

# 2010 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## MILLS ROAD MUD

*Yes, your water  
is safe to drink*



### OUR WATER MEETS ALL FEDERAL (EPA) AND STATE REQUIREMENTS

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) assessed our system, Mills Road Municipal Utility District (Mills Road MUD), and determined that our water is safe to drink. The analysis was made by using the data in the tables in this report which uses testing results from 2006 through 2010.

Because our water meets all state and federal drinking water health standards for the sampling period, there may not be any health based benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices. Mills Road MUD system identification number is 101-1107. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

**En Español – Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Si tiene preguntas o discusiones sobre este reporte en espanol, favor de llamar al tel. 281.376.8802 par hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol.**

### TABLE INFORMATION

The tables contain chemical constituents which have been found in your drinking water. The TCEQ and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) require water systems to test up to 97 constituents. Only six regulated constituents were detected in Mills Road MUD's water, and these were well below the maximum contaminant level allowed in drinking water. The agencies do not require some contaminants to be monitored annually because their concentrations are not expected to vary. This report states the results of the most current water testing from 2006 through 2010.



REGULATED INORGANICS									
Year Tested	Contaminant Detected	Unit of Measure	Average Level*	Minimum Level*	Maximum Level*	Allowed (EPA's MCL)	MCLG	Meets Standards	Possible source of Contaminant
2010	Arsenic	ppb	2.400	2.400	2.400	10.0**	0.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
** The arsenic MCL of 10 was made effective January 23, 2006. Prior to that date the MCL was 50 ppb and no MCLG.									
2010	Barium	ppm	0.238	0.238	0.238	2.0	2.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2010	Nitrate	ppm	0.170	0.170	0.170	10.0	10.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2010	Gross alpha	pCi/L	4.700	4.700	4.700	15.0	0.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits

UNREGULATED INORGANICS									
Year Tested	Contaminant Detected	Unit of Measure	Average Level*	Minimum Level*	Maximum Level*	Allowed (EPA's MCL)	MCLG	Meets Standards	Possible source of Contaminant
2010	Sodium	ppm	30.90	30.90	30.90	no standards set			Erosion of natural deposits

DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS								
Year	Constituent	Unit	Average	Minimum	Maximum	MRDL	MRDLG	Source
2010	Free Chlorine	ppm	1.38	0.90	2.60	4.0	4.0	Disinfectant used to control microbes

DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS							
Year	Constituent	Unit	Average*	Minimum*	Maximum*	MCL	Source
2010	Total Haloacetic Acids	ppb	2.000	2.000	2.000	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2010	Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	25.600	25.600	25.600	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

**Total Trihalomethanes and Haloacetic Acids represents four different constituents. The maximum is the sum of all four.**

\* When there is only one sample, the average, minimum, and maximum will be the same number.

### WHAT'S IN THE WATER

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that 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. 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, or at the following web site: [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater). Bottled water information may be obtained at: [www.nrdc.org/water/drinking/bw/bwinx.asp](http://www.nrdc.org/water/drinking/bw/bwinx.asp).

### TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

**Contaminant:** The technical term for anything else in water except pure water is "contaminant." Technically, pure, fresh orange juice can be considered water which has been "contaminated" by the oil, orange pulp and flavorings in the orange which make it taste so good.

Obviously, some contaminants aren't good and can actually be hazardous to your health at specific levels. Those are the ones that are tested and measured.

**Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**MCL, Max. Contaminant Level:** The highest level of a contaminant allowed in

drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. MCLs are set at very stringent levels.

**MCLG, Max. Contaminant Level Goal:** 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.

**MRDL, Max. Residual Disinfectant Level:** 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.

**MRDLG, Max. Residual Disinfectant Level Goal:** 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 contamination.

**n/a:** not established at this time

**pCi/L:** PicoCuries per liter

**ppm - Part per million:** One part per million equals one teaspoon in 1,302 gallons, which is enough water to fill a typical bathtub over 40 times.

**ppb - Part per billion:** One part per billion equals one teaspoon in 1,302,000 gallons, which is enough water to fill a typical bathtub over 40,000 times.

## SECONDARY CONSTITUENTS

Many contaminants (such as calcium, sodium, or iron) which are often found in drinking water can cause taste, color, and odor problems. These constituents are called secondary contaminants and are regulated by the State of Texas, not EPA.

The secondary constituents are not necessarily causes for health concerns. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document, but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

## ADDITIONAL TESTING

Additional testing is done daily at the water plant and throughout the community at various locations to ensure that a safe level of disinfectant is in the system. Water samples are sent to an independent state approved laboratory to verify the absence of harmful bacteria. No such bacteria has been detected in this water system.



LEAD AND COPPER – TESTED AT THE CUSTOMER'S TAP (SAMPLES COLLECTED FROM 20 HOMES)						
Year Tested	Substance	Unit of Measure	90th Percentile	No. of Homes Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Possible Sources of Lead and Copper
2008	Lead	ppb	2.200	0 of 20	15.0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems;
2008	Copper	ppm	0.134	0 of 20	1.3	Erosion of natural deposits

## INFORMATION ON LEAD IN 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.

Mills Road MUD 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before treatment include: microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants. Source water assessment information, gathered by the state, is available on Texas Drinking Water Watch at [dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/](http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/).

## 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.

## OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Mills Road MUD has been awarded Outstanding Performance Certificates for no violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act bacteriological sampling rule from 2001-2007. The District continues with the same performance record to date.

## WHERE YOUR WATER COMES FROM

Mills Road MUD obtains its water from three wells, here in the District.

The wells, about 600 to 1,800 feet deep, draw ground water from the Chicot, Evangeline, and Jasper Aquifers.

The District also has interconnect valves with neighboring NW Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 9 (Millridge Estates) and Emerald Forest Utility District. Those Districts are also governed by the same drinking water regulations.

## HAVE QUESTIONS

If you would like more information about particular health risks or contaminants, you may call the EPA at 1.800.426.4791, or the Harris County Health Department at 713.439.6000. **EPA has answers to many questions at [www.epa.gov/safewater/ccr/frequentquestions](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ccr/frequentquestions).** The District's Operator, WDM, may also be able to assist you with your questions, 281.376.8802.



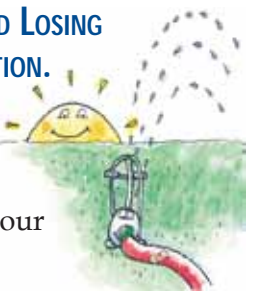
## WATER CONSERVATION

*It's important and it all starts with you.*

### WATER EARLY IN THE MORNING TO AVOID LOSING UP TO 60% OF WATER TO EVAPORATION.

The wind is usually calmer and the temperature lower early in the day, so less water is lost to evaporation.

Watering late in the evening makes your plants more susceptible to disease.



### GRASS NEEDS 1" OF WATER WEEKLY

When temperatures soar your grass will need one inch of water (rain or irrigation) each week. Water deep 1 or 2 times a week instead of daily to encourage roots to grow deep.



Placing tuna cans in your yard can help you determine when your grass has received 1" of water.

Kids of All Ages  
Have fun at The Amazing Adventures of Hydron and the Waste Squad website: [www.wateruseitwisely.com/kids](http://www.wateruseitwisely.com/kids)



## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Mills Road MUD meets at 6:30 p.m. on the third Wednesday of each month at 17707 Old Louetta Rd., offices of the District's operator, WDM.

Any last minute cancellations will be posted at the Tallow Wood Clubhouse, 10220 Appleridge Dr., in the District.

## 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; 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