

2013 Annual Drinking



Water Quality Report

EAST BIGGS WATER SYSTEM

#TX0710187

June 2014

Message From The Directorate of Public Works

I am pleased to share with you good news about the quality of your drinking water. Each year, we provide you with our Annual Drinking Water Quality Report – and like years prior - we continue to supply water that meets or surpasses all state and federal water quality regulations.

Providing water to East Bliss requires miles of underground pipeline as well as pumping facilities that supply water from storage tanks and water towers. Your water is constantly tested by our water system operators to ensure you have quality, reliable water at your tap.

We do this because we believe we're delivering more than just water service. We deliver a key resource for public health, fire protection, and overall quality of life. Our job is to ensure that quality water keeps flowing not only today, but well into the future.

AL RIERA, P.E.
Director of Public Works

For More Information/Public Participation Opportunities

This Consumer Confidence Report was prepared by the Directorate of Public Works, Fort Bliss in coordination with Pride Industries, Inc. and Fort Bliss Water Services, Inc. For additional information regarding this report, or to request a public meeting concerning your drinking water please call us at (915) 568-5201.

En Español

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en español, favor de llamar al tel. (915) 568-5201—para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

Our Drinking Water is regulated. This report is a summary of the water quality we provide to our customers. The analysis was made by using data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented on the next page. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what is in your drinking water.

Source 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, radio-active 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:

- 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 and 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.

The source of drinking water used by EAST BIGGS WATER SYSTEM #TX0710187 is **Purchased Water** from the El Paso Water Utilities. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water resources has been updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come in contact with your drinking water based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment allows us to focus our source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information is available on Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWWW/>. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system please contact the TCEQ Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (512) 239-1000.

All drinking water may contain contaminants. When drinking water meets federal standards there may not be any health 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 EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concerns. Therefore, secondary constituents are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

Definitions

Avg - Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - the highest level that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as 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 Disinfection Level (MRDL) - the highest level of disinfection 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 drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

Abbreviations

AL - Action level the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

mrem - millirems per year, a measure of radiation absorbed by the body

NA - not applicable

NTU - nephelometric turbidity unit; a measure of turbidity in water.

MFL - million fibers per liter, a measure of asbestos

pci/l - picocuries per liter; a measure of radioactivity

ppb - parts per billion, micrograms per liter (ug/L) or one ounce in 7,812,500 gallons of water.

ppm - parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L) or one ounce in 7,812 gallons of water

ppt - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

ppq - parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

TT - a treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

are those contaminants 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.

Any unregulated contaminants detected are reported in the following table. For additional information and data visit:

<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ucmr/ucmr2/index.html>, or call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800)426-4791.

Required Additional Health Information for 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. 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>."

Results Tables — Detected Substances

The tables that follow lists all of the federally regulated or monitored constituents which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test up to 97 constituents.

Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminant
2012	Copper	1.3	1.3	0.0992	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing supplies
2012	Lead	0	15	0.685	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Disinfectant Residual Reporting

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Likely Source of Disinfectant
2013	Chlorine Residual, Free	1.02	0.2	1.68	4	< 4.0	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes

Disinfection By-Products

Year	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminant
2013	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	9.7	0 - 9.7	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2013	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	35.5	0 - 35.5	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Inorganic Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminant
2013	Nitrate	1.23	1.23 - 1.23	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaking from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Special Notice : 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 the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

NITRATE ADVISORY - Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10ppm is a health risk for infants 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 provider.



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