

# 2017 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

published in 2018

## FOREST HILLS MUD



*Yes, your water is safe to drink*

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

This report is produced to provide information about your water system including the quality of your water, the source of the water, levels of detected contaminants, and compliance with drinking water rules.

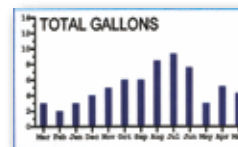
The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) assessed our system, Forest Hills Municipal Utility District (Forest Hills MUD), and determined that our water is safe to drink. The analysis was made by using the data in the tables in this report which uses testing results from 2013 through 2017.

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. Forest Hills MUD system identification number is 1011252. Thank you for taking the time to read and learn about the water you drink. We look forward to another year of providing you with safe, reliable 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.

### TRACK YOUR WATER USAGE

Your water bill contains helpful information on a 12-month chart. You can also compare your water usage to other residents in the District. In the middle column at the top of your bill is the average of Forest Hills' 743 homes water usage for the month.



Avg. monthly usage in Forest Hills is 7,046 gals.

### 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 ten regulated constituents were detected in Forest Hills 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, also referred to as a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), states the results of the most current water testing from 2013 through 2017.

#### INORGANICS - REGULATED

Year Tested	Contaminant Detected	Unit of Measure	Average Level*	Minimum Level*	Maximum Level*	Allowed (EPA's MCL)	MCLG	Meets Standards	Possible source of Contaminant
2015	Arsenic <sup>‡</sup>	ppb	6.100	6.100	6.100	10.0	0.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2015	Barium	ppm	0.362	0.362	0.362	2.0	2.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2016	Nitrate	ppm	0.160	0.160	0.160	10.0	10.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2015	Selenium	ppb	17.500	17.500	17.500	50.0	50.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2015	Uranium	ppb	8.800	8.800	8.800	30.0	0.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2015	Gross alpha	pCi/L	12.000	12.000	12.000	15.0	0.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2015	Gross beta emitters	pCi/L	6.700	6.700	6.700	50.0	0.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2015	Combined Radium 226 & 228	pCi/L	1.550	1.550	1.550	5.0	0.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits

#### DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS

Year	Constituent	Unit	Average	Minimum	Maximum	MRDL	MRDLG	Source
2017	Free Chlorine	ppm	1.14	0.70	1.60	4.0	4.0	Disinfectant used to control microbes

#### DISINFECTANT BYPRODUCTS - REGULATED

Year	Constituent	Unit	Avg*	Min*	Max*	MRDL
2017	Total Haloacetic Acids	ppb	1.20	1.20	1.20	60
2017	Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	8.10	8.10	8.10	80

**Total Trihalomethanes represents 4 and Haloacetic Acids represent 5 different constituents. The maximum for each is the sum of either the 4 or the 5 constituents.**

Disinfectant Byproducts (DBPs) are formed when disinfectants (such as Free Chlorine) reacts with natural organic material in water. The District monitors the water distribution system as required by Stage 2 of the federal Disinfectant Byproduct Rule

**‡Arsenic** While your drinking water meets EPA's standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

**UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS** The District participated in gathering data under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) in order to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of possible drinking water contaminants. No unregulated contaminants were detected. Additional information may be found on EPA's web site at [www.epa.gov/safewater/data/ncod](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/data/ncod), or you can call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791.

**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.

#### SECONDARY CONSTITUENTS - UNREGULATED

2015	Sodium	ppm	40.200	40.200	40.200	no standards set	Erosion of natural deposits
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\* When there is only one sample, the average, minimum, and maximum will be the same number.

### 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 minute in two years.

**ppb - Part per billion:** One part per billion equals one minute in 2,000 years.



No cost option for your convenience.

[www.eonlinebill.com/bapp/wdm/indexl](http://www.eonlinebill.com/bapp/wdm/indexl)

### FIGHTING FIRES, WATER LINE BREAKS AND DISTRICT MAINTENANCE ALL ADD TO LOSS WATER

The District's water distribution system lost an estimated 3.5% of its water in 2017. The national recommended water loss standard is 10% or less.

Please help reduce water loss by reporting all leaks by calling WDM, 281.376.8802.





**WHAT'S IN THE WATER** 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).

**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.

**INFORMATION ON LEAD IN WATER**

Forest Hills MUD is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home or business.

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 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. 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).

LEAD AND COPPER – TESTED AT THE CUSTOMER'S TAP (SAMPLES COLLECTED FROM 10 HOMES)						
Year Tested	Substance	Unit of Measure	90th Percentile	No. of Homes Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Possible Sources of Lead and Copper
2015	Lead	ppb	1.300	0 of 10	15.0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits
2015	Copper	ppm	0.095	0 of 10	1.3	

**WHERE YOUR WATER COMES FROM**

Forest Hills MUD obtains its water from a well, here in the District. The well draws ground water from the Evangeline Aquifer.

The District also has an interconnect valve with neighboring Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 11 (Woodgate, Maple Ridge Place). That District is also governed by the same drinking water regulations as Forest Hills MUD.

**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.

**SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT** 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.

**HOW TO FIND A LEAK WITH YOUR WATER METER**

Your water meter is usually located between the sidewalk and curb under a cover. Remove the cover then lift the meter lid.

To determine if you have a leak, turn off all the water in your home, both indoor and outdoor faucets, and then check the dial for any movement of the low-flow indicator (the triangle). Movement indicates a leak.



1. Low-Flow Indicator (triangle) — The low flow indicator will spin if any water is flowing through the meter.
2. Sweep Hand — Each full revolution of the sweep hand indicates that 10 gallons have passed through the meter. The markings at the outer edge of the dial indicate tenths and hundredths of gallons.
3. Meter Register — The meter register is a lot like the odometer on your car and reads straight across. The white numbers (0000) show the number of thousand of gallons that has passed through the meter.

The numbers to the right in the black boxes indicate water usage that is less than 1,000 gallons. Customers are charged for only 1,000s of gallons of water used.



**The DOs & DON'Ts of Water Conservation**

- BATHROOM**
  - ✓ Do take shorter showers and/or fill the tub halfway.
  - ✗ Don't run water while washing your hands or brushing your teeth.
- KITCHEN & LAUNDRY**
  - ✓ Do run the dishwasher & washing machine only when full.
  - ✗ Don't let the water run while washing dishes. Kitchen faucets use 2 - 3 gallons a minute.
- EVERYWHERE**
  - ✓ Do install water-saving fixtures.
  - ✗ Don't ignore water leaks. Turn taps off tightly.
- OUTDOORS**
  - ✓ Do use a self-closing nozzle on your hose. Put sprinklers on a timer to shut off automatically.
  - ✗ Don't water sidewalks, drives or the street.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Forest Hills MUD meets at 7:00 p.m. in the District on the first Thursday of each month at 12606 Brookvale, off of Wilshire Park Dr. Call 281.376.8802 for directions.

Any last minute cancellations will be posted on the bulletin board in the esplanade at the community entrance on Wilshire Park Dr.

**HAVE QUESTIONS**

More information about particular health risks or contaminants may be available at:

- EPA [www.epa.gov/safewater/ccr/frequentquestions](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ccr/frequentquestions)  
1.800.426.4791
- Harris County Health Department  
713.439.6000
- Water District Management (WDM), the Operator  
281.376.8802

This Report is also available online at [www.wdmtexas.com](http://www.wdmtexas.com).

**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 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.