

Sampling Results

During the past year, we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloramines (ppm)	2014	[4]	[4]	2.96	2.68-3.15	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Fluoride (ppm)	2014	4	4	0.61	0.22-0.74	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Halooacetic Acids [HHA] (ppb)	2014	60	NA	9.34	4.0-15.1	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2014	10	10	0.28	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (ppm)	2014	1	1	0.004	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; and erosion of natural deposits
THMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2014	80	NA	25.07	4.0-42.1	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Coliform Bacteria (% positive samples)	2014	More than 5 positive samples	0	0	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	2014	TT	NA	4.5	3.72-6.1	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity1 (NTU)	2014	TT<=1 NTU	NA	0.01	0.01-0.02	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (Lowest monthly reading of 5 samples meeting limit)	2014	TT=95% of positive samples <=0.3 NTU	NA	100	NA	No	Soil runoff

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH%TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2013	1.3	1.3	0.043	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2013	15	0	3.16	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2014	250	NA	48	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
pH (Units)	2014	6.5-8.5	NA	7.7	7.7- 8.1	No	Naturally occurring
Total Dissolved Solids [TDS] (ppm)	2014	500	NA	283	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

OTHER DETECTED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Aluminum Total (ppm)	2014	0.2	NA	<0.0200	NA	NO	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Arsenic Total (ppm)	2014	0.01	NA	<0.00200	NA	NO	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Barium Total (ppm)	2014	2.0	NA	0.0639	NA	NO	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Manganese Total (ppm)	2014	0.05	NA	<0.001	NA	NO	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Nickel Total (ppm)	2014	0.1	NA	0.0015	NA	NO	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Thallium Total (ppm)	2014	0.002	NA	<0.0004	NA	NO	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Zinc Total (ppm)	2014	5.0	NA	<0.005	NA	NO	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

OTHER WATER CHARACTERISTICS

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH
Alkalinity (ppm)	2014	174.72	158.5-191.2
Hardness2 (ppm)	2014	197.91	189-210.2
Sodium (ppm)	2014	25.9	NA
Sulfate (ppm)	2014	33	NA

Definitions

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

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):

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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):

The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is not known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):

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

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):

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.

NA: Not applicable.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):

Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter.)

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter.)

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

1Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

2District 17 water is considered moderately hard to hard. The range of 189-210.2 ppm converts to 11-12.2 grains per gallon with an average of 11.57 grains per gallon.

This report is posted at http://www.wcid17.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/2014_WCID17_WaterQualityAnnualRpt.pdf and available in paper by request. System Water Loss: Average Water Loss January 1 - December 31, 2014 = 7.65%.

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (512) 266-1111.

Annual WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2014

Presented By
Travis County Water Control and Improvement District No. 17

PWS ID#: TX2270027



Annual Water Quality Report, Reporting Year 2014

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There When You Need Us

We are once again proud to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2014. As in years past, we are committed to delivering the best quality drinking water to you. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

We encourage you to share your thoughts with us on the information contained in this report. Should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water, we are always available to assist you.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Water District 17 customers are fortunate because we enjoy an exceptionally clean surface water supply from Lake Travis. The Colorado River watershed that feeds Lake Travis reaches many miles upstream, passing through agricultural fields as well as urban areas. The raw water is processed at the Eck Lane Water Treatment Plant, where it is filtered through state-of-the-art microfiltration membranes. Microfiltration rejects particles larger than 0.075 microns and can filter out *Giardia* cysts, *Cryptosporidium*, bacteria, and about 68% of viruses. The water is then treated with chlorine and ammonia to disinfect and remove any residual harmful contaminants, and a small amount of fluoride is added to prevent tooth decay. Water quality is monitored continuously to ensure it is within standards for low turbidity and proper disinfection levels.

Source Water Assessment

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is the state water regulatory agency, and they completed a source water assessment (SWA) for Lake Travis in 2014. The SWA is a report on the susceptibility of public drinking water systems to 227 drinking water contaminants. The results include a high, medium, or low rating for each contaminant, as well as a list of potential sources of contamination. A copy of this report is available at the District Office at 3812 Eck Lane.

You can access more information on the internet at www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/SWAP and www.epa.gov/waterhome.

Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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 can acquire naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material; and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances 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, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and which may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

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

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 our business office. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Important Health Information

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; 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 on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4781.

Community Participation & Questions?

We want our customers to be informed about their water utility. You are invited to attend regular board of directors meetings on the third Thursday of each month, beginning at 6 p.m. at the District Office at 3812 Eck Lane.

For information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Deborah Gernes, General Manager, at (512) 266-1111, ext. 113, email: dgermes@wcid17.org; or Thurman Carlisle, Water Operations Supervisor, at (512) 801-3445, email: tcarlisle@wcid17.org.

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