

2003

DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

for

HARRIS COUNTY

MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 55

About Our Drinking Water...

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has assessed our system and determined that our water is safe to drink. The analysis was made by using the data in the attached tables. See constituent tables on the following pages.

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).



Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from Groundwater sources. It comes from a Gulf Coast Aquifer. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality will be reviewing all of Texas' drinking water sources. The source water assessment has been completed and the report is available for viewing. It allows us to focus on our source water protection activities.

ALL DRINKING WATER MAY CONTAIN CONTAMINANTS

When drinking water meets federal standards there may not be any health based benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices. 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or 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 system's business office.

En Español

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Si tiene preguntas o discusiones sobre este reporte en español, favor de llamar al tel. (281) 240-1988 par hablar con una persona bilingue en español.

The Board of Directors of Harris County MUD No. 55 meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 6:00 pm at 2300 Pilgrim Point Drive, Houston, Texas. Please call 281-240-1988 to confirm meeting date.

CONTAMINANTS THAT MAY BE PRESENT IN SOURCE WATER

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 substances 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 or 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 for public health.

DEFINITIONS

AL	Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level - The highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
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.
NA	Not applicable.
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).
ppm	Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l).
ppb	Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l).
TT	Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING THIS REPORT, PLEASE CALL OUR OPERATING COMPANY AT (281) 240-1988.

THE ATTACHED TABLE CONTAINS ALL OF THE CHEMICAL CONSTITUENTS WHICH HAVE BEEN FOUND IN YOUR DRINKING WATER. THE DATA PRESENTED IN THIS REPORT IS FROM THE MOST RECENT TESTING PERFORMED IN ACCORDANCE WITH APPLICABLE REGULATIONS. U. S. EPA REQUIRES WATER SYSTEMS TO TEST UP TO 97 CONSTITUENTS.

INORGANIC CONSTITUENTS		The detection levels for inorganic constituents found in the samples were below action levels. The EPA does not require further action.				
Year	Constituents	Detect	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCL.G	Source of Constituent
2002	Barium	0.052 ppm	0.052 - 0.052 ppm	2 ppm	2 ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
2002	Fluoride	0.8 ppm	0.8 - 0.8 ppm	4 ppm	4 ppm	Water additive that promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
2002	Nitrate	0.73 ppm	0.73 - 0.73 ppm	10 ppm	10 ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits
RADIOACTIVE CONSTITUENTS		NOT TESTED FOR OR NOT DETECTED.				
VOLATILE ORGANIC CONSTITUENTS		NOT TESTED FOR OR NOT DETECTED.				
TOTAL COLIFORM		NOT DETECTED.				
FECAL COLIFORM		NOT DETECTED.				
LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING		The sample results below are levels from samples taken inside homes within the system, not the source water from the District.				
Year	Constituent	90th Percentile	# of Sites Exceeding AL	AL	MCLG	Source of Constituent
2001	Copper	0.4140 ppm	0	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
2001	Lead	2.9 ppb	0	15 ppb	0 ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits;

Lead

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

UNREGULATED CONSTITUENTS The detection levels for unregulated constituents found in the samples were below action levels. The EPA does not require further action.						
Year	Constituent	Average of all Sampling Points	Range of Detected Levels	Reason for Monitoring		
2003	Bromodichloromethane	5.2 ppb	5.2 - 5.2 ppb	Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants		
2003	Chloroform	10.4 ppb	10.4 - 10.4 ppb	Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants		
2003	Dibromochloromethane	1.5 ppb	1.5 - 1.5 ppb	Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants		
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS The detection levels for disinfection byproducts found in the samples were below action levels. The EPA does not require further action.						
Year	Constituent	Average of all Sampling Points	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Source of Constituent
2002	Total Haloacetic Acid	21.1 ppb	21.1 ppb	60 ppb	0 ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection
2002	Total Trihalomethanes	23.5 ppb	23.5 ppb	80 ppb	0 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination

OUR DISTRICT PURCHASED WATER FROM THE CITY OF HOUSTON IN 2003 AND THE FOLLOWING TABLE LISTS ANY DETECTIONS FROM THEIR MOST RECENT WATER SAMPLING.

RADIOACTIVE CONSTITUENTS The detection levels for radioactive constituents found in the samples were below action levels. The EPA does not require further action.						
Year	Constituent	Detect	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Source of Constituent
2002	Gross Beta	5.0 pCi/L	5.0 - 5.0 pCi/L	50 pCi/L	0 pCi/L	Decay of natural and manmade deposits
INORGANIC CONSTITUENTS The detection levels for inorganic constituents found in the samples were below action levels. The EPA does not require further action.						
Year	Constituents	Detect	Range of Detected Levels	MCL/AL	MCLG	Source of Constituent
2003	Barium	0.041 ppm	0.041 - 0.041 ppm	2 ppm	2 ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits
2003	Fluoride	0.8 ppm	0.8 - 0.8 ppm	4 ppm	4 ppm	Water additive that promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
2003	Nitrate	0.75 ppm	0.75 - 0.75 ppm	10 ppm	10 ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits

Water & Wastewater Operations Management
ECO Resources, Inc.
 12535 Reed Road Sugar Land, TX 77478

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VOLATILEORGANIC CONSTITUENTS The detection levels for unregulated constituents found in the samples were below action levels. The EPA does not require further action.						
Year	Constituents	Average of Sampling Points	Range of Detected Levels	MCL/AL	MCLG	Source of Constituent
2003	Atrazine	0.19 ppb	0.19 - 0.19 ppb	3 ppb	3 ppb	Herbicide runoff
2003	Simazine	0.14 ppb	0.14 - 0.14 ppb	4 ppb	4 ppb	Herbicide runoff
UNREGULATED CONSTITUENTS The detection levels for unregulated constituents found in the samples were below action levels. The EPA does not require further action.						
Year	Constituent	Average of all Sampling Points	Range of Detected Levels	Reason for Monitoring		
2003	Bromodichloromethane	2.1 ppb	2.1 - 2.1 ppb	Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants		
2003	Chloroform	8.0 ppb	8.0 - 8.0 ppb	Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants		