

***OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 286 Drinking Water Quality Report 2003

Our Drinking Water Meets All Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Requirements

This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the following pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

En Espanol

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en Espanol, favor de llamar Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 286 al telefono (713) 983-3427.

Our drinking water is obtained from groundwater sources. It comes from the Gulf Coast Aquifer. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has completed its assessment of Texas' drinking water sources and has sent out detailed reports of applicable assessments to community water systems. An assessment report for our water source is available for review. This assessment report may identify contaminants for which our drinking water system may be eligible for monitoring waivers, and will allow us to pursue source water protection activities that focus on potential contaminants of greatest concern. It is important to protect your drinking water by protecting your water source.

All Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants

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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, and odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water please contact the District's operator Aqua Services.

About the Attached Table

The attached table contains all of the chemical contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants. All contaminants detected in your water are below state and federal allowed levels.

Public Participation Opportunities

The Board of Directors of the District meet regularly at 12 P.M. on the first Monday of every month at the offices of Schwartz, Page, and Harding L.L.P. at 1300 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1400, Houston, Texas. For additional information regarding the meeting call (713) 983-3500. You may mail comments to:

*Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 286
Attn.: Board of Directors
11100 Brittmoore Park Drive
Houston, Texas 77041*

Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 286 Board of Directors Message

The information contained in this bulletin is the result of a state and federal statute. The items listed in the data table on the other side of this bulletin as found in your water supply are in amounts in all cases substantially within the standards of the various state and federal regulations. Your water district is in general compliance with all regulations of the state of Texas covering its operations.

You will receive an annual updated report like this each year.

Special Notice for the Elderly, Infants, Cancer Patients, People with HIV/AIDS or Other Immune Problems

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly, or Immuno-compromised persons such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer; those who have undergone organ transplants; those who are undergoing treatment with steroids; and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders can be particularly at risk from infections. You should seek advice about drinking water from your physician or health care provider. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800-426-4791).

Protecting Our Water Resources

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 contaminants resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. **Contaminants that may be present in source water include:** *Microbial contaminants*, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; *Inorganic contaminants*, such as salts and metals which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining and farming; *Pesticides and herbicides*, which may come from a variety of 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 also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and *Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Federal Food and Drug Administration Agency regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection as bottled water.

DRINKING WATER QUALITY RESULTS 2003

The data contained in this report was collected in 2003 (except where noted). The state of Texas allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants does not change frequently. Although the water district samples for your water for up to 97 contaminants we are listing only those contaminants that were detected in your water.

Your water source:

The HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 286 obtains its water supply from two groundwater wells that draw water from the Gulf Coast Aquifer.

METALS ANALYSIS RESULTS

Substance	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile Value	# of Samples > AL	Violation	Typical Source
Copper (ppm) (2001)	1.3	1.3	0.21	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (ppb) (2001)	NA	15	1.8	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems

INORGANIC CONTAMINANT ANALYSIS RESULTS

Substance	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range Low High	Violation	Typical Source
Arsenic (ppb) (2002)	NA	*50	4.3	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium (ppm) (2002)	2	2	0.211	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (ppm) (2002)	10	10	0.17	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits.

*The MCL for arsenic will be changing from 50 ppb to 10 ppb effective January 23, 2006.

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCT CONTAMINANT ANALYSIS RESULTS

Substance	MCLG	MCL	One Year Average	Range Low High	Violation	Typical Source
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's) (ppb) (2003)	NA	80	47.9	37.8 - 63.9	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANT ANALYSIS RESULTS

Substance	Highest Monthly Number of Positive Samples	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Substance
Total Coliform (March 2003)	1	*	Presence	No	Naturally present in the environment

* Two or more coliform found samples in any single month

RADIOCHEMICAL CONTAMINANT ANALYSIS RESULTS

Substance	MCLG	MCL	Your Water	Range Low High	Violation	Typical Source
Alpha emitters (pCi/l) (2002)	0	15	4.8	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combine Radium (pCi/l) (2002)	0	5	0.3	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Drinking Water Definitions and Units Description

NA: Not Applicable

ND: Not Detected

NR: Not Reported

ppm: parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

pCi/l: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

MNR: Monitoring not required, but recommended

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

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, requires a water system to treat water or follow other requirements.

If you would like to talk to an Aqua Services representative about your Water Quality Report, please call 713-983-3427. For more information from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, you may call the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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