

Montgomery County Utility District #4

2017 Drinking Water Quality Report

OUR DRINKING WATER IS SAFE

Meeting or Exceeding all Federal (EPA) 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.

En Español

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre su agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en español, favor de llamar al tel. (936) 588-1166—para hablar con una persona bilingue en español.

SPECIAL NOTICE:

Required language for ALL community public water supplies:

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 at (800)426-4791.

SOURCE OF DRINKING WATER

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 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: -*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 stormwater 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.

Where do we get our drinking water?

The source of drinking water used by Montgomery County U.D. #4 is Ground Water. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information describes the suscepti-

bility 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 will allow us to focus our source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information is available on Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/>. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

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 (1-800-426-4791).

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 the EPA. **These constituents are not causes for health concern.** Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

Public input concerning your water system may be made at regularly scheduled meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at 10:00 a.m. at the office of Hays Utility North, 375 Lake Meadows Drive, Montgomery, Texas 77316. You may contact Philip Wright or John Wright, Hays Utility North at 936-588-1166 with any questions or concerns you may have.

About the Following Page

The page that follows lists all of the federally regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants.

DEFINITIONS FOR THE FOLLOWING PAGE:

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest 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 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 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 contamination.
Treatment Technique - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Action Level - 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 radio-activity).



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Based on Latest Water Quality Data From the TCEQ

Inorganic Contaminants

Year	Constituent	Highest Detected Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2016	Barium	0.139	0.139—0.139	2	2	ppm	Discharge from drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2017	Fluoride	0.17	0.17—0.17	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
2017	Nitrate	0.02	0.01—0.02	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
2014	Cyanide	10	10—10	200	200	ppb	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories.

Radioactive Constaminants

Year	Constituent	Highest Detected Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2015	*Beta/photon emitters	7	7.0—7.0	4	0	mrem/yr	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
2015	Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	4.8	4.8—4.8	15	0	pCi/L	Erosion of Natural Deposits
2015	Combined Radium 226&228	0.86	0.86-0.86	5	0	pCi/L	Erosion of Natural Deposits

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

Disinfectant Residuals

Year	Constituent	Average Detected Level	Range of Detected Levels	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2017	Chlorine Residual, Free	1.56	0.45-2.51	4	4	ppm	Water additive used to control microbes

Disinfection By-Products

Year	Constituent	Highest Detected Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2017	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	14	14.3—14.3	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

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

2017	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	3	2.9—2.9	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
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*The value in the Highest or Average Detected Column is the highest average of all HAA5 sample results collected at a location over a year.

Volatile Organic Contaminants

Year	Constituent	Average Detected Level	Range of Detected Levels	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2016	Xylenes	0.0007	0.0—0.0007	10	10	ppm	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories

Lead and Copper

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

Year	Constituent	The 90th Percentile	Action Level	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2016	Lead	3.0	15	1	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits
2016	Copper	0.299	1.3	0	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing; Leaching from wood preservatives; Erosion of natural deposits

“ 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 Water Drinking Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.”

The drinking water produced by Your District exceeds all of the minimum water quality standards as established by the USEPA.