2011 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

TX1080088 - HIDALGO COUNTY MUD 1 **Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)**

Period of January 1 to December 31, 2011

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking 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 EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. For more information regard this report contact our District Manager - **Jeremiah Martin at 956-585-5821**. Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua potable. Para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español con preguntas o comentarios, favor de llamar a nuestra oficina.

SPECIAL NOTE

Required language for ALL Community Public Water Systems

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/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).

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 material and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. 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 on Sources of 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 pickup substances resulting from the presence of contaminants that may be present in source.

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and

- 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

- 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.

INFORMATION ABOUT SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS

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 and are regulated by the State of Texas, not the EPA. These constituents are not cases for heath concern. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

INFORMATION ABOUT SOURCE WATER ASSESMENTS

A Source Water Susceptibly Assessment for your drinking water sources(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information describes 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 allows us to focus source water protection strategies. For more information about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: **`http://gis3.tceq.state.tx.us/swav/Controller/Index.jsp?wtrsrc=`**

Further details about sources and source water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL:
`http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/`

WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS

MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal is 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.
MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level is 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.
MRDL - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level is the maximum level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
MRDLG - Maximum Residual dinsinfectant goal is the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLFs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
Avg - Regulatory compliance with som MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples
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.

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2011 Regulated Contaminants Detected

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

Coliform Bacteria

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal 5	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	4 samples were positive		0	Yes	Naturally present in the environment.

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

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely source of contamination
Copper	2011	1.3	1.3	0.137	0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2011	0	15	1.09	0	ppb	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and dis-infection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely source of contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAAS)*	2011	15	12.4 - 16.5	No goal for the total	60	ppb	No	By product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethanes (TThm)*	2011	18	15.4 - 19.9	No goal for the total	80	ppb	No	By product of drinking water chlorination.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely source of contamination
Antimony	2011	1	0.503 - 0.503	6	6	ppb	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; solder; ceramics; electronics; test addition.
Arsenic	2011	1	1.13 - 1.13	0	10	ppb	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	2011	0.132	0.132 - 0.132	2	2	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	2011	1.75	1.75 - 1.75	100	100	ppb	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2011	0.4	0.28 - 0.36	4	4	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum.
Nitrate**	2011	0.12	0.12 - 0.12	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 Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely source of contamination
Beta/photon emitters	02/17/2010	6	5 - 6	0	4	mrem/yr	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Gross alpha (excluding radon and uranium)	02/17/2010	3.4	0 - 3.4	0	15	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits.

Turbidity

	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level detected	Violation	Likely source of contamination
Highest single measurement	1 NTU	0.59 NTU	No	Soil runoff.
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	0.3 NTU	99.45%	No	Soil runoff.

Residual Disinfectant Levels

Year contaminant	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of measure	Likely source of contamination
2011	Chloramines	3.45	1.0	4.2	4.0	<4.0	ppm	Chloramines

Violations Table

Note on violations: TCEQ recently completed a review of Public Notice violations that were historically present in our database. This review was done at the request of the Environmental Protection Agency and was triggered by the TCEQ migration to the Safe Drinking Water Information System (SDWIS). Following EPA guidelines TCEQ returned to compliance many PN violations that had existed, but may have not been reported on a prior year CCR. We strongly encourage you to check Drinking Water Watch (http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/) for the current status of any violations displayed on this page.

Public notifications 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	Violation End	Violation Explanation
PUBLIC NOTICE RULE LINKED TO VIOLATION	08/12/2011		We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about violation of the drinking water regulations.

▶ The notice was sent out with the wrong date, new steps have been put into place to correct the problem and help prevent similar violations.

Total Coliform

Coliform are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other , potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MCL (TCR) , MONTHLY	04/01/2011	04/30/2011	Total coliform bacteria were found in our drinking water during the period indicated in enough samples to violate a standard.
MCL (TCR) , MONTHLY	06/01/2011	06/30/2011	Total coliform bacteria were found in our drinking water during the period indicated in enough samples to violate a standard.

▶ The samples were retested with the repeat samples all testing negative for total Coliform. The false positives were traced back to improper testing methods. The testing procedures have been altered to further false positives. After implementing the change no further samples have tested positive.

*Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future.

**Measured as Nitrogen - Nitrate advisory - Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.