

2003 Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Pasadena, Texas (Consumer Confidence Report)



John Manlove, Mayor

Special Notice for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, people with HIV/AIDS, or other immune problems: 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 system 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/ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds 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 attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

En Español: Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Si tiene preguntas o discusiones sobre este reporte en español, favor de llamar al tel. 713-475-7286 par hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

Where do we get our drinking water? Our drinking water is obtained from Ground and Surface water sources. It comes from the following Lake/River/Reservoir/Aquifer: GULF COAST, GULF COAST/SAN JACINTO & TRINITY, GULF COAST/ SAN JACINTO & TRINITY RIVER and TRINITY & SAN JACINTO RIVER. The TCEQ has completed a Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for the drinking water source(s) that we own as well as for the system(s) from which we purchase water. This report describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. Contact our water system for more information about these reports.

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).

About the Following Pages: The pages that follow list all of the federally regulated or monitored constituents which have been found in your drinking water. U.S. EPA requires water systems to test up to 97 constituents.

Secondary Constituents: Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium, or iron) which are often found in drinking water can cause taste, color, and odor problems. The taste and odor constituents are called secondary constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concerns, Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

Public Participation Opportunities

Date: July 13, 2004

Time: 10:00 A.M.

Location: Pasadena City Hall, Council Chambers
1211 E Southmore Pasadena, Texas

Phone No: 713- 475- 7286

Definitions

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) The highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCGLs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no know or expected health risk. MCGLs allow for a margin of safety.

Treatment Technique (TT) A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Action Level (AL) The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

NTU Nephelometric Turbidity Units

MFL million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

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

ppt parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

ppq parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

INORGANICS

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	HIGHEST LEVEL AT ANY SAMPLING POINT	RANGE OF DETECTED LEVELS	MCL	MCLG	UNIT OF MEASURE	SOURCE OF CONSTITUENT
2003	Arsenic	2.8.	0.0000-2.800	50	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
2003	Barium	0.329	0.0414-0.3290	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
2003	Fluoride	2.3	0.1000-2.3000	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2003	Nitrate	1.13	0.0000-1.1300	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
2003	Nitrite	0.15	0.0000-0.1500	1	1	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
2003	Selenium	3.7	0.0000-3.7	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
2003	Gross alpha adjusted	19.6	0.0000-19.6000	15	0	pCi	Erosion of natural deposits;.
2003	Combined Radium 226 and 228	3.9	0.1000-2.3000	5	0	pCi/l	Erosion of natural deposits;.
2003	Gross beta emitters	21.4	0.0000-21.4000	50	0	pCi/l	Decay of natural and Man-made deposits

ORGANICS

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	HIGHEST LEVEL AT ANY SAMPLING POINT	RANGE OF DETECTED LEVELS	MCL	MCLG	UNIT OF MEASURE	SOURCE OF CONSTITUENT
2003-2003	Simazine	0.01	0.0000-0.0100	4	4	ppb	Herbicide runoff.
2003-2003	Atrazine	0.01	0.0000-0.0100	3	3	ppb	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.
2003-2003	Xylenes	0.0049	0.0000-0.0065	10	10	ppm	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories.

(Organics continued)

2003-2003	Di(Ethylhexyl) Pat Halate	0.04	0.0000-0.0400	6	0	ppb	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories.
2003-2003	Toluene	0.0002	0.0000-0.0002	1	1	ppm	Discharge from petroleum factories.
2003-2003	Ethylbenzene	0.8	0.0000-1.6000	700	700	ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries.

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	AVERAGE OF ALL SAMPLING POINTS	RANGE OF DETECTED LEVELS	MCL	MCLG	UNIT OF MEASURE	SOURCE OF CONSTITUENT
2003	Total Haloacetic Acids	26.9625	7.90-60.10	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
2003	Total Trihalomethanes	26.0972	13.50-51.40	100	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

LEAD AND COPPER

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	THE 90 TH PERCENTILE	NUMBER OF SITES EXCEEDING ACTIN LEVEL	ACTION LEVEL	UNIT OF MEASURE	SOURCE OF CONSTITUENT
2002	Lead	2.7000	1	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
2002	Copper	0.2230	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.

TURBIDITY

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, and diarrhea and associated headaches.

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	HIGHEST SINGLE MEASUREMENT	LOWEST MONTHLY % OF SAMPLES MEETING LIMITS	TURBIDITY LIMITS	UNIT OF MEASURE	SOURCE OF CONSTITUENT
2003	Turbidity	0.12	100	0.3	NTU	Soil runoff.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	AVERAGE OF ALL SAMPLING POINTS	RANGE OF DETECTED LEVELS	UNIT OF MEASURE	REASON FOR MONITORING
2003-2003	Chloroform	1.63	0.0000-5.7000	ppb	Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.
2003-2003	Bromoform	4.36	0.0000-20.0000	ppb	Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.
2003-2003	Bromodichloromethane	1.32	0.0000-3.5800	ppb	Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.
2003-2003	Dibromochloromethane	2.1	0.0000-4.9000	ppb	Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

Coliforms

What are coliforms?

Total coliform bacteria are used as indicators of microbial contamination of drinking water because testing for them is easy. While not disease-causing organisms themselves, they are often found in association with other microbes that are capable of causing disease. Coliform bacteria are more hardy than many disease-causing organisms; therefore, their absence from water is a good indication that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption.

Fecal coliform bacteria and, in particular, *E. coli*, are members of the coliform bacteria group originating in the intestinal tract of warm-blooded animals and are passed into the environment through feces. The presence of fecal coliform bacteria (*E. coli*) in drinking water may indicate recent contamination of the drinking water with fecal material. The following table indicates whether total coliform or fecal coliform bacteria were found in the monthly drinking water samples submitted for testing by your water supplier last year.

TOTAL COLIFORM

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	HIGHEST MONTHLY % OF POSITIVE SAMPLES	MCL	UNIT OF MEASURE	SOURCE OF CONSTITUENT
2003	Total Coliform Bacteria	0.78	*	Presence	Naturally present in the environment

* Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% or more of the monthly samples. **FECAL COLIFORM NOT DETECTED**