



2023 Consumer Confidence Report for Public Water System THE CONSOLIDATED WSC RURAL SYSTEM

This is your water quality report for January 1 to December 31, 2023

THE CONSOLIDATED WSC RURAL SYSTEM provides groundwater from the Carrizo Wilcox and Sparta Aquifers located in Houston County, Texas.

For more information regarding this report contact:

Name Amber Stelly - General Manger

Phone 936-544-2986

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (936) 544-2986

Definitions and Abbreviations

Definitions and Abbreviations

The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

Action Level:

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

Avg:

Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Maximum Contaminant Level or 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 or 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 or 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.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or 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.

na:

not applicable.

pCi/L:

picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppb:

micrograms per liter or parts per billion

ppm:

milligrams per liter or parts per million

Information about your Drinking Water

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.

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 at (800) 426-4791.

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.

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.

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.

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

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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we 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>.

Information about Source Water

TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water, and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system is based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants will be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system contact the **General Manager, Amber Stelly, at (936)–544-2986.**

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	9/01/2022	1.3	1.3	0.224	0	ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	9/01/2022	0.015	0.015	0	0	ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

2023 Water Quality Test Results

Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	6/20/2023	9.9	9.9 – 9.9	No goal for the total	60	ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

*The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all HAA5 sample results collected at a location over a year

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	6/20/2023	25.8	25.8 - 25.8	No goal for the total	80	ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
------------------------------	-----------	------	-------------	-----------------------	----	-----	-----------	--

*The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all TTHM sample results collected at a location over a year

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2023	0.06	0.0071 - 0.06	2	2	ppm	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2023	0.368	0.0625 - 0.368	4	4	ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2023	0.054	0.0163 - 0.054	10	10	ppm	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters	2023	5.4	0 - 5.4	0	50	pCi/L*	NO	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Combined Radium 226/228	04/03/2018	1.5	1.5 - 1.5	0	5	pCi/L	NO	Erosion of natural deposits.

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

Volatile Organic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Xylenes	2023	0.00302	0 – 0.00302	10	10	ppm	NO	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories.

Disinfectant Residual

We are required by law to maintain a minimum of 0.2 mg/L chlorine residual at all points of the distribution system. However, there are times when we fall short of that minimum due to a variety of reasons. Power outages, floods, equipment failures, and line breaks can cause a disruption in service and treatment. When this happens, we immediately issue a boil water notice until we have collected our samples, ensuring that we are meeting the required standards. We performed over 15,000 tests confirming we met this quality standard in 2023.

Disinfectant Residual	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source in Drinking Water
Free Chlorine	2023	2.27	0.16 – 4.40	4	4	ppm	NO	Water additive used to control microbes.

Coliform Bacteria

We performed 515 bacteriological tests on your water. For every boil water notice issued, we must collect at least one special sample to ensure the safety of your drinking water. During 2023, we collected 275 special samples following a boil water notice issuance. No fecal coliform or E. coli was detected in the distribution system.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation?	Likely Source of Contamination
0	1 positive monthly sample.	0	0	0	NO	Naturally present in the environment.

Violations

Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR)

The Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) seeks to prevent waterborne diseases caused by E. coli. E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal waste. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants and young children.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, ROUTINE, MINOR (RTCR)	02/01/2023	02/28/2023	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated. This failure was due to a personnel issue and we have since returned to compliance.