

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

TX1590002

MARTIN COUNTY FWSD 1

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2013

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

MARTIN COUNTY FWSD 1 is Ground Water

For more information regarding this report contact:

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Sources of Drinking Water

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.

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 at (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 systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which 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 the system's business office.

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; persons 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 providers. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* 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 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 at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Information about Source Water Assessments

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 our water system is based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confident Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact Watler Hildreth at 432-459-2266.

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?wtrsrc=>

Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL: <http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW>

| Source Water Name | | Type of Water | Report Status |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|------------------------|
| 10 - 100' N OF 4 | 100' N OF 4 | GW | Active |
| 11 - 50' N OF 5 AND 6 | 50' N OF 5 AND 6 | GW | Active |
| 12 - 80' NW OF 1 | 80' NW OF 1 | GW | Active |
| 13 - 30' ESE OF 2 | 30' ESE OF 2 | GW | Active |
| 14 - 300' N OF NORTH WELLS | 300' N OF NORTH WELLS | GW | Active |
| 5 - SE OF HOUSE | SE OF HOUSE | GW | Active |
| 8 - 20' NW OF 4 | 20' NW OF 4 | GW | Active |

2013 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Water Quality Test Results

| | |
|--|--|
| Definitions: | The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation. |
| Avg: | Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples. |
| Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL: | 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. |
| Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG: | 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. |
| Maximum residual disinfectant level or 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 or 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. |
| MFL | million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos) |
| na: | not applicable. |
| NTU | nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity) |
| pCi/L | picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity) |
| ppb: | micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water. |
| ppm: | milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water. |
| ppt | parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L) |
| ppq | parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L) |

Regulated Contaminants

| Inorganic Contaminants | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------|-----|-------|-----------|--|
| Arsenic - While your drinking water meets EPA standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPAs standard balances the current understanding of arsenics 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. | 2013 | 9 | 9.17 - 9.17 | 0 | 10 | ppb | N | Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes. |
| Barium | 2013 | 0.0466 | 0.0466 - 0.0466 | 2 | 2 | ppm | N | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Chromium | 2013 | 1.21 | 1.21 - 1.21 | 100 | 100 | ppb | N | Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Fluoride | 2013 | 1.94 | 1.94 - 1.94 | 4 | 4.0 | ppm | N | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. |
| Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] - 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. | 2013 | 10 | 9.68 - 9.79 | 10 | 10 | ppm | N | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Selenium | 2013 | 13.8 | 13.8 - 13.8 | 50 | 50 | ppb | N | Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines. |

Violations Table

| 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 | 03/13/2008 | 2013 | We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about a violation of the drinking water regulations. |
| PUBLIC NOTICE RULE LINKED TO VIOLATION | 05/09/2008 | 2013 | We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about a violation of the drinking water regulations. |