

# 2008 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

## Consumer Confidence Report

713.453.5493

Harris County W.C. & I. D. No. 36

### ***SPECIAL NOTICE FOR THE ELDERLY INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, People with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems:***

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

### **Public Participation Opportunities**

**Date:** September 18, 2009  
**Time:** 11:00 a.m.  
**Location:** Harris County  
WCID #36  
903 Hollywood St.  
**Phone No:** 713-453-5493

### **EN ESPANOL**

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para obtener una copia de esta Información traducida en español, favor de llamar al teléfono 713. 453.5493.

### **Pueden Obtener Copias En:**

Sol Supermarket 638 Freeport  
Bi-Rite Supermarket 1115Freeport  
HCWCID #36 903 Hollywood

### **WHERE DO WE GET OUR DRINKING WATER?**

Our drinking water is obtained from surface water sources. It comes from the following Lake/River/Reservoir/Aquifer: Gulf Coast, City of Houston Surface Water.

### **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 (800-426-4791).

### ***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.

### ***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, secondary's 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 US EPA requires 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 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. MCLG's 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 drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

**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.

**NTU** – Nephelometric Turbidity Units

**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 (ug/l)

**Inorganic Contaminants**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Contaminant</u>	<u>Average Level</u>	<u>Minimum to Maximum Level</u>	<u>MCL</u>	<u>MCLG</u>	<u>Unit of Measure</u>	<u>Source of Contaminant</u>
2005	Barium	0.062	0.062-0.062	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
2005	Fluoride	0.5	0.5-0.5	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2005	Nitrate	0.23	0.23 - 0.23	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

**Organic Contaminants TESTING WAIVED, NOT REPORTED, OR NONE DETECTED****Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Contaminant</u>	<u>Average Level</u>	<u>Minimum to Maximum Level</u>	<u>MRDL</u>	<u>MRDLG</u>	<u>Unit of Measure</u>	<u>Source of Contaminant</u>
2008	Chlorine Residual, Free	2.06	0.50 -4.0	4	<4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes

**Disinfection Byproducts**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Contaminant</u>	<u>Average Level</u>	<u>Minimum Level</u>	<u>Maximum Level</u>	<u>MCL</u>	<u>Unit of Measure</u>	<u>Source of Contaminant</u>
2008	Total Haloacetic Acids	17.8	17.5	18	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2008	Total Trihalomethanes	18.2	18.1	18.3	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

**Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts**

This evaluation is sampling required by EPA to determine the range of total trihalomethane and haloacetic acid in the system for future regulations. The samples are not used for compliance, and may have been collected under non-standard conditions. EPA also requires the data to be reported here.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Contaminant</u>	<u>Average Level</u>	<u>Minimum Level</u>	<u>Maximum Level</u>	<u>MCL</u>	<u>Unit of Measure</u>	<u>Source of Contaminant</u>
2007	Total Haloacetic Acids	31.6	15.1	48.9	NA	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2007	Total Trihalomethanes	35.1	20.7	49	NA	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

**Unregulated Contaminants**

Bromoform, chloroform, dichlorobromothane, and dibromochloromethane are disinfection byproducts. There is no maximum contaminant level for These chemicals at the entry point to distribution.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Average Level</u>	<u>Minimum to Maximum Levels</u>	<u>Units of Measure</u>	<u>Source of Contaminant</u>
2005	Chloroform	20	20-20	ppb	By product of drinking water disinfection.
2005	Bromodichloro methane	11	11-11	ppb	By product of drinking water disinfection.
2005	Dibromochloro methane	3.2	3.2-3.2	ppb	By product of drinking water disinfection.

**Lead and Copper**

<u>Year</u>	<u>Constituent</u>	<u>The 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile</u>	<u>Number of Site Exceeding Action Level</u>	<u>Action Level</u>	<u>Unit of Measure</u>	<u>Source of Constituent</u>
2007	Lead	5.4	1	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
2007	Copper	0.033	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Leaching from wood preservatives.

<u>Year</u>	<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Range of Testing</u>
2008	Turbidity	0.04 NTU	Range 0.01- 0.10 NTU

**Recommended Additional Health Information for Lead**

All water systems are required by EPA to report the language below starting with the 2009 CCR to be delivered to you by July 2010. We are providing this information as a courtesy.

*“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>.”*

<b>Total Coliform</b>	*NOT DETECTED* Reported Monthly Tests found No Coliform Bacteria
<b>Fecal Coliform</b>	*NOT DETECTED* Reported Monthly Tests found No Fecal Coliform Bacteria

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

<u>Year</u>	<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Average Level</u>	<u>Minimum to Maximum Level</u>	<u>Secondary Limit</u>	<u>Unit of Measure</u>	<u>Source of Constituent</u>
2005	Aluminum	0.103	0.103-0.103	.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2005	Bicarbonate	120	120-120	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2005	Calcium	50.8	50.8-50.8	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element;
2005	Chloride	37	37-37	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification: by product of oil field activity.
2005	Magnesium	4.3	4.3-4.3	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2005	Manganese	0.0112	0.0112-0.0112	.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2005	Nickel	0.002	0.002-0.002	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
2005	PH	8.1	8.1-8.1	>7.0	Units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2005	Sodium	33	33-33	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2005	Sulfate	68	68-68	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial by product; by product of oil field activity.
2005	Total Alkalinity as CaCO3	98	98-98	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2005	Total Dissolved Solids	276	276-276	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2005	Total Hardness as CaCO3	144	144-144	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.

**WATER SOURCES:**

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 natural-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.

# **2008 Water Quality Report**