2025 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT
PARIS BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

WE ARE PROUD TO REPORT THAT THE WATER PROVIDED BY THE PARIS BPU MEETS OR EXCEEDS ESTABLISHED WATER QUALITY STANDARDS!

BPU Water Is Safe: We are pleased to report to you, our customer, that our drinking water is safe. It meets daily quality tests and periodic additional tests with an approved laboratory based upon schedules given us by federal and state regulations. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water.

Water Quality Data: The following table shows test results currently on file for each respective parameter for calendar year 2025.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	**Violation Y/N**	**Level Detected**	**Unit Measurement**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Microbiological Contaminants						
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	0	Presence/ Absence	0	>1	Naturally present in the environment
Inorganic Contaminants						
Copper	No	0.026 90th Percentile 0.001 – 0.263 (range)	ppm	1.3	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Sodium	No	7.13	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits; used in water treatment
Lead	No	1.000 90th Percentile 1.000 – 6.510 (range)	ppb	0	15.0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	No	0.553(avg) 0.460 – 0.700 (range)	ppm	2	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	No	<0.1	ppm	10	10	Run-off from fertilizing activities; left-over nitrogen from septic systems
Disinfection By-products						
TTHM (Total trihalo-methanes)	No	6.710 (highest) 2.950 – 6.710 (range)	ppb	N/A	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination

THAA (Total Haloacetic Acids)	No	1.570 (highest) 1.080 – 1.570 (range)	ppb	N/A	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine	No	1.100(avg) 0.500 – 1.700 (range)	ppm	<2.0	<4.0	Water additive used to control Microbes

*Parts per million (**ppm**)* - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in $10,000

*Parts per billion (**ppb**)* - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in $10,000,000

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (**MCLG**)* - level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

*Maximum Contaminant Level (**MCL**)* - the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Water Source: BPU water originates as groundwater and is pumped from three wells dug deep into the McNairy Sand Aquifer. The Tennessee Dept. of Environment has prepared a Source Water Assessment Program Report to assess the susceptibility of untreated water sources to **potential** contamination. Water sources are rated based on geological factors and human activities in the vicinity of the water source. Our rating is reasonably susceptible. An explanation of the Source Water Assessment Program, assessment summaries, and susceptibility scorings can be viewed at https://www.tn.gov/environment/program-areas/wr-water-resources/water-quality/source-water-assessment.html. A Well Head Protection Plan is also required by EPA and TDEC of all water systems. The current copy of our plan can be viewed at the BPU office, 117 E. Washington Street.

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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:

- 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 stormwater runoff, wastewater discharges, oil/gas production, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides from sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can come from gas stations, stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and TDEC prescribe regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Iron: Iron occurs naturally in our raw water and occasionally accumulates in the distribution system. Iron shows up as "red" or "rusty" water at your tap. Although you do not want to drink water that is not clear, iron is not considered to be a hazard to your health. We test for iron daily and it is usually less than 0.03 ppm. The aesthetic limit for iron is 0.3 ppm.

Lead and Copper: During the most recent round of lead and copper testing, 0 out of 30 households sampled contained concentrations exceeding the action level (the concentration which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow). Lead and copper testing is performed every three years according to state requirements.

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed) and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The Paris Board of Public Utilities is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the

instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Paris Board of Public Utilities Main Office at 731-642-1322. Our office is located at 117 E Washington St Paris, TN 38242. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney, or nervous system problems.

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

The completed Lead Service Line Inventory is publicly available upon request at Paris Board of Public Utilities Main Office at 117 E Washington St. Paris, TN 38242. The Customer Support Staff and V.P. of Water/Wastewater Operations can assist with this process.

Contaminants and Potential Health Effects: As shown in the table, our system had no violations. Tests do show that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels. All 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

To Those More Vulnerable: 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 systems 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Think Before You Flush: Flushing unused or expired medicines can be harmful to your drinking water. Properly disposing of unused or expired medication helps protect you and the environment. Keep medications out of Tennessee's waterways by disposing in one of our permanent pharmaceutical take back bins. There are over 340 take back bins located across the state in all 95 counties. To find a convenient location, please visit: http://tdeconline.tn.gov/rxtakeback/.

For More Info: For more information about this report, you may contact Tony Brown, Vice President of Water/Wastewater Operations, at 731-642-1322. Our regular board meetings are scheduled the fourth Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the main office at 117 East Washington Street.

Our Board: Board members serve four-year terms. Vacancies are filled by appointment by the Paris City Mayor and confirmed by the city commissioners as directed by state law. Decisions by the board concerning customer complaints may be reviewed by the Utility Management Review Board of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation pursuant to Section 7-82-702(7) of Tennessee Code Annotated.