

**Sources of Drinking Water****BENTWOOD BEND (Polk County, Gulf Coast Aquifer) WATER SYSTEM IS GROUND WATER**

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 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.

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 at (800) 426-4791.

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 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 runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemicals 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 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.

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

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.

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 those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer; persons 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 providers. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we 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>.

**Information about Source Water Assessments**

The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and the 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 detections of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact our office.

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. 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. The information contained in the assessment allows us to focus water protection strategies. For more information on about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: <http://gis3.tceq.state.tx.us/swav/Controller/index.jsp?wtrsrc=>

Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL: <http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW>

Source Water Name	Location	Type of Water	Report Status
1- WINCHESTER ROAD	WINCHESTER ROAD	GW	Y

**Lead and Copper**

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

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2017	1.3	1.3	0.013	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2017	0	15	.51	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the time period of Jan-Dec 2017, our system lost an estimated gallons of water. If you have any questions about the water loss audit please call our office.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level**

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Chemical
2017	Chlorine	1.06	.22	2.2	4.0	<4.0	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

**DEFINITIONS** The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

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

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

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

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 Assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

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 a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is con-vincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 Assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an e.coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

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 contaminants.

MFL: Million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

mrem: millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

na: Not applicable

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units (a measure of turbidity)

ppt: Parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

ppq: Parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

pCi/L: Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppm: Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L); one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

ppb: Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L; once ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

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

**Water Quality Test Results Regulated Contaminants** \*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

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)*	09/27/2016	3.7	3.7-3.7	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	09/27/2016	17.5	17.5-17.5	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	12/06/2016	0.0604	0.0604-0.0604	2	2	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Fluoride	12/06/2016	1	1-1	4	4.0	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2017	0.03	0.03-0.03	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon Emitters	4/15/2013	6	6-6	0	50	pCi/L*	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Combined Radium 226/228	4/15/2013	2.3	2.3-2.3	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	4/15/2013	2.3	2.3-2.3	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

**Violations**

**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.

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Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
FOLLOW UP OR ROUTINE TAP M/R(LCR)	10/01/2016	10/01/2017	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated. <i>(The water was tested for the contaminant and period indicated, as you can see in the Lead/Copper chart in this CCR, there are sample results for 2016 and 2017. TCEQ should have received these results in time and we are not in agreement that a violation is required to be in our CCR.)</i>
LEAD CONSUMER NOTICE (LCR)	12/30/2016	01/27/2017	We failed to provide the results of the 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 the results. <i>(Once again, we disagree with the requirement to include this language in our CCR, as we did indeed send the results to our customers in a timely manner.)</i>

**Chlorine**

Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR).	04/01/2017	06/30/2017	TCEQ says: We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.  (We say: Your water was indeed sampled during this time period. The TCEQ did not receive the report by the due date, and this triggered a violation.)

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