

Galveston County Fresh Water Supply District No. 6

802 Tiki Drive

Tiki Island, Texas 77554

409-935-1486

2013 Drinking Water Quality Report

SPECIAL NOTICE

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 materials 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>.

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 present in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your water.

En Espanol

Este informe incluye informacion importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (409) 935-1486- para hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol.

We Welcome Your Comments!

Board of Directors Meeting is held on the 3rd Wednesday of every month.

Time: 5:00 p.m.

*Location: Public Safety Building
747 Tiki Drive*

*Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Monday to Friday*

Location: 802 Tiki Drive

Phone No: (409) 935-1486

Fax No: (409) 935-8542

Visit the Web:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
<http://www.epa.gov/safewater>

Texas Department of Health
<http://www.dshs.state.tx.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 these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800-426-4791).

About the Following Pages

The pages that follow list all of the federally regulated or monitored constituents which have been found in your drinking water. U.S. EPA requires water systems to test up to 97 constituents.

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

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 of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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 ($\mu\text{g/l}$)

ppt - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter.

ppq - parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter.

Inorganic Contaminants	COLLECTION DATE	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVEL DETECTED	MCLG	MCL	UNITS	VIOLATION	Likely source of Contamination
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2013	1.0	1.17-1.17	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertillier use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
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.								
Asbestos	1/3/2012	0.3905	0.3905-0.3905	7	7	mfl	n	Decay of asbestoes cement water mains, erosion of natural deposits.

Organic Contaminants

Year or range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Units of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2001	Atrazine	0.3	0.3	0.3	3	3	ppb	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops

Maximum Residual Disinfectant

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Units of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2013	Chloramine	2.40	0.9	3.4	4	<4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

Disinfection By-Products

Year	Contaminant	Range of levels detected	Maximum Level	MCL	violations	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant	
2013	Total Haloacetic Acids	12.0	21.9	18	60	no	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2013	Total Trihalomethanes	37.7	92.2	61	80	no	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Unregulated Contaminants

NOT REPORTED OR NONE DETECTED

Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Lead	2.100	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
2008	Copper	0.155	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.

Additional Health Information for Lead

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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Turbidity

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Year (Range)	Constituent	Highest Single	Monthly % of Samples Meeting	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2013	Turbidity	0.330	100%	0.3	NTU	Soil Runoff.

Total Coliform

REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA.

Fecal Coliform

REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.

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.

Where do we get our water?

Galveston County FWSD #6 presently purchases its water from the Gulf Coast Water Authority (GCWA). The GCWA owns 212 million gallons per day in water rights from the Brazos River. The water is transported through a canal system to the GCWA Raw Water Reservoir near Highway 146 in Texas City. Water treatment is provided by the Thomas A. Mackey Water Treatment Plant. Treated water is distributed to communities throughout the area.

During an emergency, water may be supplied from wells located in the Hitchcock and Santa Fe Areas.

Also during these periods, your water may have a red or brown color and have an unpleasant taste and odor.

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for Our drinking-water source 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 source water protection strategies. For more 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?wtsrc=>