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UTILITY

Tennessee American Water

LOCATION

CHATTANOOGA,
TENNESSEE

SERVES

190,067

SOURCE

SURFACE WATER

DATA

2014-2024

9 Contaminants
Exceed EWG's
Health Guidelines

18 TOTAL CONTAMINANTS

[EXPLORE THIS UTILITY](#)

Overview

Overview

EWG's drinking water quality report shows results of tests conducted by the water utility and provided to the Environmental Working Group by the Tennessee Department of Environment & Conservation, as well as

**Legal does not
necessarily equal safe.**

- Getting a passing grade from the federal government does not mean the water meets the latest health guidelines.

Take Action

For the latest quarter assessed by the U.S. EPA (April 2024 - June 2024), tap water provided by this water utility was in compliance with federal health-based drinking water standards.

LEARN ABOUT LEAD IN THIS UTILITY →

- Legal limits for contaminants in tap water have not been updated in almost 20 years.
- The best way to ensure clean tap water is to keep pollution out of source water in the first place.

Contaminants Detected

EXCEED GUIDELINES OTHER DETECTED

Potential Effect: Cancer

This Utility: 6.34 ppb No Legal Limit

106x EWG's Health Guideline: 0.06 ppb

Potential Effect: Cancer

This Utility: 31.8 ppb No Legal Limit

80x EWG's Health Guideline: 0.4 ppb

Potential Effect: Cancer

This Utility: 0.0838 ppb No Legal Limit

Potential Effect: Cancer

This Utility: 1.04 ppb No Legal Limit

4.2x EWG's Health Guideline: 0.02 ppb

Haloacetic acids (HAA5)

Potential Effect: Cancer



This Utility: 21.7 ppb Legal Limit: 60 ppb

217x EWG's Health Guideline: 0.1 ppb

Nitrate

Potential Effect: Cancer



This Utility: 0.357 ppm Legal Limit: 10 ppm

2.5x EWG's Health Guideline: 0.14 ppm

Total trihalomethanes (TTHMs)

Potential Effect: Cancer



This Utility: 42.8 ppb Legal Limit: 80 ppb

285x EWG's Health Guideline: 0.15 ppb

10x EWG's Health Guideline: 0.1 ppb

Haloacetic acids (HAA9)

Potential Effect: Cancer



This Utility: 27.5 ppb No Legal Limit

459x EWG's Health Guideline: 0.06 ppb

Radium, combined (-226 and -228)

Potential Effect: Cancer



This Utility: 0.61 pCi/L Legal Limit: 5 pCi/L

12x EWG's Health Guideline: 0.05 pCi/L

Includes chemicals detected in 2021-2023 for which annual utility averages exceeded an EWG-selected health guideline established by a federal or state public health authority; radiological contaminants detected between 2018 and 2023.

† HAA5 is a contaminant group that includes monochloroacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid and dibromoacetic acid. HAA9 is a contaminant group that includes the chemicals in HAA5 and bromochloroacetic acid, bromodichloroacetic acid, chlorodibromoacetic acid and tribromoacetic acid. TTHM is a contaminant group that includes bromodichloromethane, bromoform, chloroform and dibromochloromethane.

OTHER CONTAMINANTS TESTED +

Find A Filter

UTILITY: TENNESSEE AMERICAN WATER

Carbon Filters

FILTERS 6 CONTAMINANTS
EXCEEDING GUIDELINES (+2
OTHERS)

Can reduce the levels of many
common contaminants.

PROS	CONS
Lower upfront cost	Does not remove all contaminants
Reduced maintenance	

Reverse Osmosis

FILTERS 9 CONTAMINANTS
EXCEEDING GUIDELINES (+6
OTHERS)

Can reduce the levels of many
common contaminants.

PROS	CONS
Most effective	Higher upfront cost
	Requires more maintenance
	Wastes water

Other Considerations

Ion Exchange

PROS: Softens hard water, Reduces some
contaminants

CONS: Doesn't remove all contaminants

Whole-House Filters

PROS: Useful for reducing radiologicals and
TCE

CONS: Expensive to install and maintain, Risk of bacterial contamination

UNDERSTAND FILTER TECHNOLOGY ➔

Explore filter options for each contaminant. See which technologies are effective at reducing specific contaminants to help you make an informed decision on the best water treatment solution for your needs.

CONTAMINANTS ABOVE HEALTH GUIDELINES	ACTIVATED CARBON	REVERSE OSMOSIS	ION EXCHANGE
BROMODICHLOROMETHANE	✓	✓	✗
CHLOROFORM	✓	✓	✗
CHROMIUM (HEXAVALENT)	✗	✓	✓
DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE	✓	✓	✗
HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA5)	✓	✓	✗
HALOACETIC ACIDS (HAA9)	✓	✓	✗
NITRATE	✗	✓	✓

CONTAMINANTS ABOVE HEALTH GUIDELINES	ACTIVATED CARBON	REVERSE OSMOSIS	ION EXCHANGE
RADIUM, COMBINED (-226 & -228)	✗	✓	✓
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHMS)	✓	✓	✗
OTHER CONTAMINANTS DETECTED	ACTIVATED CARBON	REVERSE OSMOSIS	ION EXCHANGE
1,4-DIOXANE	✗	✓	✗
ALUMINUM	✗	✓	✗
CHLORATE	✗	✗	✗
FLUORIDE	✗	✓	✗
MANGANESE	✗	✗	✓
PERFLUOROBUTANE SULFONATE (PFBS)	✓	✓	✗
PERFLUOROBUTANOIC ACID (PFBA)	✓	✓	✗
STRONTIUM	✗	✓	✓
VANADIUM	✗	✗	✓

Take Action

Interested in supporting other causes? Learn more about our ongoing campaigns and how you can make a difference.

LEARN MORE →



Need help finding a filter?

Discover top-rated filters that protect your family from harmful contaminants.

GET THE GUIDE



We're in this together

Donate today and join the fight to protect environmental health.

DONATE TODAY



UNITED STATES

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EMAIL ADDRESS*

GET THE GUIDE

By downloading the guide, you'll also be subscribed to receive email updates - including the latest news, tips, action alerts, promotions and more - from EWG.