

East Montgomery County M.U.D 5

2023 Drinking Water Quality Report

OUR DRINKING WATER IS SAFE

No Source Water Assessment for your drinking water source(s) has been conducted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for your water system. The report describes the susceptibility and the types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information in this assessment allows us to focus our source water protection strategies. For more information on source water and protection efforts at our systems contact Natalia Espitia at: (281) 353-9809.

En Español

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre su agua potable. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono: (281) 353 -9809

Where do we get our drinking water?

The source of drinking water used by East Montgomery County MUD 5 is ground water. It comes from the Gulf Coast Aquifer some 500 to 2,000 feet below ground surface.

Contaminants that may be Present in Source 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.

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).

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic system, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater, 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 are 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 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>.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Federal Food and Drug Administration Agency regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact h2o innovation at (281) 353-9809.

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 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Public Participation Opportunities:

The East Montgomery County MUD 5 Board of Directors meet at 1:00 P.M. on the fourth Wednesday of every other month at 9 Greenway Plaza, Suite 1000, Houston, TX 77046. You may contact Natalia Espitia, with H₂O Innovation at 281-353-9809 with any concerns or questions you may have.



About the Following Table

The following table contains all of the chemical constituents which have been found in your drinking water for the most recent testing performed in accordance with applicable regulations. USEPA requires water systems to test up to 97 constituents. The constituents detected in your water are listed in the attached table.

DEFINITIONS

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.

ppm = parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L), one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

ppb = parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L), 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: Measure of radioactivity.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - 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.

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 contaminants.

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Inorganic Contaminants							
Year	Constituent	Highest Detected Level at Any Sampling Point	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Units of Measure	Source of Constituent
2021	Nitrate	0.05	0.05 - 0.05	10	0	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
2023	Fluoride	0.51	0.51 - 0.51	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2023	Barium	0.142	0.142 - 0.142	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
2023	Arsenic*	5.2	5.2 - 5.2	0	10	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from Orchards; Runoff from glass and electronic production wastes.
2020	Selenium	3.3	3.3 - 3.3	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries.

*While your drinking water meets EPA standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

Disinfectant Residual							
Year	Constituent	Highest Detected Average	Range of Detected Levels	MRDL	MRDLG	Units of Measure	Source of Constituent
2023	Chlorine Disinfectant	2.19	0.38 - 2.60	4	4	ppm	Water additive used to control microbes.

Unregulated Contaminants**				
Year	Constituent	Average of All Sampling Points	Range of Detected Levels	Units of Measure
2021	Dibromochloromethane	1.3	1.3 - 1.3	ppb

**Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Organic Contaminants							
Year	Constituent	Highest Detected Level at Any Sampling Point	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Units of Measure	Source of Constituent
2020	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	1.3	1.3 - 1.3	60	n/a	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

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