

## Overview

IN 2006, as in years past, the City of Salina's tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State of Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) drinking water health standards. City of Salina Water Division vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and again we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard.

## Water Conservation

Again this year the City of Salina is asking Salina area water users to be good stewards of our natural resources. The drought of the previous several years has greatly depleted both the ground water and the surface water in the Salina area. Continued diligence in conserving raw water supplies will assist in maintaining the raw water supplies until recharge of the ground water occurs and higher flows in the Smoky Hill River are reestablished.



## Public Participation Opportunities

The Salina City Commission meets at 4 P.M. on Mondays at the City-County Building, 300 W. Ash. You may present items related to water issues at the commission meeting or express your concerns to Martha Tasker, Director of Utilities or to James Wendell, Water Plant Superintendent, during normal office hours.



Website: [www.salina-ks.gov](http://www.salina-ks.gov)  
Email: [martha.tasker@salina.org](mailto:martha.tasker@salina.org)  
Email: [jim.wendell@salina.org](mailto:jim.wendell@salina.org)

For more information please contact

Martha Tasker,  
Director of Utilities

300 W. Ash St.  
Salina, KS 67401

Phone: (785) 309-5725

Fax: (785) 309-5713

James Wendell,  
Water Plant Superintendent

401 S. Fifth St.

Salina, KS 67401

Phone: (785) 826-7305

Fax: (785) 826-7256



## Consumer Confidence Report

### Calendar Year 2006

Spanish (Español)

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

# Water Quality

This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are the 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 this information because informed customers are our best allies. It is important that customers be aware of the efforts that are made continually to improve their water systems.

## Water Source

Your water comes from 15 Ground Water Wells located within the City of Salina and surface water from the Smoky Hill River.

Your water is treated to remove several contaminants and a disinfectant is added to protect you against microbial contaminants. The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) required states to develop a Source Water Assessment (SWA) for each public water supply that treats and distributes raw source water in order to identify potential contamination sources. The state has completed an assessment of our source water. For results of the assessment, please contact us or view on-line at: <http://www.kdheks.gov/nps/swap/SWreports.html>

## Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those with cancer under going 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).

## Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 before we treat it include:

**Microbial contaminants**, 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 run-off, 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 storm water run-off, 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 run-off, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit 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.

Our water system tested a minimum of 50 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 water supplier must notify the public.

## Results of voluntary monitoring

The City of Salina's Water Treatment Plant consistently produces water that meets or exceeds all Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) standards for safe drinking water. Certified laboratories analyze water samples at various points in the treatment process on a daily basis. Samples are also obtained on a regular basis to insure the water quality standard is maintained throughout the distribution system. In addition to the testing we are required to perform, the Water Division voluntarily tests for many additional substances and microscopic organisms to make certain our drinking water is safe and of high quality. Approximately 80,000 samples are taken and analyzed each year to provide quality assurance.

## Testing Results for



The tables list all of the drinking water contaminants, which were detected during the 2006 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1- December 31, 2006. 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.

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

# Water Quality Data

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
ARSENIC	2/27/2006	1.4	1.4	ppb	10.000		Erosion of natural deposits
ATRAZINE	6/6/2006	17	0.33 - 17	ppb	3	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
BARIUM	2/27/2006	0.0088	0.0088	ppm	2	2	Discharge from metal refineries;
FLUORIDE	7/24/2006	0.94	0.23 - 0.94	ppm	4	4	Natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
NITRATE (AS N)	4/19/2006	1.4	1.2 - 1.4	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use
SELENIUM	2/27/2006	9.5	9.5	ppb	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts	Monitoring Period	Highest RAA	Range	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
TOTAL HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	2006	31	8.7 - 53	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHM)	2006	62	39 - 77	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90th Percentile	Range	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER	2005 - 2007	0.046	0.0039 - 0.15	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
LEAD	2005 - 2007	1.6	1.1 - 59	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	SMCL
ALKALINITY, TOTAL	1/13/2006	240	97.7 - 240	ppm	300
ALUMINUM	2/27/2006	0.11	0.11	ppm	0.05
CALCIUM	2/27/2006	30	30	ppm	200
CARBON, TOTAL ORGANIC (TOC)	1/13/2006	11	2.4 - 11	ppm	TT
CHLORIDE	2/27/2006	130	130	ppm	250
CONDUCTIVITY	2/27/2006	980	980	UMHOS/CM	1500
HARDNESS, TOTAL (as CaCO3)	2/27/2006	140	140	ppm	400
MAGNESIUM	2/27/2006	15	15	ppm	150
METOLACHLOR	6/6/2006	3.9	3.9	ppb	
NICKEL	2/27/2006	0.0012	0.0012	ppm	0.1
PH	2/27/2006	7.7	7.7	PH	8.5
PHOSPHORUS	2/27/2006	0.28	0.28	ppm	5
POTASSIUM	2/27/2006	7.5	7.5	ppm	100
SILICA	2/27/2006	8.5	8.5	ppm	50
SODIUM	2/27/2006	150	150	ppm	100
SOLIDS, TOTAL DISSOLVED (TDS)	2/27/2006	590	590	ppm	500
SULFATE	2/27/2006	180	180	ppm	250

### Terms & Abbreviations

- Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- 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.
- Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL):** recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.
- Action Level (AL):** the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.
- Treatment Technique (TT):** a required process intended to reduce levels of a contaminant in drinking water.
- 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 for control of microbial contaminants.
- Non-Detects (ND):** lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.
- Parts per Million (ppm)** or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
- Parts per Billion (ppb)** or micrograms per liter (µg/l)
- Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L):** a measure of the radioactivity in water.
- Millirems per Year (mrem/yr):** measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
- Million Fibers per Liter (MFL):** a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that is longer than 10 micrometers.

### Additional Required Health Effects Language

Some people who drink water containing atrazine well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their cardiovascular system or reproductive difficulties.

Some people who drink water containing metolachlor in excess of the MCL over many years could experience organ damage.

