

# HARRIS COUNTY F.W.S.D. No. 52

PWS ID # 1010233

## 2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Phone No: 281-350-0895

### *En Español*

*Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en espanol, por favor llame al telefono 281-350-0895.*

### **OUR DRINKING WATER IS SAFE**

This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide to our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) required tests and is presented in the following tables. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about your drinking water.

**Public Participation Opportunities** concerning your water system may be made at regularly scheduled meetings on the Second Monday of each month at 3:00 p.m., 6333 5830 Bermuda Dunes, Room A-106, Houston, TX 77069. You may contact Robert Ring at TNG Utility Corp., phone # 281-350-0895, with any questions or concerns you may have.

### **Where do we get your drinking water?**

Our drinking water is obtained from both groundwater and surface water sources. The groundwater comes from water-bearing sands known as the Chicot Aquifer. The surface water source comes from the North Harris County Regional Water Authority.

The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that our sources have a low susceptibility to contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confident Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact Robert Ring at 281-350-0895.

**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: (i) microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; (ii) inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-

occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; (iii) pesticides and herbicides, which might have a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; (iv) 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and (v) radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

### **A Special Notice for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune Problems:**

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). Also, see EPA website: [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater) and NRDC website: [www.nrdc.org/water](http://www.nrdc.org/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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800-426-4791).

In order to ensure that the tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA 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.

PWS ID # 1010233



THE NEXT GENERATION OF  
WATER AND WASTEWATER UTILITY SERVICES

### *About the Following Table*

The following table contains all of the federally regulated or monitored chemical constituents which have been found in your drinking water. USEPA requires water systems to test up to 97 constituents. The data presented in the report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations.

### *Abbreviations and Definitions*

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. 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 a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

**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.

**ppm** - parts per million (*one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000*)

**ppb** - parts per billion (*one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000*)

**pCi/l** - pico curies per liter (*a measure of radioactivity*)

**N/A** - not applicable

**ND** - Not Detected

## *Harris County F.W.S.D. No. 52 - 2015 Drinking Water Quality Report Data*

### Inorganic Contaminants:

Year	Constituent	Highest Detected Level at any Sampling Point	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2014	Cyanide	50	50 - 50	200	200	ppb	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/ metal factories.
2014	Barium	0.079	0.052 - 0.079	2	2	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
2015	Nitrate	0.02	0.02 - 0.02	10	10	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks
2011	Selenium	10	3.0 - 10	50	50	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits.
2015	Arsenic	15	0.0—14.6	10	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits
2015	Flouride	0.2	0.2—0.2	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.

### Disinfectant Residuals:

Year	Constituent	Average Level	Range of Detected Levels (low - high)	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2015	Chloramines	2.42	1.10 - 3.80	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

### Disinfectant Byproducts:

Year	Constituent	Average Level	Range of Detected Levels (low - high)	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2015	Total Haloacetic Acids	6	5.5— 5.5	60	0	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2015	Total Trihalomethanes	21	20.7 - 20.7	80	0	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

### Organic Contaminants:

Year	Constituent	Average Level	Range of Detected Levels (low - high)	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2014	Atrazine	0.61	0.61 - 0.61	3	3	ppb	Byproduct of herbicide runoff.

**Total Coliform:** ONE (1) MONTHLY SAMPLE DURING 2014 WAS POSITIVE FOR COLIFORM BACTERIA. THIS IS NOT A VIOLATION. COLIFORM BACTERIA IS NATURALLY OCCURRING IN THE ENVIRONMENT. A VIOLATION WAS RECEIVED HOWEVER FOR FAILING TO COLLECT REPEAT COLIFORM SAMPLES WITHIN 24 HOURS OF A POSITIVE SAMPLE. HOWEVER WE DID COLLECTED REPEAT SAMPLES WITHIN 48 HOURS AND THE SAMPLES WERE NEGATIVE FOR COLIFORM BACTERIA.

**Fecal Coliform:** MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.

## Harris County F.W.S.D. No. 52 - 2015 Drinking Water Quality Report Data Continuation

### **Secondary Constituents**

Contaminants may be found in drinking water, that may cause taste, color, and odor problems. The taste and odor constituents are called secondary constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not USEPA. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns, but may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water. For more information on taste, odor or color of drinking water please contact the system's business office at 281-350-0895.

#### **Secondary and Other Non-Regulated Constituents:** - No associated adverse health effects with the following:

Year	Constituent	Average Level	Range of Detected Levels (low - high)	Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2014	Aluminum	0.02	0.0 - 0.0367	N/A	ppm	
2014	Bicarbonate	132	65 - 200	N/A	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2014	Calcium	15.1	11.4 - 18.8	N/A	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2014	Chloride	41	23 - 58	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity.
2014	Magnesium	3.88	2.86 - 4.90	N/A	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2014	Manganese	0.86	0.003 - 1.71	N/A	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2014	Nickel	0.0010	0.0 - 0.0013	N/A	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2014	pH	8.3	8.0 - 8.6	>7.0	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2014	Sodium	42.1	24.1 - 60.1	N/A	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproducts of oil field activity.
2014	Sulfate	22	8 - 35	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2014	Total Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	109	53 - 164	N/A	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2014	Total Dissolved Solids	222	115 - 328	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2014	Total Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	47.1	35.5 - 58.7	N/A	ppm	Natural occurring calcium.
2013	Iron	0.032	0.032 - 0.032	N/A	ppm	Naturally occurring element.
2013	Zinc	0.0052	0.0052 - 0.0052	N/A	ppm	Naturally occurring element.

#### **Coliform Bacteria:**

MCLG	Total Coliform MCL	Highest No. Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli MCL	Total No. of Positive E. or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Source of Contaminant
0	1 positive monthly sample	1		0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

#### **Lead and Copper:** - These samples are taken from the customer taps.

Year	Constituent	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2014	Lead	9.9	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2014	Copper	0.12	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

The 90th percentile of the Lead/ Copper analysis means the top 10% (highest sample results) of all samples collected.

#### **Unregulated Contaminants:** - There is no maximum contaminant level for these chemicals at the entry point to distribution.

Year	Constituent	Average of All Sampling Points	Range of Detected Levels	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2014	Chloroform	8.5	5.9 - 11.0	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2014	Bromodichloromethane	1.2	1.1 - 1.2	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2014	Bromoform	0.0	0 - 0	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2014	Dibromochloromethane	0.0	0 - 0	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2013	Bromochloroacetic Acid	2.3	2.3 - 2.3	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2013	Dichloroacetic Acid	12	12 - 12	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

#### **Radioactive Contaminants**

Year	Constituent	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2014	Beta/ photon emitters	4.3	4.3—4.3	0	50	pCi/L	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
2014	Combined Radium	1.5	1.5—1.5	0	5	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.

## Violations:

**E. Coli**– Fecal coliforms and E. Coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

Violation Type	Violation Begin Date	Violation End Date	Violation Explanation
Monitor GWR Triggered/Additional, Major	01/01/2015	01/31/2015	We failed to collect follow-up samples within 24 hours of learning of the total coliform-positive sample. These needed to be tested for fecal indicators from all sources that were being used at the time the positive sample was collected.
Monitor GWR Triggered/Additional, Major	08/01/2015	08/31/2015	We failed to collect follow-up samples within 24 hours of learning of the total coliform-positive sample. These needed to be tested for fecal indicators from all sources that were being used at the time the positive sample was collected.

**Lead and Copper Rule**– The Lead and Copper Rule protects the public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosivity. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials.

Violation Type	Violation Begin Date	Violation End Date	Violation Explanation
Follow-up or Routine Tap M/R (LCR)	10/01/2015	2015	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 quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

**Public Notification Rule**– The Public Notification Rule helps to ensure that consumers will always know if there is a problem with their drinking water. These notices immediately alert consumers if there is a serious problem with their drinking water (e.g., a boil water emergency).

Violation Type	Violation Begin Date	Violation End Date	Violation Explanation
Public Notice Rule Linked to Violation	10/01/2014	2015	We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about a violation of the drinking water regulations.

## **Recommended Additional Health Information for Lead in Drinking Water:**

*“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 home 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 by an approved laboratory. 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>.”*

