

2008 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report



We Welcome Your Comments and Questions

There are many opportunities available to learn more about the City of Burleson Water Department and water quality.

For questions or concerns about water quality or to request a speaker for your organization, call 817-426-9836.

Comments can be sent by mail to Safe Drinking Water, 141 W Renfro, Burleson, TX 76028 or email to dsmyth@burlesontx.com. Comments can also be given at a City Council Meeting. The City Council normally meets in the Council Chambers at City Hall on the first and third Monday of each month. For questions concerning council meetings or times, please call 817-426-9660.

En Espanol: Este informe contiene la informacion importante sobre su agua potable. Para obtener una copia en Espanol llame, 817-426-9836.

Learn more about water by visiting these Web sites. Many of these sites offer resources for teachers and children.

Environmental Protection Agency

www.epa.gov/watersense

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

www.tceq.state.tx.us

Texas Water Development Board

www.twdb.state.tx.us

American Water Works Association

www.awwa.org

www.drinktap.org

Water Environment Federation

www.wef.org

National Sanitation Foundation

www.nsf.org

Texas Water Conservation Association

www.twca.org

Texas Water Resources Institute

<http://tx-water-ed.tamu.edu/>

Tips to Save Water

- Mulch plant beds two to three times a year with organic matter to slow evaporation.
- Water newly planted flowers and shrubs separately and more often to establish root systems.
- For clay soils, turn off the sprinkler when runoff occurs. Wait 20 minutes for water to absorb into the ground. Dig a test hole to see how deeply it absorbed. Repeat these steps until the water penetrates six inches.
- Never water on windy days.
- Water slowly for better absorption.
- Water only when the grass needs watering. Walk across your grass early in the morning. If your footprints remain, it needs water.
- Water deeply. This promotes deep roots and healthy grass. An inch of water will penetrate the soil four to six inches.
- Choose plants native or adapted to this region and soil conditions. Visit www.txsmartscape.com for more information.

Reminder:

Watering Between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. is Restricted All Year Long

Not watering during the hottest part of the day, between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., is just a good water management practice. In Burleson, city ordinance allows lawn and landscape irrigation only before 10 a.m. and after 6 p.m., all year round. Make sure timers on automatic systems are set to comply with the rules. Watering with a handheld hose, soaker hose or drip irrigation is allowed at any time. Efficient water use is important all the time.

SaveTarrantWater.com
Save water. Nothing can replace it.

Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds All Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Requirements

The top priority for the City of Burleson Water Department is providing safe and reliable drinking water that meets or exceeds state and federal quality standards. This report is a summary of the quality of water we provide to 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 this brochure. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

ALL drinking water may contain contaminants. When drinking water meets federal standard, 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.

Special Notice for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. The EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (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 (1-800-426-4791).

What You Should Know about Lead in Drinking Water

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>.

Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from SURFACE water from six lakes: LAKE BRIDGEPORT, EAGLE MOUNTAIN LAKE, LAKE WORTH, BENBROOK LAKE, CEDAR CREEK RESERVOIR AND RICHLAND-CHAMBERS RESERVOIR.

Fort Worth owns Lake Worth. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for Benbrook Lake. The other four lakes are owned and operated by Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD).

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for our drinking water source(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 in this assessment will allow us and/or the system(s) from which we receive water to focus on source water protection strategies. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

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.

About the Following Table

The table that follows lists all 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.

Inorganic Contaminants

Year or Range	Contaminant	Level	Range of Detection	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Barium	0.027	0.027	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2008-2007	Fluoride	0.43	0.26 - 0.65	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2008-2007	Nitrate (Measured as Nitrogen)	0.28	0.11- 0.28	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
2006	Nitrite (Measured as Nitrogen)	0.01	0.01	1	1	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
2007-2005	Gross Beta Emitters	4.48	3.5-5.4	50	0	pCi/L	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

Organic Contaminants - TESTING WAIVED, NOT REPORTED, OR NONE DETECTED
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Chloramine	2.43	0.90	3.70	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

Disinfection Byproducts

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Total Haloacetic Acids	5.2	3.1	13.5	60	ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
2008	Total Trihalomethanes	7.7	0	8.5	80	ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection By-products - WAIVED OR NOT YET SAMPLED

Unregulated Contaminants — 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.

Bromoform, chloroform, dichlorobromomethane, and dibromochloromethane are disinfection by-products. There is no maximum contaminant level for these chemicals at the entry point to distribution.

Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007-2004	Chloroform	1.85	0	3.7	ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
2007-2004	Bromoform	0.4	0	0.8	ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
2007-2004	Bromodichloromethane	1.85	0	3.7	ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
2007-2004	Dibromochloromethane	1.6	0	3.2	ppb	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Lead	4.6	1	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2007	Copper	0.702	1	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

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.

Turbidity

Year	Contaminant	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Turbidity	0.30	100	0.3	NTU	Soil runoff.

Total Coliform - REPORTED MONTHLY TEST FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA

Fecal Coliform — REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.

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

Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Secondary Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2007	Aluminum	0.034	0.034	0.034	.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008-2007	Bicarbonate	111	94	144	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2007	Calcium	35.2	35.2	35.2	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008-2007	Chloride	22	16	26	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; by-product of oil field activity
2007	Copper	0.004	0.004	0.004	1	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
2008	Hardness as Ca/Mg	151	120	185	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.
2007	Magnesium	4.6	4.6	4.6	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2007	Manganese	0.0012	0.0012	0.0012	.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2007	Nickel	0.002	0.002	0.002	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
2008-2007	pH	7.9	7.5	8.4	>7.0	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2007	Sodium	14	14	14	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; by-product of oil field activity.
2008-2007	Sulfate	30	22	42	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial by-product; by-product of oil oilfield activity.
2008-2007	Total Alkalinity as CaCO3	102	83	144	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring; soluble mineral salts.
2008-2007	Total Dissolved Solids	201	177	264	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2007	Total Hardness as CaCO3	107	107	107	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.
2007	Zinc	0.006	0.006	0.006	5	ppm	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element; used in the metal industry.

ABBREVIATIONS

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units
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

DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as is 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 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 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.
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.