# Consumer Confidence Report

Information Specific to Your Community Public Water System

**2016 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report**

**City of West Columbia**

**(979)345-3123**

**Source(s) of Water:**
Type(s) of water: Groundwater
Body(ies) of water: Brazos & Colorado River Basins
Location of body(ies) of water: Brazoria County

**Public Participation Opportunities:**
Date: Monday, August 14, 2017
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Location: W.C. Council Chambers @ 512 E. Brazos

## Source Water Assessment Protection:

The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain 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 Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact Matthew Fisher, Water Department Supervisor at (979)345-3123. *Para más información sobre gravámenes del agua de la fuente y esfuerzos de la protección en nuestro sistema, pescador de Matthew Fisher el contacto, supervisor del departamento del agua en (979) 345-3123.*

## Definitions and Terms:

*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 that a water system must follow. *Maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG):* The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. *Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):* The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to maximum contaminant level goals as feasible using the best available treatment technology. *Parts per million (ppm),* or millagrams per liter. *Parts per billion (ppb),* or micrograms per liter. *Parts per trillion (ppt),* or nanograms per liter.

## Information on Detected Contaminants:

The data presented in the report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations.

## Inorganic Contaminants:

| Name of Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Barium | 01/23/2014 | 0.85 | 0.257 - 0.85 | 2 | 2 | ppm | N | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Fluoride | 01/23/2014 | 0.72 | 0.52 – 0.72 | 4 | 4 | ppm | N | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. |
| Nitrate (Measured as Nitrogen) | 2016 | 0.01 | 0.01 – 0.01 | 10 | 10 | ppm | N | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Selenium | 01/23/2014 | 5.2 | 0 – 0.52 | 50 | 50 | ppb | N | Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines. |

## Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products:

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

| Name of Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products | Collection | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) | 2016 | 3 | 3.2 – 3.2 | No goal for the total | 60 | ppb | N | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
| Total trihalomethanes (TTHM) | 2016 | 18 | 18.4 – 18.4 | No goal for the total | 80 | ppb | N | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |

## Coliform Bacteria:

| Maximum Contaminant Level Goal | 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 | 1 | | 0 | N | Naturally present in the environment |

## Radioactive Contaminants:

| Name of Radioactive Contaminant | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Combined Radium 226/228 | 2016 | 1.5 | 1.5-1.5 | 0 | 5 | pCi/L | N | Erosion of natural deposits. |

## Lead and Copper:

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily form materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of West Columbia 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 two 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 at (800) 426-4791 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

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 which a water system must follow.

| Lead and Copper | Date Sampled | MCLG | Action Level (AL) | 90th Percentile | # Sites Over AL | Units | Violation | Source of Contaminant |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Lead | 2016 | 0 | 15 | 4.6 | 0 | ppb | N | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Copper | 2016 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.48 | 0 | ppm | N | Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems. |

## Lead and Copper Rule:

The Lead and Copper Rule protects 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 | Violation End | Violation Explanation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Lead Consumer Notice (LCR) | 12/30/2013 | 2016 | Failed to provide the results of lead tap water monitoring to the consumers at the location water was tested. Results were to be provided no later than 30 days after learning the results. |
| Lead Consumer Notice (LCR) | 12/30/2016 | 01/30/2017 | Failed to provide the results of lead tap water monitoring to the consumers at the location water was tested. Results were to be provided no later than 30 days after learning the results. |

## Clorine:

Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

| Violation Type | Violation Begin | Violation End | Violation Explanation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR) | 01/01/2016 | 03/31/2016 | Failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the drinking water quality 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 | Violation End | Violation Explanation |
|---|---|---|---|
| Public Notice Rule linked to Violation | 10/13/2016 | 2016 | Failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about a violation of the drinking water regulations. |

## Consumer Confidence Rule:

The Consumer Confidence Rule requires community water systems to prepare and provide to their customers annual consumer confidence reports on the quality of the water delivered by the systems.

| Violation Type | Violation Begin | Violation End | Violation Explanation |
|---|---|---|---|
| CCR Adequacy/Availability/Content | 07/01/2016 | 12/22/2016 | Failed to provide you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that adequately informed you about the quality of our drinking water and the risks from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water. |

**Additional Health Information:**

**You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly, or immunocompromised 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.**