2014

DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

PWS ID: TX1700022

City of Montgomery
P.O. BOX 691008
Houston, TX 77269

Our Drinking Water Meets 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires ongoing tests of all public water systems, and the results are provided on the following pages. We hope that by this information helps you to become more aware of what's in your drinking water in City of Montgomery.

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 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 water runoff, and residential uses.

Organic chemical 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.

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. 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 for Infants, Elderly and those with Special Health Circumstances

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) 426-4791.

En Espanol

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llame al telefono a Lizet 281-355-1312.

Public Participation Opportunities

You may mail comments to:
Gulf Utility Service
Attn: City of Montgomery
P.O. Box 691008
Houston, TX 77269

Where do we get our drinking water?

The source of drinking water used by City of Montgomery is Ground Water. It comes from the Jasper Aquifer. 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 source water protection strategies. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact Karl Skarboszewski at 281-355-1312

All Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants

When drinking water meets federal standards there may not be any health benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amount 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 found by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

About this report

This report lists all of the federally regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPS requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants. Most sampling is conducted at each source water entry point into the system. The actual water received by a consumer may be a blend from different sources, depending on location.

Drinking Water Abbreviations and Definitions

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

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

N/A: not applicable

NTU: nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)

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

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

ppb: parts per billion, or micrograms per liter, or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

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

ppq: parts per quadrillion, or pictograms per liter (pg/L)

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:

The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level or 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

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG:

There is a level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:

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

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

REGULATED CONTAMINANTS

YEAR	Contaminant Unit of measurement	Highest Level Detected	Range of detected level	Violation	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contaminant
Collection Date	Inorganic Contaminants	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Violation	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination.
2013	Arsenic (ppb)	3.4	3.4-3.4	NO	10	0	Erosion of natural deposits.
2013	Barium (ppm)	0.17	0.17-0.17	NO	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits.
2013	Fluoride (ppm)	0.18	0.18-0.18	NO	4.0	4	Erosion of natural deposits.

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS

YEAR	Contaminant Unit of measurement	Highest level detected	Range of detected level	Violation	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contaminant
2/15/2012	*Beta Photon emitters (pCi/L)	7.8	7.8-7.8	NO	50	0	Decay of natural and man made deposits
2/15/2012	Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L)	2.6	2.1-2.6	NO	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
2/15/2012	Gross alpha Compliance (pCi/L)	4.2	2.1-4.2	NO	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits

*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles

Coliform Bacteria

Maximum contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminant
0	1 Positive monthly sample)	1		0	NO	Naturally present in the environment.

DISINFECTION RESIDUALS

YEAR	Contaminant Unit of measurement	Highest Average Level Detected	Range of detected level	Violation	MRDL	MRDLG	Likely Source of Contaminant
2014	Free Chlorine (ppm)	3.50	1.17-2.95	NO	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes.

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

YEAR	Contaminant Unit of measurement	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Violation	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contaminant
2014	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	2	1.9 - 1.9	NO	80	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

LEAD AND COPPER

YEAR	Contaminant Unit of measurement	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminant
2014	Copper (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.1	0	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Additional Health Information for Lead

All water systems are required by EPA to report the following language: *"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."*

If you would like to talk to a district representative about your Water Quality Report, please call 832-493-8694. For information from the U.S. Environmental Agency, you may call the EPA's Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Violations Table

E. Coli			
Fecal coliforms 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 pose a special health risk for infants, young children ad severely compromised immune systems.			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITOR GWR TRIGGERED/ADDITIONAL, MAJOR	08/01/2013	08/31/2013	We failed to collect follow-up samples within 24 hours of learning of the total coliform-positive sample. These needed to be tested for fecal indicators from all sources that were being used at the time the positive sample was collected.