:

The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a stricter limit for coliform bacteria. 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 water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter regulations, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.

Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced. Infants & 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 the 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 and/or flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water.

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

Water Quality Data

City of Pittsburg, Kansas 66762



Unless noted, the data presented is from testing done January 1st- December 31st, 2009. 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.

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

Detected Regulated Contaminants							
Inorganic Contaminants	Unit	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Sampling Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	ppm	0.069	2	2	N	03/07	Discharge form metal refineries
Fluoride	ppm	.1.1	4	4	N	11/09	Erosion of Natural Deposits, additive which promotes strong teeth
Arsenic	ppb	1.3	10	0	N	03/07	Erosion of Natural Deposits

Volatile Organic Contaminants	Unit	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Sampling Date	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM-Total (Trihalomethanes)	ppb	53	80	0	N	08/09	Chlorination byproduct
HAA5	ppb	7	60	0	N	08/09	Chlorination byproduct

* (See Footnote)

Microbiological Contaminants

Analyte	Unit	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Sampling Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform	samples	1 Positive in Aug.	*	0	N	20 / month	Naturally present in the environment

Radionuclides

Analyte	Unit	Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Sampling Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium	pCi/L	1.9	5	0	N	10/09	Erosion of natural deposits.

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	08/07	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Copper	ppm	0.058	AL-1.3	0	N	08/07	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

Detected Secondary (Unregulated) Water Quality

Parameter	Unit	Level Detected	Sampling Date
Aluminum	ppm	0.11	03/07
Calcium	ppm	17	03/07
Magnesium	ppm	21	03/07
Sodium	ppm	84	03/07
Potassium	ppm	5	03/07
Chloride	ppm	120	03/07
Sulfate	ppm	41	03/07
Total Hardness	ppm	130	03/07
Alkalinity as CaCO₃	ppm	118	03/07
pH	ph Units	7.7	03/07
Specific Conductivity	µmho/cm	680	03/07
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	370	03/07
Total Phosphorus (P)	ppm	0.33	03/07
Silica	ppm	10	03/07
Corrosivity	LI	-0.58	03/07
Zinc	ppm	<0.005	03/07

* **MCL: Systems that Collect Less Than 40 Samples per Month – No more than 1 positive monthly sample**

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)
LI	Langelier's Index
µmho/cm	Micromhos per centimeter
N/D	Non-Detected
WTP	Water Treatment Plant
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