

# **MONTGOMERY COUNTY M.U.D. #8**

## *2017 Drinking Water Quality Report*

### **OUR DRINKING WATER MEETS or EXCEEDS ALL FEDERAL (EPA) DRINKING WATER REQUIREMENTS**

This report is a summary of the quality of the 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 the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

#### ***En Español***

*Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, por favor llame a Hays Utility North al teléfono 936-588-1166.*

#### **Where do we get our drinking water?**

Our drinking water is obtained from ground water sources. It comes from the Jasper and Catahoula aquifer. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water sources is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. 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 contained in the assessment will allow us to focus our source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information will be available later this year on Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/>. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact Philip Wright at 936-588-1166.

#### **ALL Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants**

When drinking water meets federal standards 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 the 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).

#### **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. Immuno-compromised persons, such as 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 (1800-426-4791)

#### **Secondary Constituents**

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, and 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.

#### **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. 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 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; and 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, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

EPA website: [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater)

FDA website: <http://www.nrdc.org/water/>

**Public input concerning your water system may be made at regularly scheduled meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 9:00 a.m. at the Walden Yacht Club, 13101 Melville Dr., Montgomery, Texas. You may contact John Wright or Philip Wright, Hays Utility North at 936-588-1166 with any concerns or questions you may have.**

#### **About the Following Page**

The following tables list all of the federally regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in your drinking water for the most recent testing performed in accordance with applicable regulations. The EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants. The constituents detected in your water are listed in the attached tables.

#### **DEFINITIONS**

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed 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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** - The highest level of 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 disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's 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.

**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 (mcg/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: (a measure of radio-activity).

**N/A** = not applicable



**936-588-1166**

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## Based on Latest Available Water Quality Data From the TCEQ

### Inorganic Constituents

Year	Constituent	Highest Detected Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2017	Barium	0.13	0.0267—0.13	2	2	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries.
2017	Fluoride	1.49	0.18—1.49	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2017	Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	0.03	0.02—0.03	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits

### Radioactive Contaminants

Year	Constituent	Highest Detected Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2015	Combined Radium 226&228	2.7	1.74—2.7	5	0	pCi/L	Erosion of Natural Deposits
2015	*Beta/photon emitters	9.4	9.2 - 9.4	4	0	mrem/yr	Decay of natural & man-made deposits
2015	Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	5.3	4.5 - 5.3	15	0	pCi/L	Erosion of Natural Deposits

\*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

### Disinfectant Residual

Year	Constituent	Average Detected Level	Range of Detected Levels	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2017	Chlorine Disinfectant	1.30	0.43—1.96	4	4	ppm	Water additive used to control microbes

### Disinfection By-products

Year	Constituent	Highest Detected Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2017	Total Trihalomethanes *(TTHM)	19	18.9—18.9	80	N/A	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

\*The value of the highest level or Average detected column is the highest average of all TTHM sample results collected at a location over a year.

2017	Haloacetic Acids *(HAA5)	2	1.7—1.7	60	N/A	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
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\*The value of the highest level or Average detected column is the highest average of all HAAS sample results collected at a location over a year.

### Lead and Copper

Year	Constituent	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2015	Lead	1	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
2015	Copper	0.281	1	1.3	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

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 system 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 Water Drinking Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

### Coliform Bacteria

Year	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
2017	0	1 positive monthly sample	1	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli MCL: A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E.Coli positive	1	No	Naturally present in the environment

\*After this positive sample, three repeat samples were pulled: 1 up stream, 1 down stream, and one repeat at the original sample site. All repeat samples tested negative for any form of bacteria. It was concluded that the original positive sample was most likely contaminated by the sampler during the process of taking the sample. The TCEQ requires the above language to be included on this report. If you have any concerns or questions please contact Philip Wright or John Wright at Hays Utility North – 936-588-1166

**The drinking water produced by our District exceeds the minimum water quality standards as established by the EPA.**