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Annual Drinking Water Quality Report July 1, 2016

The City of Florence presents this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you each day. The City of Florence Public Services Department routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state regulations. Our mission is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water in a financially responsible manner.

During 2015, we purchased our water from the Boone-Florence Water Commission. The Boone-Florence Water Commission receives its water from Greater Cincinnati Water Works (GCWW), www.cincinnati-oh.gov/water, which is treated surface water from the Ohio River.

The City of Florence is pleased to report that our system has met all sampling, monitoring, and reporting requirements of the Federal and State Environmental Protection Agencies during the reporting year 2015. The tables on the following pages show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2015.

We want our customers to be informed about their water quality. If you want to learn more about your water quality, please contact our office at 859-647-5416 or visit our website at www.florence-ky.gov. Copies of this report are available at the Public Services Department, Florence Government Center, 8100 Ewing Blvd. Copies of the Greater Cincinnati Water Works Annual Drinking Water Quality Report is also available at the Public Services Department or their website at www.cincinnati-oh.gov/water/about-greater-cincinnati-water-works/water-quality-reports/.

THM (Trihalomethanes)

The current MCL for total trihalomethanes (TTHM) is 80 ppb. Although our water is below the MCL, we are including the following health effects language.

Some people who drink water containing Trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.



Stormwater Message

Pet waste is a health hazard and a water pollutant. Protect your health and our waterways by cleaning up after your pet. Do not leave pet waste on driveways, sidewalks or other impervious (hard) surfaces where it can wash into storm drains and waterways. Never place pet waste in a storm drain, stream or lake.

Storm Water Hotline: (859) 647-4623

Water Source Information Drinking Water Regulations

Greater Cincinnati Water Works performs an average of 300 tests per day throughout their system to ensure safe drinking water. Source waters are tested routinely to detect contaminants before they enter treatment plants. Water quality experts then test the water after each stage of the treatment process to ensure optimal treatment. Finally, water samples are collected in the distribution system to monitor the quality of the water once it has left the treatment plant.

The surface water source of raw water for GCWW is the Ohio River. A source water assessment has been completed. The following is a summary of the susceptibility analysis that is part of the source water assessment. Several areas of concern are related to the extensive development of transportation infrastructure, the potential for spills, high degree of impervious cover and polluted runoff. Areas of row crops and urban and recreational grasses introduce the potential for herbicide, pesticide, and fertilizer use – possible non-point source contaminants. Bridges, railroads, ports, waste handlers or generators, and Tier II hazardous chemical users in the area introduce the potential for spills or leaks of hazardous materials. Landfills and permitted discharges are relatively high in number for a supply area. Other areas of concern include several segments of streams already assessed as having impairments, power line right-of-way with potential herbicide use, and residential septic systems located throughout the watershed. Since the intake is in an urban area, the threat of underground storage tanks leaking must also be taken into account. The entire report is available at Northern Kentucky Area Development District, 22 Spiral Drive, Florence, Ky 41042. Phone: 859-283-1885.

We at the City of Florence Public Services Department work diligently to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future. For more information of our operations, visit our website at www.florence-ky.gov. Please call our office at 859-647-5416, if you have questions.

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. The City of Florence 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>.

Information About Lead:

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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Health Information
Cryptosporidium (Crypto) is a microscopic organism that, when ingested, can result in diarrhea, fever and other gastrointestinal symptoms. GCWW has tested for Crypto in treated waters from the Miller and Bolton Treatment Plants for thirteen years and has never detected it. The organism is found in GCWW source water and comes from animal wastes in the water shed. Crypto is eliminated by an effective treatment combination including sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection.

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 (800-426-4791).

What contaminants could be in source water?

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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater 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 stormwater runoff and residential uses; Organic chemical contaminant, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that shall provide the same protection for public health.

