

## 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 using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented on 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 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.

### WHERE DO WE GET OUR DRINKING WATER?

Our drinking water is obtained from groundwater sources. It comes from the Chicot and Evangeline aquifers. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for our 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 the source water assessment information will be available later this year on Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dwww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/>. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

### DEFINITIONS:

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

**Coliforms** – 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.

**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.

### ABBREVIATIONS:

**NA** – MCL not applicable – not regulated

**NTU** – Nephelometric Turbidity Units

**MFL** – million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

**pCi/l** – Picocuries per liter, which is a unit of measure for radioactive substances. A pCi/l is equivalent to two atoms disintegrating per minute per liter.

**ppm** – Parts per million, which is a unit of measure for the amount of a constituent found in a specific volume of water and is equivalent to milligrams per liter.

**ppb** – Parts per billion, which is a unit of measure for the amount of a constituent found in a specific volume of water and is equivalent to micrograms per liter.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

**Date:** Second Monday of each month

**Time:** 6:00 P.M.

**Location:** 21437 Clay Road, Katy, Texas 77449

**Phone Number:** 281-897-9100

To learn about future public meetings (concerning your drinking water), or to request to schedule one please call us.

### En Español

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en español, favor de llamar al tel. 281-897-9100 par hablar con una persona bilingue en español.

# 2010 Water Quality Report

## Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 71

## Regional Water Corporation 281-897-9100

## About the following pages

The pages that follow list all of the federally regulated or monitored constituents which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 constituents.

### 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 person such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer; those who have undergone organ transplant; 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 1-800-426-4791

### 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 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 EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concerns. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

### REGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Year	Constituent	Average Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Does Constituent Exceed MCL?	Source of Constituent
2005/2010	Arsenic	5.9	5.4 - 6.3	10*	0*	ppb	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
2005/2010	Barium	0.117	0.115 - 0.119	2	2	ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
2009	Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	2.08	1.49 - 2.67	6	0	ppb	NO	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
2008	Fluoride	0.88	0.79 - 0.96	4	4	ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
2008	Gross Alpha	1.4	<2.0 - 2.7	15	0	pCi/l	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
2010	Nitrate	0.01	<0.01 - 0.02	10	10	ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
2010	Total Trihalomethanes	0.6	<4.0 - 1.1	80	N/A	ppb	NO	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

\*The maximum contaminant level (MCL) for arsenic decreased from 0.05 mg/l (50 ppb) to 0.01 mg/l (10 ppb) effective January 23, 2006. Because the highest reported arsenic level on this report is between 5 ppb and 10 ppb, this 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 cost 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."

### LEAD AND COPPER

Year	Constituent	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Does Constituent Exceed Action Level?	Source of Constituent
2010	Lead*	1.3	0	15	0	ppb	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosions of natural deposits
2010	Copper	0.096	0	1.3	1.3	ppm	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosions of natural deposits

\*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 SFE Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

### DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL

Year	Constituent	Annual Average Level	Range of Detects	MRDL	MRDLG	Units	Does Constituent Exceed MRDL?	Source of Constituent
2010	Free Chlorine Disinfectant	1.3	0.5 - 2.1	4	4	ppm	NO	Treatment chemical used to control microbes

### MONITORED/ UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS\*

Year	Constituent	Average Level	Range of Levels	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2010	Dibromochloromethane	0.6	<1.0 - 1.1	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2005/2010	Sodium	183.00	164.00 - 202.00	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits

\*Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

### COLIFORM BACTERIA

Year	Constituent	Total Coliform MCL	Highest Number of Positive Samples	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli MCL	Total Number of Positive Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Samples	Violation?	Source of Constituent
2010	Coliform Bacteria	1 positive monthly sample	1	0	0	NO	Naturally present in the environment