



WATER QUALITY TESTING AND TREATMENT

Dear Customer,

Please allow me a moment to share with you the extensive effort and sampling that is performed with respect to the water supply each and every day.

The following is a listing of the water samples collected for routine compliance.

1. Every month, 66 samples are collected for coliform bacteria. These samples are numerous in quantity and most frequent of all tests since they are the most important indicator of high quality drinking water that is safe to consume.
2. Inorganics – Every year - Nitrates and nitrites, metals, salts and other compounds naturally occurring or manmade.
3. Volatile Organics – once per year - these are components associated with items such as gasoline and dry cleaning establishments.
4. Radionuclides – every 8 years – these tests would indicate if naturally occurring or manmade radioactive components were found in the water supply.
5. Synthetic Organic Parameters – Every year. These would be components associated with pesticides and herbicides and other man made compounds.
6. Lead and Copper – Lead and copper samples are performed every three years with the samples being obtained from more than 70 homes throughout the system.

In addition, each day at the River Plant and at the Bunker Hill plant, the level of chlorine in the water is continuously monitored to ensure the optimum levels of chlorine are being maintained as the water enters the distribution system. The levels of Turbidity are also constantly monitored to ensure the filtration is working as intended. Each day, there are around 25 of specific samples collected and tested for daily.

Due to circumstances in other locations of the country, many customers are concerned with the actions being taken to ensure the water is not corrosive. Corrosive water can attack plumbing and allow lead or copper to be suspended in the water. The District addresses this concern by treating the water characteristics to minimize the corrosiveness of the water. In addition, extensive testing of the water has proven that lead and copper levels are in compliance with all regulations.

All the employees who work in the water treatment plants are required to be Licensed Water Treatment Plant operators by the State of WV. To become licensed, one must pass an in depth written examination and have a significant number of hours of on the job experience.

If you ever wish to know more about the water supply for any reason, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Steven DeRidder
Superintendent of Operations