

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report 2023

Harris County Municipal Utility District 255
TX1012766

ABOUT THIS REPORT

Our Drinking Water meets or exceeds all Federal and State 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 testing. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what is in your drinking water.

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR THE ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, PEOPLE WITH 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 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).

En Español

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el Agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (281) 897-9100.

WHERE DO WE GET OUR WATER?

Harris County Municipal Utility District (MUD) 255 receives blended groundwater and surface water from Horsepen Bayou MUD. The groundwater is from a water well sourced from the Evangeline aquifer located in Harris County. In January 2006, Horsepen Bayou MUD began receiving surface water through the West Harris County Regional Water Authority's (WHCRWA) surface water distribution system to comply with surface water conversion requirements and to ensure a long-term water supply for our area.

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.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) completed an assessment of your source water, and results indicate that our sources have a low susceptibility to contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants will be found in this Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact us at 281-897-9100.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

Date: Second Thursday of each month

Time: 12:00 P.M.

Location: 2727 Allen Parkway, Suite 1100, Houston, Texas 77019

Phone Number: 281-897-9100

To learn about future public meetings (concerning your drinking water), or to request to schedule one, please call us at (281) 897-9100.

DRINKING WATER CONTAMINANTS

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, 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, 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.

ARSENIC

This District's drinking water contains low levels of arsenic, which is below the state and federal action levels. EPA's standard balances arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing it from the 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.

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. Harris County MUD 255 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 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

TURBIDITY

Turbidity of surface water from has no health effects, but it is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the surface water plant filtration system. Turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. High 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. Your water is also tested monthly for disease-causing bacteriological microbes.

SECONDARY CONSTITUENTS

Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium, or iron) which are often found in drinking water, can cause taste, color and odor issues. Taste and color constituents, called secondary constituents, are regulated by the state of Texas, not the EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concern. Therefore, secondary constituents are not required to be reported in this document, but they may affect the appearance and taste of your water. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact us (281) 897-9100.

WATER QUALITY DATA

The state of Texas allows for some contaminants to be monitored less than once per year because the concentrations do not change frequently. The year that each result was detected is indicated in the tables below. Definitions, abbreviations, and sources of detected contaminants can be found on pages 10 and 11 of this report.

HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT 255

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Year	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation
2023	Nitrate (measured as nitrogen)	0.67	0.12 - 0.67	10	10	ppm	No

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

Year	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation
2023	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	34.8	14.4 - 34.8	60	No goal*	ppb	No
2023	Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	29.1	15.6 - 29.1	80	No goal*	ppb	No

*No goal = No goal for the total

DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL

Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MRDL	MRDLG	Units	Violation
2023	2.7	0.7 - 3.7	4	4	ppm	No

LEAD AND COPPER

Year	Contaminant	The 90 th Percentile	No. of Sites Exceeding AL	AL	MCLG	Units	Does Constituent Exceed AL?
2023	Lead	0	0	15	0	ppm	No
2023	Copper	0.48	0	1.3	1.3	ppm	No

MONITORING VIOLATIONS

Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)			
Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.			
Violation Type	Violation Begins	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, ROUTINE (DBP), MAJOR	01/01/2023	03/31/2023	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

Nitrates			
Infants below the age of 6 months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.			
Violation Type	Violation Begins	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, ROUTINE (DBP), MAJOR	01/01/2023	03/31/2023	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)			
Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes acids 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.			
Violation Type	Violation Begins	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, ROUTINE (DBP), MAJOR	01/01/2023	03/31/2023	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

***See Public Notice Below**

**Mandatory Language for Monitoring and Reporting Violation
Chemical Sampling**

CHEMICAL MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR

The Harris County MUD 255's water system, **PWS ID 1012766**, has violated the monitoring and reporting requirements set by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in Chapter 30, Section 290, Subchapter F. Public water systems are required to collect and submit chemical samples of water provided to their customers and report the results of those samples to the TCEQ on a regular basis.

We failed to monitor the following constituents: Disinfection By Products Phase 2 and Nitrate

These violations occurred in the monitoring periods: 4th Quarter 2022 and 1st Quarter 2023

Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water is safe from chemical contamination. We did not complete all monitoring reporting for chemical constituents, and therefore TCEQ cannot be sure of the safety of your drinking water during that time.

We have taken the following actions to address this issue:

The laboratory invoices have been paid and the analyses and results released to TCEQ for review.

Please share this information with all people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

If you have questions regarding this matter, you may contact Regional Water Corporation at (281) 897-9100.

Distributed on: May 30, 2024

MONITORING VIOLATIONS - CONTINUED

Lead and Copper Rule			
The Lead and Copper Rule protects public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosivity. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials.			
Violation Type	Violation Begins	Violation End	Violation Explanation
FOLLOW-UP OR ROUTINE TAP M/R (LCR)	10/01/2022	2022	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

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 Begins	Violation End	Violation Explanation
PUBLIC NOTICE RULE LINKED TO A VIOLATION	12/31/2023	2023	We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about a violation of the drinking water regulations.

***See Public Notice Below**

LEAD & COPPER RULE MONITORING AND REPORTING VIOLATION

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Harris County MUD 255 has violated the monitoring and reporting requirements set by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in Chapter 30, Section 290, Subchapter F. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened and what we did to correct the situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During June 1, 2022 and September 30, 2022, we did not complete all monitoring or testing for lead and copper and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

The table below lists the contaminants we did not properly test for during 2022, how often we are supposed to sample for lead and copper, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which the follow-up samples were taken.

Contaminant(s)	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples should have been taken	Number of samples taken	When samples should have been taken	When samples were taken/Number samples taken
Lead and copper tap water sampling	Every three (3) years	10	2	June 1, 2022 - September 30, 2022	10 samples collected August 15 - 18, 2023

What is being done?

We have corrected the problem. For more information, please contact Regional Water Corporation at (281) 897-9100 or 12841 Jones Road, Houston, Texas 77070.

The required samples were collected during the 3rd Quarter of 2023. Sample results were mailed to residences where samples were collected, and results are included in the 2023 Annual Consumer Confidence Report summarizing the levels of regulated contaminants in your drinking water.

Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by Harris County MUD 255.

Public Water System Number: TX1012766

Date Distributed: May 30, 2024

MONITORING RESULTS FROM UPSTREAM SUPPLIES

Harris County MUD 255 receives purchased water through an open interconnect with Horsepen Bayou MUD. The following tables contain water quality information from Horsepen Bayou MUD.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS - HORSEPEN BAYOU MUD

Year	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation
2023	Barium	0.0545	0.0536 - 0.0545	2	2	ppm	No
2023	Cyanide	70	0 - 70	200	200	ppb	No
2023	Fluoride	0.26	0.26 - 0.26	4	4	ppm	No
2023	Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	0.59	0.57 - 0.59	10	10	ppm	No

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS - HORSEPEN BAYOU MUD

Year	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation
2021	Beta/photon emitters	5.5	5.5 - 5.5	50	0	pCi/L	No
2021	Combined Radium 226 & 228	1.5	1.5 - 1.5	5	0	pCi/L	No

SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS - HORSEPEN BAYOU MUD

Year	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation
2023	Atrazine	0.4	0.38 - 0.4	3	3	ppb	No
2023	Simazine	0.21	0.2 - 0.21	4	4	ppb	No

DISINFECTION BY PRODUCTS - HORSEPEN BAYOU MUD

Year	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation
2023	Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	33.9	5.8 - 33.9	80	No goal*	ppb	No
2023	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	33.8	6.4 - 33.8	60	No goal*	ppb	No

*No goal = No goal for the total

LEAD AND COPPER - HORSEPEN BAYOU MUD

Year	Lead and Copper	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation
2022	Copper	1.3	1.3	0.5	0	ppm	No
2022	Lead	0	15	1.3	0	ppb	No

CONTAMINANTS AND SOURCES

CONTAMINANT	SOURCE
Arsenic	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Atrazine	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Barium	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits.
Beta/photon emitters	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Copper	Corrosion of household plumbing systems erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories.
Disinfectant residual	Water additive used to control microbes.
Fluoride*	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories; Water additive which promotes strong teeth.
Gross alpha emitters	Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Uranium	Erosion of natural deposits.

*Harris County Municipal Utility District 255 does not treat source water with fluoride.

DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Action Level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Avg	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly samples.
Level 1 Assessment	A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system
Level 2 Assessment	A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	The highest level of 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 (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 (MRDL)	The highest level of disinfectant is 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.
MFL	Million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
mrem	Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
NA	MCL not regulated or not applicable
ND	Non-detect. Indicates a contaminant was not detected in the sample. If contaminant was present, it was below the detection limit for the laboratory test.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units (a measure of turbidity).
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity); One pCi/L is equivalent to two atoms disintegrating per minute per liter.
ppb	parts per billion or micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$); one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppm	parts per million or milligrams per liter of water (mg/L); one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
Treatment Technique (TT)	Required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Turbidity	Turbidity is a measure of how clear the water looks. This is measured at the surface water production plant in NTUs and is caused by soil runoff. 95% of samples tested each month must be less than or equal to the limit of 0.3 NTUs.

Prepared By:

