

# TYLER COUNTY WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

## 2015 WATER QUALITY REPORT

JUNE 2016

**OUR DRINKING WATER IS REGULATED BY THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY.** 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 required tests, in conjunction with the Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Standards, and is presented in the following pages. We hope this information helps you to become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water. [*En Espanol: 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. (409) 429-3994 par hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol.*] NOTE: The pages that follow (after this page) lists the federally regulated or monitored contaminants found in your drinking water.

**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 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).

**Secondary Constituents:** Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium, iron, or manganese) which are often found in drinking water, can cause taste, color, and odor problems; these are called Secondary Constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not EPA. These constituents are not a cause for health concerns and are not required to be a part of this report, but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

**Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?** Our drinking water is obtained from GROUNDWATER water sources and is pumped from the GULF COAST Aquifer (Tyler County, Texas).

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment has been completed for 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 detection of these contaminants may be found in this Water Quality Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at the Tyler County WSC water system, contact the TCWSC Manager at # 409-429-3994.

### **Special Notice for the Elderly, Infants, Cancer Patients, People with HIV/AIDS, or other Immune**

**Problems:** Some people (as these listed or with similar health problems) may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. 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 (1-800-426-4791).

**Water Sources:** 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 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.
- 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, EPA prescribes regulations which 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. Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or 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 TCWSC water system office (# 409-429-3994).

**Definitions and Water Quality Information:** The following definitions pertain to the terms and abbreviations listed on the “2015 Water Quality Report” displayed on the following pages. Telephone numbers for obtaining additional water quality information include: TCEQ (512-239-1000) and the Tyler County WSC (409-429-3994).

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** = The highest permissible level of a contaminant (constituents) in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs 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. MCLGs 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 disinfection is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of disinfectant (chlorine) 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.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** = A required process intended to reduce the level of a water contaminant.
- **Action Level (AL)** = The concentration of a contaminant, which – if exceeded – triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **Measurement Definitions:** **pCi/l** (picocuries per liter – a measure of radioactivity); **ppm** (parts per million, or milligrams per liter – mg/l); **ppb** (parts per billion, or micrograms per liter), **NTU** (Nephelometric Turbidity Units – a measure of the degree of turbidity), **ppt** (parts per trillion or nanograms per liter), and **ppq** (parts per quadrillion or picograms per liter).

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** The Board of Directors normally holds a Regular Monthly Board Meeting on the Third Tuesday of each Month (6:00 p.m.) at the TCWSC (TCSUD) Office.

**CONVERSION TO SUD:** Due to overwhelming approval of the Voters, in a May 2016 Election, the Tyler County Water Supply Corporation was converted to the Tyler County Special Utility District (SUD). The many positive financial benefits of this Conversion have been presented in previous Newsletters.

- **Turbidity:** NOT REQUIRED
- **Total Coliform:** REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA.
- **Fecal Coliform:** REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.
- **Organic Contaminants:** TESTING WAIVED, NOT REPORTED, OR NONE DETECTED.
- **Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfectant Byproducts:** WAIVED OR NOT YET SAMPLED.
- **Unregulated Contaminants:** NOT REPORTED OR NONE DETECTED.

**LEAD AND COPPER SAMPLING:** The Lead and Copper Rule protects public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosivity. Lead and Copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials. 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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we 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 (# 800-426-4271) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**NOTE:** The Tyler County WSC Lead and Copper test results were all below the Lead and Copper Action Levels.

**Regulated Contaminants**

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)</b>	2015	13	13.2 - 13.2	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Arsenic - While your drinking water meets EPA standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPAs standard balances the current understanding of arsenics possible health effects against the costs 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.</b>	03/31/2014	5.8	0 - 5.8	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
<b>Barium</b>	03/31/2014	0.213	0.0623 - 0.213	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Fluoride</b>	03/31/2014	0.26	0 - 0.26	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
<b>Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]</b>	2015	1	0 - 1.49	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination

**Definitions:**

Action Level Goal (ALG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

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

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Copper</b>	08/27/2013	1.3	1.3	0.192	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Beta/photon emitters	03/31/2014	10.4	10.4 - 10.4	0	50	pCi/L*	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
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\*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

Combined Radium 226/228	03/31/2014	2.65	2.65 - 2.65	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	03/31/2014	11.3	11.3 - 11.3	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Toluene	2015	0.0007	0 - 0.0007	1	1	ppm	N	Discharge from petroleum factories.
Xylenes	2015	0.0032	0 - 0.0032	10	10	ppm	N	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories.

#### WATER SOURCES - Groundwater Wells

Dam B Well	(Dam B)	Gulf Coast Aquifer
Spurger Well	(Spurger)	Gulf Coast Aquifer
Fred Well	(Fred)	Gulf Coast Aquifer
Hillister Well	(Hillister)	Gulf Coast Aquifer
Dies Well	(Dies)	Gulf Coast Aquifer
Rockland Well (1)	(Rockland)	Gulf Coast Aquifer
Rockland Well (2)	(Rockland)	Gulf Coast Aquifer

**Tyler County Special Utility District # 409-429-3994**  
**PO Drawer 138**  
**Spurger, Texas 77660**