

2009 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report



(512) 312-0084

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) requires that all drinking water suppliers provide a water quality report to their customers on an annual basis. This Drinking Water Quality Report provides information on the City of Buda drinking water. We are dedicated to providing high quality drinking water to our citizens.

Public Participation Opportunities

The public is welcome to attend the Buda city council meetings held each 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. The meetings are located in the council chambers at City Hall at 121 Main Street in Buda. For specific questions related to this report, please call (512) 312-2876.

En Español

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en español, favor de llamar al tel. (512) 312-0084 – para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

Water Sources

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 *before treatment* include: microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

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 is in your drinking water.

Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from ground water and surface water sources. Our ground water comes from the Edwards Aquifer which currently supplies 75% of our water. This water is treated at each individual well site in the City of Buda. The remaining 25% comes from Canyon Lake via the Guadalupe River. This water is treated at the San Marcos Texas Surface Water Treatment Plant. For information on the City of San Marcos water treatment, please call 512-393-8010 or view the San Marcos Water Quality report on their website once it is posted:

<http://www.sanmarcostx.gov/departments/WWWW/>

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by TCEQ. This information describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. This information will allow us to focus our source water protection strategies. Some of this info can be found later this year on Texas Drinking Water Watch at:

<http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/>

For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

SPECIAL NOTICE

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, those undergoing steroid treatment, 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 (1-800-426-4791).

About The Following Pages

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

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 the EPA. These constituents are not cause for health concern. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

ABBREVIATIONS

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 (μ g/L)
ppt – parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
ppq – parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

The highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLGs 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 known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)

The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)

The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

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.

Inorganic Contaminants

Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009/08	Barium	0.091	0.029	0.158	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2009/08	Fluoride	0.95	0.23	1.94	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2009	Nitrate	0.98	0.34	1.52	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
2009/08	Combined Radium 226 & 228	0.2	0	0.61	5	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
2009/08	Gross beta emitters	1.13	0	3.4	50	0	pCi/L	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
2009/08	Gross alpha	2.53	0	5.9	15	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.

Organic Contaminants Testing waived, not reported, or none detected

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2009	Chlorine Residual, Free	0.92	0.3	1.6	4	4 ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

Disinfection Byproducts

Contaminant Year		Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Total Haloacetic Acids	1.3	0	2.6	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2007	Total Trihalomethanes	8.6	0	17.2	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts WAIVED OR NOT YET SAMPLED

Unregulated Contaminants

Bromoform, chloroform, dichlorobromomethane, and dibromochloromethane are disinfection byproducts. There is no maximum contaminant level for these chemicals at the entry point to distribution.

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Dibromochloromethane	0.9	0.9	0.9	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Lead	5.5	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2007	Copper	0.18	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Additional Health Information for Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. This water supply is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791)

Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated

(No associated adverse health effects)

Year or Range	Constituent	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Secondary Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2009 2005	Bicarbonate	316	296	334	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2009	Calcium	69.7	65.3	74.3	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2009 2005	Chloride	14	12	17	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity
2009	Copper	0.002	0	0.003	1	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
2009/08	Iron	0.039	0	0.108	.3	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; iron or steel water delivery equipment or facilities.
2009/08	Magnesium	28.5	24.2	35.2	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2009/08	Nickel	0.001	0.001	0.002	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
2009 2005	pH	7.2	7	7.4	>7.0	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2009/08	Sodium	8	7	11	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2009 2005	Sulfate	56	18	117	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2009 2005	Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	259	243	274	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2009 2005	Total Dissolved Solids	366	304	464	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2009/08	Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	291	273	308	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.
2009	Zinc	0.055	0.007	0.151	5	ppm	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element;

Turbidity NOT REQUIRED

Total Coliform REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA

Fecal Coliform REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA