

# 2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

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## CITY OF WHITEHOUSE

Phone Number-903-839-4914

***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. The 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 (1-800-426-4791).

### **Public Participation Opportunities**

**Date: 4th Tuesday every month**

**Time: 6:00 p. m.**

**Location: 311 E. Main, Whitehouse**

**Phone Number: 903-839-4914**

To learn about future public meetings (concerning your drinking water), or to request to schedule one, please call us.

### **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.

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**WATER SOURCES:** The sources of drinking water (both tap water 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 before treatment include: microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

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#### *En Espanol*

Este informe incluye informacion importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en espanol, favor de llamar al tel. (903)839-4914 Para hablar con una persona bilingiie en espanol.

## Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from SURFACE AND GROUND water sources. It comes from the following Lake/River/Reservoir/Aquifer: UNIDENTIFIED OR MULTIPLE. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water sources(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and will be provided to us this year. The report will describe the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment will allow us to focus our source water protection strategies. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

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

## 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 causes 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.

## 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.

### **DEFINITIONS**

#### **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)**

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.

#### **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 a 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.

### **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 ( $\mu\text{g}$ )  
**ppt** - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter  
**ppq** - parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

### Inorganic Contaminants

Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2015	Barium	0.015	0.013	0.017	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2015	Chromium	0.0019	2.4	2.6	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
2015	Fluoride	0.319	0.0975	0.70	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2015	Selenium	<0.00100	0	0.0040	0.05	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
2015	Nitrate	0.015	0.00400	0.0310	10	0.05	0.05	Fertilizer runoff erosion of natural deposits.

### Organic Contaminants

Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2015	Atrazine	<0.08	0	0.14	3	3	ppb	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.

### Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year or Range	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2015	Chlorine Residual, Free	1.40	0.29	2.20	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

### Disinfection Byproducts

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2015	Total Haloacetic Acids	24.76	16.1	39.4	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2015	Total Trihalomehtanes	63.31	50.4	80.1	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

### Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts

This evaluation is sampling required by EPA to determine the range of total trihalomethane and haloacetic acid in the system for future regulations. The samples are not used for compliance, and may have been collected under non-standard conditions. EPA also requires the data to be reported here.

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Total Haloacetic Acids	20.7	13.2	21.8	NA	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2009	Total Trihalomehtanes	65.1	44.3	70.3	NA	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

### 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 or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2015	Cholorform	19.5	15.6	23.5	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2015	Bromoform	1.895	1.41	2.38	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2015	Bromodichloromehtane	19.1	15.8	22.4	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2015	Dibromochloromethane	13.85	11.3	16.4	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

### Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2013	Lead	0.00371	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2013	Copper	0.236	0	1.3	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

## Lead and Copper Rule

The Lead and Copper Rule protects public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosivity. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
LEAD CONSUMER NOTICE (LCR)	12/30/2013	07/18/2014	We failed to provide the results of lead tap water monitoring to the consumers at the location water was tested. These were supposed to be provided no later than 30 days after learning results.

### Recommended Additional Health Information for Lead

All water systems are required by EPA to report the language below starting with the 2009 CCR to be delivered to you by July of 2013. We are providing this information now as a courtesy.

*"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://w.epa.gov/safewater/lead>."*

### 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, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Year	Contaminant	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measures	Source of Contaminant
2015	Turbidity	0.30	100%	0.3	NTU	Soil runoff.

### 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
2015	Aluminum	0.0085	0.033	0.157	.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2014	Bicarbonate	289	142	303	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2014	Calcium	0.921	1	10.2	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2015	Chloride	73.0	53	93.0	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity.
2015	Copper	0.0055	0	1.3	1	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

2015	Mercury	<0.00007	<0.00007	0.002	N/A	ppm	Metals
2014	Hardness as Ca/Mg	3.25	3	3	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.
2015	Magnesium	0.276	0	2	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2015	Manganese	0.0035	0.0036	0.0057	.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element
2015	P. Alkalinity as CaCO3	<10.0	0	3	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2014	pH	7.8	7.7	8.4	>7.0	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2015	Sodium	231	77	20000	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproducts of oil field activity.
2015	Sulfate	10.4	9	20	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproducts; byproducts of oil field activity.
2014	Total Alkalinity as CaCO3	294	116	309	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2015	Total Dissolved Solids	559	250	473	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2015	Total Hardness	4.87	34	34	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.
2015	Zinc	<0.00200	0	0.00400	5	ppm	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element; used in the metal industry

**Total Coliform** REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA.

**Fecal Coliform** REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.

Maxium Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maxium Contaminant Level	Highest # of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maxi. Contaminant Level	Total # of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	1 Positive Monthly Sample	0	0	0	N	Naturally present in environment

### Total Coliform

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially -harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MCL (TCR), MONTHLY	05/01/2014	05/31/2014	Total coliform bacteria were found in our drinking water during the period indicated in enough samples to violate a standard.

Parameters	Results	Units	RL	MCL
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**Pesticides (2015)**

Analysis Desc: E525.2 Pesticides by GC/MS

Preparation Method: E525.2 Pesticides by GC/MS

Analytical Method: E525.2 Pesticides by GC/MS

trans-Nonachlor-chlordane	<0.1	ug/L	0.1	
Alachlor	<0.1	ug/L	0.1	2
Aldrin	<0.1	ug/L	0.1	
alpha-Chlordane	<0.1	ug/L	0.1	2
Atrazine	<0.08	ug/L	0.08	3
Benzo(a)pyrene	<0.02	ug/L	0.02	0.2
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	<0.5	ug/L	0.5	400
Bis(2-Ethylhexyl)phthalate	<0.5	ug/L	0.5	6
Bromacil	<0.2	ug/L	0.2	
Butachlor	<0.1	ug/L	0.1	
Dieldrin	<0.1	ug/L	0.1	
Endrin	<0.01	ug/L	0.01	2
gamma-BHC (Lindane)	<0.02	ug/L	0.02	0.2
gamma-Chlordane	<0.1	ug/L	0.1	2
Heptachlor	<0.03	ug/L	0.03	0.4
Heptachlor epoxide	<0.02	ug/L	0.02	0.2
Hexachlorobenzene	<0.08	ug/L	0.08	1
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	<0.08	ug/L	0.08	50
Methoxychlor	<0.08	ug/L	0.08	40
Metalochlor	<0.1	ug/L	0.1	
Metribuzin	<0.1	ug/L	0.1	
Pentachlorophenol	<0.03	ug/L	0.03	1
Propachlor	<0.1	ug/L	0.1	
Simazine	<0.05	ug/L	0.05	4

**NONE**

Analysis Desc: E508.1 Pesticides by GC

Preparation Method: E508.1 Pesticides by GC

Analytical Method: E508.1 Pesticides by GC

Aroclor-1016	<0.07	ug/L	0.07	0.5
Aroclor-1221	<0.25	ug/L	0.25	0.5
Aroclor-1232	<0.25	ug/L	0.25	0.5