

2016 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 480 (PWS ID No. 1013400)

Phone No: 281-376-8802

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 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.

Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

The source of drinking water used by HCMUD 480 is Ground Water pumped from the Gulf Coast aquifers. The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that some of your sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact Water District Management at 281-376-8802.

Public Participation Opportunities

HCMUD 480 meets on the 4th Wednesday of the month at 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2400, Houston 77027. Meeting agendas are posted at the Lift Station (23323 Pine Trace Bend Dr.) at least 72 hours prior to each meeting. Water District Management (WDM) may also be called for information at 281-376-8802.

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. (281)376-8802 para hablar con una persona bilingue en español.

Our Drinking Water Is Regulated

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 tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's 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, 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; 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, 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, 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.

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

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>.

Definitions

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

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG allows for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal (MRDLG)-The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG does not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MDRL) - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

ppm - parts per million or milligrams per liter; equal to one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

ppb - parts per billion or micrograms per liter; equal to one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

N/A - Not applicable.

ND- No detect.

Inorganic Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Average	Minimum	Maximum	MCL	MCLG	Units	Possible Source of Contaminant
2014	Arsenic	2.7	2.7	2.7	10	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits.
2014	Barium	0.221	0.221	0.221	2	2	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
2016	Nitrate	1.89	1.89	1.89	10	10	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant Residual	Average	Minimum	Maximum	MRDL	MRDLG	Units	Potential Source of Contaminant
2016	Free Chlorine	1.21	0.70	2.20	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

Lead and Copper

Year (Range)	Contaminant	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Potential Source of Contaminant
2016	Lead	ND	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and/or erosion of natural deposits.
2016	Copper	0.040	0	1.3	ppm	

Unregulated Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Average	Minimum	Maximum	Unit of	Source of Contaminant
2014	Sodium	23.0	23.0	23.0	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits