

2009 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

HORIZON REGIONAL MUNICIPAL UTILITY (915) 852-3917

SPECIAL NOTICE

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.

Public Participation Opportunities

To obtain information and participate in discussion with the Directors of 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 pm at 1539 Pawling Drive, Horizon City, TX 79928 Please call (915) 852 3917 to request or schedule a meeting concerning your drinking water.

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

This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers. 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.

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 a 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 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 our source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information will be available later this year on Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/> 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
2009 2005	Arsenic	5	4	5	10	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
2009 2005	Barium	0.008	0.007	0.009	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2009 2008	Fluoride	0.51	0.37	0.65	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2009	Nitrate	3.14	0.59	5.69	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
2009 2005	Selenium	3.9	3.4	4.4	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
2009	Gross beta emitters	5.1	5.1	5.1	50	0	pCi/L	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

Required Additional Health Information for Arsenic

The maximum contaminant level (MCL) for arsenic decreased from 0.05 mg/L (50 ppb) to 0.010 mg/L (10 ppb) effective January 23, 2006. Because the highest reported arsenic level on this report is between 5 ppb and 10 ppb, the following information is required by EPA:

"While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems."

Required Additional Health Information for Nitrate Because the highest reported nitrate level on this report is above 5 ppm, but below the MCL, this information is required by the EPA:

"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. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advise from your health care provider."

Organic Contaminants

Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Xylenes	1.3	1.3	1.3	10000	10000	ppb	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2009	Chlorine Residual, Free	0.91	0.25	1.89	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

Disinfection Byproducts

	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
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 NONE 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

Required 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 REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA.

Fecal Coliform REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.

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

Year or Range	Constituent	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Secondary Unit of Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2009 2008	Bicarbonate	57	56	57	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2009 2005	Calcium	36.5	35.7	37.3	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2009 2008	Chloride	227	222	232	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity
2009 2005	Copper	0.005	0.004	0.005	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.
2009 2005	Iron	0.022	0	0.043	.3	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; iron or steel water delivery equipment or facilities.
2009 2005	Lead	0.001	0	0.001	NA	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2009 2005	Magnesium	9.5	9.1	9.9	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2009 2005	Manganese	0.0007	0	0.0014	.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2009 2008	pH	7.6	7.2	7.9	>7.0	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2009 2005	Sodium	200	195	204	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2009 2008	Sulfate	220	218	222	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2009 2008	Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	52	46	57	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2009 2008	Total Dissolved Solids	774	759	789	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2009	Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	134	134	134	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.
2009 2005	Zinc	0.004	0	0.007	5	ppm	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element; used in the metal industry.