

# 2017 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. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available for the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**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
2017	Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	12.4	12.4	12.4	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2017	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	31.7	31.7	31.7	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
2017	N	Barium	0.05	0.05	0.05	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2017	N	Fluoride	0.21	0.21	0.21	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2017	N	*Nitrate	0.22	0.02	0.33	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	Gross Beta Particle/ photon emitters	5.2	4.0 – 5.5	0	50	pCi/L	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

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

**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
2017	Atrazine	0.16	0.16	0.16	3	3	ppb	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
2017	Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	<0.60	<0.60	<0.60	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	2017	3.6	3.4	3.9	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	6/8/2017	1.3	1.3	0.036	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching of wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	6/8/2017	0.015	0.015	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
2017	Turbidity	0.29	100	0.3	NTU	Soil runoff

**Total Coliform Bacteria**

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.

**Fecal Coliform**

REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA

## **Total Organic Carbon (TOC)**

Total Organic Carbon (TOC) is an indirect measure of organic molecules present in water and measured as carbon. Organic molecules are introduced into the water from the source water, from purification, and from distribution system materials. TOC is measured for both process control purposes and to satisfy regulatory requirements.

<b>Date</b>		<b>Raw Water</b>	<b>Plant 1</b>	<b>Plant 2</b>	<b>Plant 3</b>	<b>Plant 4</b>
2017	Min	2.76 mg/l	1.82 mg/l	3.38 mg/l	4.06 mg/l	2.20 mg/l
2017	Max	29.2 mg/l	3.92 mg/l	6.39 mg/l	6.19 mg/l	7.24 mg/l
2017	Avg.	7.89 mg/l	2.87 mg/l	4.34 mg/l	5.34 mg/l	4.74 mg/l

**Violations** NONE

## **The Latest News for Bell County WCID #1**

The Stillhouse Hollow Treatment Plant is under construction. Work began in full swing October of 2017. The project consists of a raw water intake structure, raw water pump station, raw water line and 17 million gallon per day treatment plant. The project is scheduled to be complete by March of 2020 and will provide water to southwest Killeen and neighboring areas.

The next phase will consist of almost 10 miles of 36" diameter transmission main. The main will transport treated water west from the plant site off Cedar Knob Church Road, cross the Lampasas River near Gravel Crossing Road, then meander northward toward Chaparral Road in the vicinity of West Trimmier. The design work for this project is near completion and is scheduled to bid around November 2018 so that the plant and pipeline will be complete at approximately the same time. The new plant will initially provide water to the southwest of Killeen but ultimately will make additional water available to Copperas Cove, Harker Heights, Bell County WCID 3 and 439 WSC.