

City of Hillsboro
254-582-3478
PWS ID # 1090001

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Usted puede coger este folleto en español en el edificio de la administración de la ciudad, 214 E. Elm St., Hillsboro, TX.

What's the Quality of My Water?

The City of Hillsboro is pleased to share this water quality report with you. It describes to you, the customer, the quality of your drinking water. This report covers January 1 through December 31, 2009. The City of Hillsboro's drinking water supply surpassed the strict regulations of both the State of Texas and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which requires all water suppliers to prepare reports like this every year.

Our water source is purchased pretreated surface water from Aquilla Water Supply District whose source is Lake Aquilla, located approximately seven miles southwest of the city limits. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for our drinking water sources 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.

Your water is treated with disinfection and filtration to remove or reduce harmful contaminants that may come from the source water.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Mr. Jimmy Moore, Water and Wastewater Superintendent, by calling 254-582-3478 or by writing to PO Box 568, Hillsboro, TX 76645. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. You can attend regularly scheduled City Council meetings on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at 7:00 PM in the old City Hall building, 217 East Franklin Street, Hillsboro, TX.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wants you to know:

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

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).

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.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or 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 system's business office.

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. The City of Hillsboro 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>.

2009 Monitoring Results for the City of Hillsboro

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as *Cryptosporidium*, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly, or Immuno-compromised 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 (800-426-4791).

Contaminant	Unit	MCLG Health Goal	MCL EPA's Limits	Level Detected	Range Detected	Violation (Yes / No)	Year ¹ Sampled	Potential Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants								
Turbidity ²	NTU	NA	TT	0.49 (highest sample)	100% met limits	NO	2009	Soil Runoff.
Total Organic Carbon	ppm	NA	TT	1.38 SUVA	NA	NO	2009	Naturally present in the environment.
Inorganic Contaminants								
Copper ⁴	ppm	1.3	1.3 = AL	0.254 (90th percentile)	All sites below AL	NO	2007	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits. Leaching from wood preservatives.
Fluoride	ppm	2	2	0.27 (single sample)	NA	NO	2009	Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive to promote strong teeth. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Lead ^{4 & 5}	ppb	0	15 = AL	8.0 (90th percentile)	2 sites above AL	NO	2007	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.13 (single sample)	NA	NO	2009	Runoff from fertilizer use. Leaching from septic tanks, sewage. Erosion of natural deposits.
Synthetic Organic Contaminants								
Atrazine	ppb	3	3	0.26 (single sample)	NA	NO	2009	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Ethylbenzene	ppb	700	700	0.7 (single sample)	NA	NO	2009	Discharge from petroleum factories.
Xylenes ⁶	ppm	10	10	0.002	NA	NO	2009	Discharge from petroleum factories. Discharge from chemical factories.
Disinfection Byproducts								
Chloramines (Tested by Hillsboro)	ppm	MRDLG = 4	MDDL = 4	1.06 RAA	0.6 - 1.63	NO	2009	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ppb	NA	60	25.3 (average)	16.6 - 33.6	NO	2009	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	ppb	0	80	40.7 (average)	28.2 - 59.1	NO	2009	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.

Non-Regulated Substances: Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.

Substance	Unit	Level Detected	Year ¹ Sampled	Potential Source of Contamination
Chloroform	ppb	9.5	2009	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Bromoform	ppb	1.8	2009	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Bromodichloromethane	ppb	14	2009	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Dibromochloromethane	ppb	10	2009	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Secondary and Physical Characteristics Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or 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 system's business office. Results are from 2009 unless otherwise stated ¹

Substance	Unit	Average Level Detected	Potential Source of Contamination
Bicarbonate	ppm	106	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
Chloride	ppm	23	Abundant naturally occurring element. Used in water purification. Byproduct of oil field activity.
pH	units	7.5	Measure of corrosivity of water.
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	244	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
Sulfate	ppm	82	Naturally occurring. Common industrial byproduct. Byproduct of oil field activity.
Alkalinity	ppm	87	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.

Notes:

¹The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

²Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system. The level must be under 0.3 NTU 95% of the time.

³The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

⁴Lead and Copper are tested by the City of Hillsboro at the customer's taps.

⁵Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned

about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

⁶Xylenes encompass m&p-xylene plus o-xylene.

Definitions

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed 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 risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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 contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

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

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

90th Percentile: 90% of samples are equal to or less than the number in the chart.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): A measure of clarity.

NA: Not applicable.

ND: Not detectable at testing limits.

PPB (parts per billion): micrograms per liter (ug/l).

PPM (parts per million): milligrams per liter (mg/l).

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): a measure of radioactivity.

CDC: Centers for Disease Control.

EPA: Environmental Protection Agency.

RAA: Running Annual Average.

SUVA: Specific Ultraviolet Absorbance.