

# 2011 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

**HARBOR POINT**  
1-866-654-7992

The Utility's water system is owned and operated by **SouthWest Water Company**. SouthWest Water is a provider of water, wastewater and public works services. We're an American-owned company with nationwide resources and local management and decision making. More than a million people in five states depend on us for high-quality, reliable service. If you have any questions concerning water quality or the source of your water, please call our Regulatory Department at (512) 219-2272 or (512) 219-2294.

## **Our drinking water meets or exceeds all federal (EPA) drinking water 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.

### **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 before treatment include: microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

### **Public Participation Opportunities**

The Utility does not hold regularly scheduled meetings. However, if you wish to contact the owners, please call our Customer Care Department at 1-866-654-7992.

### **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 immune-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 (1-800-426-4791)**.

*En Español:* Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre éste informe en español, favor de llamar al tel 1-866-654-7992 para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

P.W.S. #2280035

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

Our drinking water is obtained from ground water sources. It comes from the Jackson Group Aquifer. A source water susceptibility assessment for your drinking water sources(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and will 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 contained in the assessment will allow us to focus our source water protection strategies. 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.

### **About the Following Pages**

The pages that follow list 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**

##### **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)**

The highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs 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. MCLGs 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 the 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.

#### **ABBREVIATIONS**

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units

MFL – million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

pCi/L – picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppm – parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb – parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg /L)

ppt – parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

ppq – parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

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**Lead and Copper**

Year	Contaminant	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Lead	2.04	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2009	Copper	0.04	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

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

**Turbidity** NOT REQUIRED

**Total Coliform** REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA

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

**Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated** (No associated adverse health effects)

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Limit	Source of Contaminant
2009	Bicarbonate (ppm)	125	125	125	NA	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2009	Calcium (ppm)	17.4	17.4	17.4	NA	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2009	Chloride (ppm)	100	100	100	300	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity.
2009	Copper (ppm)	0.023	0.023	0.023	1	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
2009	Iron (ppm)	0.096	0.096	0.096	.3	Erosion of natural deposits; iron or steel water delivery equipment or facilities.
2009	Lead (ppm)	0.001	0.001	0.001	NA	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2009	Manganese (ppm)	0.0431	0.0431	0.0431	0.05	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2009	pH (units)	7.3	7.3	7.3	>7.0	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2009	Sodium (ppm)	178	178	178	NA	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2009	Sulfate (ppm)	227	227	227	300	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2009	Total Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	125	125	125	NA	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2009	Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	714	714	714	1000	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2009	Zinc (ppm)	0.627	0.627	0.627	5	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element used in the metal industry.

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**Inorganic Contaminants**

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Source of Contaminant
2009	Barium (ppm)	0.028	0.028	0.028	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2009	Fluoride (ppm)	0.35	0.35	0.35	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2011	Nitrate (ppm)	0.31	0.31	0.31	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

**Organic Contaminants**

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Source of Contaminant
2009	Carbon Tetrachloride (ppb)	2.05	0	4.1	5	0	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level**

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Source of Disinfectant
2011	Chlorine (ppm)	0.89	0.25	4.00	4.00	4.00	Disinfectant used to control microbes

**Disinfection Byproducts**

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2011	Total Haloacetic Acids	12.2	12.2	12.2	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2011	Total Trihalomethanes	30.7	30.7	30.7	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

**Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts**

**Unregulated Contaminants**

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
Bromoform, chloroform, dichlorobromomethane, and dibromochloromethane are disinfection byproducts. There is no maximum contaminant level for these chemicals at the entry point to distribution.						
2011	Bromoform	1.18	1.18	1.18	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2011	Bromodichloromethane	2.77	2.77	2.77	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2011	Chloroform	1.41	1.41	1.41	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.