City of Pasadena

2014 Drinking Water Quality Report

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

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. 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 Espanol

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en espanol, favor de llamar al telfono 713-475-7286.

Public Participation Opportunities

A Public Hearing concerning this Report will be held:
Date: Tuesday, June 16, 2015 at 6:00 P.M.
Location: City Council Chambers; 1211 Southmore

Water Sources

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 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:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic system, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also, come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive Contaminants, Which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from surface water and 9 ground water wells. It comes from the following: the Gulf Coast Aquifer and the Trinity River. The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that some of your sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confident Report. For more information on water source assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact Rick Helton with the City of Pasadena, Public Works Department, Water Division 713-475-4935.

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 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 call 713-475-4935.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Special Notice

Required language for ALL community public water supplies:

You may be more vulnerable that the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or immunocompromised 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 or appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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. US EPA requires water systems to test up to 97 constituents.

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. The City of Pasadena 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.

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 – 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.

ABBREVIATIONS:
MREM/YEAR: millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body) **na:** not applicable
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 (ug/l)
ppt – parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter **ppq** – parts per quadrillion, or pictograms per liter

Inorganic Contaminants

Disinfection And Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2013	0.103	.0762 – .103	2	2	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling Wastes; Discharge from Metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic*	2013	Less Than .002		0	10	ppb	No	Erosion of natural Deposits: runoff from Orchards; runoff from Glass and electronics Production wastes.

Fluoride	2013	1.34	0.43 – 1.34	4	4.0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive Which promotes strong teeth; discharge from Fertilizer and aluminum
Nitrate** (measured as Nitrogen)	2014	1	0-0.77	10	10	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic Tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

*****Arsenic – The arsenic value was effective January 23, 2006. In the event of a violation, you will be notified.

**Nitrate Advisory – Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agriculture activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health provider.

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined-Radium 226-228	2011	2.1	2.1 -2.1	0	5	pCi/L	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	2013	Less Than 2.0	0 – 2.0	2	15	pCi/L	No	Erosion Of natural deposits

Disinfectants And Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2014	22	0-42	No Goal	60	ppb	No	By product of Drinking water Chlorination

Total Trihalomethanes (TThm)	2014	31	6.9-50.9	No Goal	80	ppb	No	By product of Drinking water Chlorination

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCGL	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2013	1.3	1.3	1.3	0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposit;
								Leaching from wood preservatives: Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead	2013	0	15	2.9	0	ppb	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Organics	Date Sampled	Highest Average	Range of Detected Levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Atrazine	2013	.20	0 - .20	3	3	ppb	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Simazine	2013	.12	0 - .12	4	4	ppb	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops

Yearly Disinfectant Level

Average of all chlorine Residuals for the year 2013	Lowest of all chlorine Residuals for the year 2013	Highest of all chlorine Residuals for the year 2013
mg/l	mg/l	mg/l
2.1	.43	3.5

E Coli

Fecal coliforms and e coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
Monitor GWR Triggered/Additional,	0	0	
Major			

Public Notification Rule

The public Notification Rule helps to ensure that consumers will always know if there is a problem with their drinking water. These notices immediately alert consumers if there is a serious problem with their drinking water

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
Public Notice Rule Linked to Above Violation	07/01/2012	2012	We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers about a violation of the drinking water regulations.