

# 2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

BELL COUNTY WCID 1

PWS ID Number: TX0140016

## **SPECIAL NOTICE**

You may be more vulnerable than the general public to certain microbial contaminants, such as *Cryptosporidium*, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or immunocompromised person 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* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. We cannot control the variety of material 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 for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. More information about contaminants, including lead and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or online at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THIS REPORT CONTACT**

**Ricky Garrett, P.E. General Manager**

**254-501-9243**

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.

## **INFORMATION ON 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 contaminants that may be present in source:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agriculture livestock operations.
- 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.
- Pesticide and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm 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 runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## ***En Español***

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

## Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from a surface water source, Belton Lake. The TCEQ completed an assessment of our source water and results indicate that some of the sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection 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 Ricky Garrett, P.E. at 254-501-9243.

Further details about sources and source water assessment are available in Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/>:

### ***Drinking water may contain contaminants.***

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. 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 Water Plant at 254-939-2481.

## 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.

### **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) – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

**ppb** – parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)- or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

**ppt** – parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

**ppq** – parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter.

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

**na-** not applicable

**avg-** regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples

**Regulated Contaminants**

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2015	Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	30.4	30.4	30.4	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2015	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	47.4	47.4	47.4	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

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

**Inorganic Contaminants**

Year or Range	Violation	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2015	N	Barium	0.05	0.05	0.05	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2015	N	Fluoride	0.24	0.23	0.24	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2015	N	*Nitrate	0.14	0.13	0.14	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

\*Nitrate Advisory – 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. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for periods of time because of rainfall or agriculture activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

**Radioactive Contaminants**

Collection Date	Contaminant	Max. Level	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
4/28/2015	Beta/Photon emitters	5.2	4.0 – 5.5	0	4	mrem/yr	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

**Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides**

Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2015	Atrazine	0.14	0.13	0.15	3	3	ppb	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
2015	Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	<.60	<.60	<.60	6	0	ppb	N	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories

**Disinfectant Residual Table**

Systems must complete and submit disinfection data on the Surface Water Monthly Operations Report (SWMOR). On the CCR report, the system must provide disinfectant type, minimum, maximum and average levels.

Disinfectant	Year	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Chemical
Chloramines	2015	3.6	3.1	4.1	4	< 4.0	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

## Lead and Copper

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites over AL	Units	Violation (Y/N)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	6/26/2014	1.3	1.3	0.036	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching of wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	6/26/2014	0	15	0.0011	0	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

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

## Turbidity

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches. Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration.

Year	Contaminant	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2015	Turbidity	0.29	100	0.3	NTU	Soil runoff

## Total Coliform Bacteria

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 hardier than many disease-causing organisms; therefore, their absence from water is a good indication that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption.

Maximum Containment Goal	Total Coliform MCL	Highest Number of Positive Samples	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Max. Contaminant Level*	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Source of Contamination
0	0 positive monthly samples	There were no TCB detections for this System in this CCR period		0	No	naturally present in the environment

\* Two or more coliform found samples in any single month. A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive and one is also fecal coliform or E. Coli positive.

## Fecal Coliform

REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA

## Total Organic Carbon (TOC)

Date		Raw Water	Plant 1	Plant 2	Plant 3	Plant 4
2015	Min	4.76 mg/l	0.00 mg/l	0.00 mg/l	0.00 mg/l	3.66 mg/l
2015	Max	10.00 mg/l	5.55 mg/l	5.26 mg/l	5.38 mg/l	5.68 mg/l
2015	Avg.	7.37 mg/l	1.16 mg/l	2.34 mg/l	2.14 mg/l	4.68 mg/l

## Violations Table

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.			
Violation Type	Violation Began	Violation End	Violation Explanation
LEAD CONSUMER NOTICE (LCR)	12/30/2014	3/10/2015	We failed to provide the results of 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.

## LT2ESWTR (Long-Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule)

Twelve samples have been collected and tested for cryptosporidium and giardia beginning April 2015. Of the more than 110 liters of water tested, no cryptosporidium or giardia oocysts have been confirmed. Sampling and testing will continue through March 2017. This sample collection and analysis is part of the Federal Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule to better characterize source water risks associated with cryptosporidium and/or giardia oocysts. For more information regarding cryptosporidium or giardia, please contact the TCEQ at (512) 239-3465 or the EPA at (800) 426-4791.

## The Latest News for Bell County WCID #1

The District is in the design stage of a new water treatment plant on Lake Stillhouse. The entities of Harker Heights, Copperas Cove, 439 Water Supply Corporation, WCID No.3 and Killeen are participating in the construction of this new plant. It will take about 3 years to complete the project. Last summer the District began providing re-use water for irrigation of the Stone Tree Golf Course in Killeen. For every gallon of re-use water used, a gallon of potable water is conserved. As additional water becomes increasingly scarce to obtain, we are reviewing ways to use re-use water from our wastewater treatment plants to water parks and other places where it would be appropriate to use.