

## 2010 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report



*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, Prestonwood Forest (PFUD), 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.

PFUD system identification number is 101-0467. 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.**

### WHERE YOUR WATER COMES FROM

During this reporting period (2010) the majority of your water came from two wells here in the District. The wells pump ground water from the Gulf Coast Aquifers. These wells are now used as a secondary water source during times of high water demand. Beginning in September of 2010, PFUD began receiving surface water from the North Harris County Regional Water Authority as our primary source of water.

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

PFUD meets at 7:30 p.m. on the 2nd Thursday of each month at the communities' club house, 13702 Prestonwood Forest Dr. (intersection of Prestonwood Forest Dr. & Glencliffe). Any last minute cancellations will be posted on the bulletin board at this location. PFUD also maintains a website with useful information, [www.prestonwoodforestud.org](http://www.prestonwoodforestud.org).

### OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

PFUD has been awarded Outstanding Performance Certificates for no violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act bacteriological sampling rule from 2001-2009. The District continues with the same performance record to date.

### 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 immune-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.

## 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 at EPA's **Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 1.800.426.4791** or [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).

## 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 nine regulated constituents were detected in Prestonwood Forest'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
2008-10	Arsenic*	ppb	4.370	2.900	5.600	10.0**	0.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
** The arsenic MCL of 10 was made effective January 23, 2006. Prior to January the MCL was 50 ppb, with no MCLG.									
2008-10	Barium	ppm	0.179	0.067	0.252	2.0	2.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2008-10	Fluoride	ppm	0.510	0.350	0.670	4.0	4.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2010	Nitrate	ppm	0.260	8.000	0.660	10.0	10.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2008-10	Selenium	ppb	3.300	0.000	10.000	50.0	50.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2010	Gross alpha	pCi/L	3.250	0.000	6.500	15.0	0.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2010	Combined Radium 226 & 228	pCi/L	0.295	0.000	0.590	5.0	0.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits

UNREGULATED INORGANICS							
Tested	Contaminant	Unit	Average	Minimum	Maximum	Standard	Source of Contaminant
2008-10	Sodium	ppm	79.10	36.40	115.00	no standards set	Erosion of natural deposits

REGULATED ORGANICS									
Year Tested	Contaminant Detected	Unit of Measure	Avg Level*	Minimum Level*	Maximum Level*	Allowed (EPA's MCL)	MCLG	Meets Standards	Possible source of Contaminant
2008-10	Atrazine	ppb	0.470	0.000	1.400	3.0	3.0	n/a	Runoff containing herbicides
2008-10	Simazine	ppb	0.047	0.000	0.140	4.0	4.0	n/a	Runoff containing herbicides

DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS									
Year	Constituent	Unit	Average	Minimum	Maximum	MRDL	MRDLG	Possible Source of Contaminant	
2010	Free Chlorine Chloramines	ppm	1.89	0.80	3.40	4.0	4.0	Disinfectant used to control microbes	

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

## UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT

Tested	Contaminant	Unit	Average *	Minimum *	Maximum *	Source of Contaminant
2010	Bromodichloromethane	ppb	1.150	0.000	2.300	The Unregulated contaminants listed are byproducts of the drinking water disinfection.
2010	Chloroform	ppb	4.150	0.000	8.300	
2010	n-Dethylamineimhloroform (NDMA)	ppb	0.026	0.026	0.026	

## 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.

## TURBIDITY - CLARITY OF WATER - CONTINUOUSLY SAMPLED AT THE WATER PLANT

2010 Turbidity†	Highest single measure	0.21 NTUs	Turbidity is measured in NTUs and is caused by soil runoff. 95% of samples tested each month must be less than or equal to the limit of 0.300 NTUs.
Lowest monthly % of samples	Meeting Limits	100%	

†**Turbidity is a measure of how clear the water looks.** Turbidity is a cloudiness or haziness of water caused by individual particles that are too small to be seen without magnification, this being much like smoke in air. Turbidity has no health effects but it is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system. Turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. 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.

## 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 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.

## 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/).

## DEFINITIONS

**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, Maximum 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 1 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 1 teaspoon in 1,302,000 gallons, which is enough water to fill a typical bathtub over 40,000 times.

## LEAD AND COPPER – TESTED AT THE CUSTOMER’S TAP (SAMPLES WERE COLLECTED AT 10 HOMES)

Year Tested	Substance	Unit of Measure	90th Percentile	# of Homes Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Possible Sources of Lead and Copper
2008	Lead	ppb	8.000	0 of 10	15.0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems;
2008	Copper	ppm	0.306	0 of 10	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. Prestonwood Forest UD 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).

### AVOID CLOGGED SEWER LINES BY DISPOSING OF GREASE THE RIGHT WAY

Never pour grease down the sink or toilet. Put your grease in a container with a lid and then dispose of it in your trash.



Grease can create sewer back-ups in your household lines and in the District’s sewer lines causing expensive reports.

### 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 because they stay wet all night.

#### WHEN TO WATER YOUR GRASS

Ideally a lawn should be watered just as it begins to wilt. Most grasses take on dull, dark appearance and the leaf blades begin to fold or roll.

Grass needing water will also show tracks when it is walked on.



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)



### 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.

### BE GREEN CHOICE — TAP WATER

Clean fresh water is delivered to your home for just pennies a glass without the fuel consumption of trucking or the waste left behind by plastic bottles.



### 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, Water District Management (WDM), may also be able to assist you with your questions, 281.376.8802.