2008 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

HORIZON REGIONAL MUNICIPAL UTILITY (915) 852-3917

Special Notice for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, people with HI V/A IDS 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

To obtain information and participate in discussions with the Directors of the Horizon Regional Municipal Utility District, you are invited to attend the monthly Board of Directors Meeting held every fourth Thursday of the month at 6:00 P.M. at 1539 Pawling Drive, Horizon City, TX 79928 or call (915) 852-3917.To learn about future public meetings (concerning your drinking water), or to request to schedule one, please call us.

OUR DRINKING WATER IS REGULATED

by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and they have determined that certain water quality issues exist which prevent our water from meeting all of the requirements as stated in the Federal Drinking Water Standards. Each issue is listed in this report as a violation and we are working closely with the TCEQ to achieve solutions.

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.

En Español

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre éste informe en español, favor de llamar al tel. (915) 852-3917 para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from COMBINATION OF water sources. It comes from the following

Lake/River/Reservoir/Aquifer: HUECO-MESILLA BOLSON. 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 (µg/L)
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
2005	2004	Arsenic	3	3	4	10	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
2005	2004	Barium	0.006	0.004	0.007	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2008	2004	Fluoride	0.43	0.2	0.65	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2008	2005	Nitrate	0.96	0.72	1.2	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
2005	2004	Selenium	2.2	0	4.4	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.

Organic Contaminants TESTING WAIVED, NOT REPORTED, OR NONE DETECTED

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Chemical
2008	Gas Chlorine	0.89	0.27	1.46	4.0	<4.0	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes

Disinfection Byproducts

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contamination
2008	Total Haloacetic Acids	1.4	1.4	1.4	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2008	Total Trihalomethanes	2.8	2.8	2.8	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts: WAIVED OR NOT YET SAMPLED
Unregulated Contaminants: NOT REPORTED OR NONE DETECTED

Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Lead	1	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
2007	Copper	0.069	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Recommended Additional Health Information for Lead

"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."

Turbidity NOT REQUIRED

Total Coliform

Total coliform bacteria are used as indicators of microbial contamination of drinking water because testing for them is easy. While not disease-causing organisms themselves, they are often found in association with other microbes that are capable of causing disease. Coliform bacteria are more hardy than many disease-causing organisms; therefore, their absence from water is a good indication that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption.

Year	Contaminant	Highest Monthly Number of Positive Samples	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Total Coliform Bacteria	1	*	Presence	Naturally present in the environment.

*** Two or more coliform found samples in any single month.**

Fecal Coliform REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.

VIOLATIONS

Violation Type	Health Effects	Duration	Explanation	Steps to Correct
DISTRIBUTION DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL – FAILURE TO MONITOR OR REPORT REQUIRED SAMPLES	We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During this compliance period we did not correctly monitor or report and therefore TCEQ cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.	10/01/08 To 12/31/08	The sampling was conducted and mailed to TCEQ. The results were either lost in the mail or misplaced by TCEQ. The copies kept for our records indicate the presence of residual chlorine indicating the water was safe to drink.	A notarized double signed registered letter will be sent with the sampling results to assure accountability.

Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated (No associated adverse health effects)

Year or Range		Constituent	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Secondary Limit	Units	Source of Constituent
2008	2004	Bicarbonate	46	35	57	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2005	2004	Calcium	30.9	26	35.7	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008	2004	Chloride	186	140	232	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity
2005	2004	Copper	0.004	0.004	0.004	1	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
2008		Hardness as Ca/Mg	124	124	124	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.
2005	2004	Iron	0.015	0	0.03	.3	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; iron or steel water delivery equipment or facilities.
2005	2004	Lead	0.001	0	0.002	NA	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2005	2004	Magnesium	7.8	6.5	9.1	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008	2004	pH	7.6	7.3	7.9	>7.0	units	Measure of corrosiveness of water.
2005	2004	Sodium	177	150	204	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil fieldactivity.
2008	2004	Sulfate	204	189	218	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2008	2004	Total Alkalinity as CaCO3	43	29	57	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2008	2004	Total Dissolved Solids	669	549	789	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2004		Total Hardness as CaCO3	92	92	92	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.
2005	2004	Zinc	0.003	0	0.006	5	ppm	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element; used in the metal industry.