



FACT SHEET

January 2016

Environmental Study in Eastern Heights, Grenada, Mississippi

INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR TAP WATER

Background:

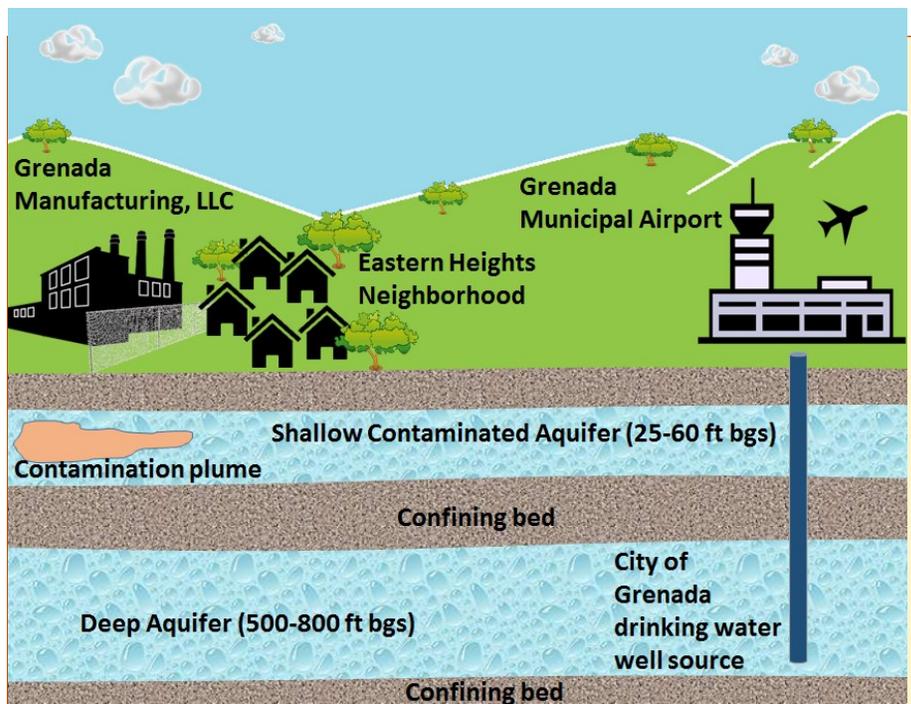
The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is overseeing an environmental study at the Eastern Heights neighborhood in Grenada, MS. By engaging with the community, EPA has determined that the community is concerned about the quality of their drinking water.

EPA is committed to hearing about and addressing the concerns of the community. The EPA Project Manager reached out to the EPA Water Division as well as the Mississippi State Department of Health Bureau of Public Water Supply to share the concerns of the community.

The Project Manager obtained information on the supply of the drinking water for the City of Grenada. This includes sampling reports dating from 2009 to 2015 and the most recent consumer confidence report for the drinking water systems operated by the City of Grenada. These reports are available for the public to review.

Where does my water come from?

The drinking water source for the Eastern Heights neighborhood is from an aquifer about 500 feet below ground surface (bgs) and is located north of the Eastern Heights neighborhood, near the Grenada Municipal Airport.



What is an "AQUIFER?"

When rain falls to the ground, the water does not stop moving. Some of it flows along the land surface to streams or lakes, some is used by plants. Some evaporates and returns to the atmosphere. And some seeps underground, into pores between sand, clay and rock formations called **aquifers**. Water moves through aquifers much like a glass of water poured onto a pile of sand.

Many communities obtain their drinking water from aquifers. Water suppliers drill wells through soil and rock into aquifers that supply the public with drinking water.

A **confining bed** (or **aquitard**) is a layer of non-porous rock (like clay) that stops the movement of water in and out of aquifers.

For more information refer to Superfund "Fact Flash," an educational tool on groundwater.

http://www.epa.gov/superfund/students/class_act/haz-ed/ff_05.htm

How do you know the water is safe to drink?

The drinking water sources which supply the Eastern Heights neighborhood in the city of Grenada are located in part of a deeper set of aquifers which run between 500 and 800 feet below ground surface. This deeper aquifer is not connected to the shallower contaminated aquifer located under the facility. The wells supplying Eastern Heights are approximately 500 feet below ground surface. The drinking water is regularly tested, and the sources supplying the Eastern Heights neighborhood have not had a health-based violation in years. The last violations were in 2008 for TTHM (a byproduct when chlorine is used to disinfect water.)

The Mississippi State Department of Health Bureau of Public Water Supply regularly tests the public water supply for a wide range of chemicals and other potential contaminants and parameters. TCE is one of the chemicals that is tested. The sampling results from 2009 to 2015 have revealed **no detection** of TCE in routine sampling of the drinking water supplied to Eastern Heights.

Every year, the City of Grenada Water Department releases an Annual Drinking Water Quality Report that is designed to inform customers about the quality of the water they deliver. They routinely monitor for chemicals in the drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The Annual Report lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected from the previous year. In order 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. All drinking water, including bottled water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some chemicals.

Where can I find these reports?

The Bureau of Public Water Supply has provided sampling results from 2009 forward. The document consists of 250+ pages of laboratory results.

The EPA has also obtained the 2014 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report, which is the latest report that lists all the chemicals that were detected from January 1, 2014 to December 31, 2014. The report states that the drinking water system had no violations, signifying that the drinking water of the City of Grenada meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.

These documents are available for review and are being kept in the information repository located at the Elizabeth Jones Library.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

MS Department of Environmental Quality—Office of Community Engagement: 601-961-5555

MS State Department of Health - Bureau of Public Water Supply: 601-576-7518

EPA Community Engagement Coordinator: 404-821-0697

Information Repository: Elizabeth Jones Library, 1050 Fairfield Avenue, Grenada, MS 38902.