

# HARRIS COUNTY I.D. No. 18

PWS ID # 1013479

## 2019 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Phone No: 281-350-0895

This is your water quality report from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019.

### *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.

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

**Public Participation Opportunities** concerning your water system may be made at regularly scheduled meetings on the fourth Wednesday of each month at 12:00 p.m., Allen Boone Humphries Robinson LLP; 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston, Texas 77027. You may contact Mario Garcia at TNG Utility Corp., phone # 281-350-0895, with any questions or concerns you may have.

Our drinking water is obtained from groundwater sources. It comes from water-bearing sands known as the Evangeline & Jasper Aquifers.

A Source Water Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being conducted by the TCEQ and should 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 in this assessment will allow us to focus our source water protection strategies. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact Mario Garcia with TNG Utility 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.

### **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.

### **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)

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.

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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

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

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

**Level 1 Assessment:** A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**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.

**Level 2 Assessment:** A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**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.

**Action Level Goal (ALG)** - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

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

**ppm** - milligrams per liter or parts per million-or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

**ppb** - micrograms per liter or parts per billion-or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

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

**N/A** - not applicable

**mrem** - millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

**NTU** - nephelometric turbidity units ( a measure of turbidity)

**ppt** - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

**ppq** - parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)

### Harris County I.D. No. 18 - 2019 Drinking Water Quality Report Data

#### Disinfectant Residuals:

Year	Constituent	Average Level	Range of Detected Levels (low - high)	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2019	Chlorine Residual, Free	1.73	1.31- 2.40	4	4	ppm	No	Water additive used to control microbes.

**Lead and Copper**—These samples are taken from the customer taps. Definitions: Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety. Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded triggers treatment or other requirements.

Year	Constituent	90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of contaminant
11/16/17	Lead	1.3	0	15	0	ppb	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
11/16/17	Copper	0.109	0	1.3	1.3	ppm	No	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.

#### Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products:

Collection Date	Constituent	Highest Level Detected	Range of detected levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2019	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	3	2.5-2.9	n/a	60	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
2019	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	24	19.9-23.5	n/a	80	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

\* The value in the Highest Level Detected column in the highest average of all HAA5 and TTHM sample results collected at a location over a year.

#### Inorganic Contaminants:

Collection Date	Constituent	Highest Level Detected	Range of detected levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Source of Contaminant
6/26/18	Barium	0.0904	0.0904-0.0904	2	2	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes or metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits.
6/26/18	Fluoride	2.28	2.28-2.28	4	4	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.

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>.

This is an alert about your drinking water and a cosmetic dental problem that might affect children under nine years of age. At low levels, fluoride can help prevent cavities, but children drinking water containing more than 2 milligrams per liter (mg/L) of fluoride may develop cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth (dental fluorosis). The drinking water provided by your community water system, Harris County Improvement District No. 18 has a fluoride concentration of 2.28 mg/L. Dental fluorosis, in its moderate or severe forms, may result in a brown staining and/or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from the gums. Children under nine should be provided with alternative sources of drinking water or water that has been treated to remove the fluoride to avoid the possibility of staining and pitting of their permanent teeth. You may also want to contact your dentist about proper use by young children of fluoride-containing products. Older children and adults may safely drink the water. For more information, please call Katie Hargrove or TNG Utility at (281) 350-0895. Some

## Harris County I.D. No. 18 - 2019 Drinking Water Quality Report Data

### *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 USEPA. These constituents are not causes for health concerns, but may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water. Call TNG Utility at (281) 350-0895

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

Year	Constituent	Average of All Sampling Points	Range of Detected Levels	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2019	Bromodichloromethane	3.1	2.6 - 3.4	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2019	Bromoform	9.1	6.3- 11.5	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2019	Chloroform	1.23	1 - 1.4	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

**Total Coliform:** MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA

**Organics:** TESTING WAIVED, NOT REPORTED, OR NONE DETECTED

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

**Turbidity:** TESTING WAIVED, NOT REPORTED, OR NONE DETECTED

### **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>.”*



## Public Notification for Harris County Improvement District 18

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has notified the HARRIS COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT 18, TX1013479 that the drinking water being supplied to customers has exceeded the Secondary Constituent Level (SCL) of 2.0 mg/L for fluoride.

**Recent testing shows the average is below 2.0 mg/L. TNG Utility has conducted water testing outside the state mandated testing and the fluoride levels have been within the state mandated levels. TNG Utility will continue to test monthly to monitor the levels.**

This is an alert that your drinking water and a cosmetic dental problem that might affect children under nine years of age. At low levels, fluoride can help prevent cavities, but children drinking water containing more than 2 milligrams per liter (mg/L) of fluoride may develop cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth (dental fluorosis). The drinking water provided by your community water system HARRIS COUNTY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT 18 has fluoride concentration of 2.3 mg/L.

Dental fluorosis, in its moderate or severe forms, may result in a brown staining and/or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from water that has been treated to remove the fluoride to avoid the possibility of staining and pitting of their permanent teeth. You may also want to contact your dentist about proper use by young children of fluoride-containing products. Older children and adults may safely drink the water.

Drinking water containing more than 4 mg/L of fluoride (the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's drinking water standard) can increase your risk of developing bone disease. Your drinking water does not contain more than 4 mg/L of fluoride, but we're required to notify you when we discover that the fluoride levels in your drinking water exceed 2 mg/L because of this cosmetic dental problem.

For more information, please call Katie Hargrove of TNG Utility at (281) 350-0895. Some home water units are also available to remove fluoride from drinking water.