ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2023

Presented By
City of Atlanta, Texas

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al teléfono (903) 796-7153, ext. 114.

PWS ID#: TX0340001
Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year’s annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year’s water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2023. Included are details about your source of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

Source Water Assessment

The City of Atlanta’s water is treated at the Graphic Packaging International Texarkana Mill. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality completed an assessment of Lake Wright Patman, and results indicate that it is susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for our water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection 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 Rick Barton, Water Production Manager, at (903) 798-3850.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. The city council meets the first and third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. at City Hall, 315 North Buckner Street.

Important 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.

Water Treatment Process

The treatment process consists of a series of steps. First, raw water is drawn from our water source and sent to an aeration tank, which allows for oxidation of high iron levels. The water then goes to a mixing tank where polyaluminum chloride and soda ash are added. The addition of these substances causes small particles, called floc, to adhere to one another, making them heavy enough to settle into a basin from which sediment is removed. Chlorine is then added for disinfection. At this point, the water is filtered through layers of fine coal and silicate sand. As smaller suspended particles are removed, turbidity disappears and clear water emerges.

Chlorine is added again as a precaution against any bacteria that may still be present. (We carefully monitor the amount of chlorine, adding the lowest quantity necessary to protect the safety of your water without compromising taste.) Finally, soda ash (to adjust the final pH and alkalinity), fluoride (to prevent tooth decay), and a corrosion inhibitor (to protect distribution system pipes) are added before the water is pumped to sanitized underground reservoirs, water towers, and your home or business.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Atlanta receives water from Lake Wright Patman through a purchase contract with the City of Texarkana. The lake is a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reservoir formed on the Sulphur River in Bowie and Cass Counties by Wright Patman Dam. The reservoir provides flood control and water conservation for the communities downstream from the dam. The lake is also a popular recreational destination.

Questions? For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Becky Allen, Water Utility Representative, at (903) 796-7153, ext. 114.
Thanks in part to aggressive marketing, the bottled water industry has successfully convinced us all that water purchased in bottles is a healthier alternative to tap water. However, according to a four-year study conducted by the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), bottled water is not necessarily cleaner or safer than most tap water. In fact, about 40 percent of bottled water is actually just tap water, according to government estimates.

FDA is responsible for regulating bottled water, but these rules allow for less rigorous testing and purity standards than those required by the U.S. EPA for community tap water. For instance, the high mineral content of some bottled waters makes them unsuitable for babies and young children. Further, the FDA completely exempts bottled water that’s packaged and sold within the same state, which accounts for about 70 percent of all bottled water sold in the United States.

People spend 10,000 times more per gallon for bottled water than they typically do for tap water. If you get your recommended eight glasses a day from bottled water, you could spend up to $1,400 annually. The same amount of tap water would cost about 49 cents. Even if you installed a filter device on your tap, your annual expenditure would be far less than what you’d pay for bottled water. For a detailed discussion on the NRDC study results, visit goo.gl/Jxb6xG.

### Lead in Home Plumbing

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 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 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 epa.gov/safewater/lead.

### Failure to Submit OEL Report for TTHM

A maximum contaminant level (MCL) and locational running annual average (LRAA) violation began on July 1 and ended on September 30, 2023. Water samples showed that the amount of this contaminant in our drinking water was above the MCL for the period indicated.

A second MCL and LRAA violation began on October 1 and ended on December 31, 2023. Water samples showed that the amount of this contaminant in our drinking water was above the MCL for the period indicated.

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 system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
About Our Violations

1. Consumer Confidence Rule
Violation Began: July 1, 2023
Violation Ended: November 3, 2023
We failed to provide to you, our drinking customers, with an annual report that adequately informed you about the quality of your drinking water and the risks from exposure to contaminants detected in it. The violation has been cleared.

2. Public Notification Rule
Violation Began: October 14, 2023
Violation Ended: October 26, 2023
We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about a violation of the drinking water regulations. The violation has been cleared.

3. Failure to Submit OEL Report for TTHM
Violation Began: November 29, 2023
Violation Ended: January 5, 2024
We failed to submit our operational evaluation level (OEL) report to our regulator. The report is needed to determine the best treatment practices necessary to minimize possible future exceedances of total trihalomethanes (TTHM).

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Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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 contaminants.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

TT (Treatment Technique): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

The percentage of total organic carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month, and the system met all TOC removal requirements set (unless a TOC violation is noted in the Violation column).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)</th>
<th>YEAR SAMPLED</th>
<th>MCL [MRDL]</th>
<th>MCLG [MRDLG]</th>
<th>AMOUNT DETECTED</th>
<th>RANGE LOW-HIGH</th>
<th>AMOUNT DETECTED</th>
<th>RANGE LOW-HIGH</th>
<th>VIOLATION</th>
<th>TYPICAL SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barium (ppm)</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>0.037</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorine (ppm)</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>[4]</td>
<td>[4]</td>
<td>1.49</td>
<td>0.85–2.20</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Water additive used to control microbes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride (ppm)</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haloacetic Acids [HAAs]–Stage 1 (ppb)</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>15.4–46.2</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate (ppm)</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.0516</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>0.05</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTHMs [first site, DPB2-01] (ppb)</td>
<td>Fourth quarter 2023</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>83.65</td>
<td>ND–160</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Yes³</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTHMs [second site, DPB2-02] (ppb)</td>
<td>Fourth quarter 2023</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>81.20</td>
<td>43.6–144.0</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Yes³</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TTHMs [total trihalomethanes]–Stage 1 (ppb)</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>ND–160</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Yes³</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turbidity (NTU)</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>TT</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Yes³</td>
<td>Soil runoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)</td>
<td>2023</td>
<td>TT = 95% of samples meet the limit</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>95.0</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Yes³</td>
<td>Soil runoff</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Top water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)</th>
<th>YEAR SAMPLED</th>
<th>AL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)</th>
<th>SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES</th>
<th>VIOLATION</th>
<th>TYPICAL SOURCE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Copper (ppm)</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.055</td>
<td>0/</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead (ppb)</td>
<td>2022</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.5</td>
<td>0/</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Lead service lines; Corrosion of household plumbing systems, including fittings and fixtures; Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Sampled in 2022.
² Locational running annual average.
³ The City of Atlanta experienced TTHM exceedance over a two-quarter period beginning on July 1 and ending on December 31, 2023. The city purchases water that is treated at the Graphic Packaging Paper Mill. The filtration process at the mill was not robust enough to remove TTHMs for our local operators to remain in compliance during this timeframe. The water plant has modified the treatment process to better treat the water. 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.
⁴ Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.
⁵ This is a Graphic Packaging Mill violation only.