



2012 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

City of Canton

Public System Water No. TX 2340001

Water & Wastewater Treatment Division

Phone No. 903-567-4434

Public Participation Opportunities

Date: Third Tuesday of Each Month, City Council Meeting
Time: 6:00 p.m. meeting (open to public)
Location: City Hall Council Chambers, 290 East Tyler St.
Phone No.: 903-567-4434
E-mail: canton@cantontex.com

To learn about future public meetings (concerning your drinking water) or to request to schedule one, please contact us.

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of 1/1/2012 to 12/31/2012

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. 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 contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

En Espanol: Este informe incluye informacion importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en espanol, favor de llamar al tel. (903) 567-1500 para hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol.

Where Do We Get our Drinking Water?

The source of drinking water used by CITY OF CANTON is Surface Water. Our drinking water is obtained from a COMBINATION of water sources which include three wells and the surface water treatment plant. It comes from the following Lake/River/Reservoir/Aquifer: CARRIZO-WILCOX, MILL CREEK LAKE.

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.

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 EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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.

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 system's business office.

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; persons 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 providers. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Information about Source Water Assessments

The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicated 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 Al Campbell (903-567-4434).

For more information about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: <http://gis3.tceq.state.tx.us/swav/Controller/index.jsp?wtrsrc=>

Further details about sources and source water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL: <http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/>

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

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

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

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: 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 contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: 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.

Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Abbreviations

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units

pCi/L – picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

MFL – million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

NA: Not applicable

ppm – parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb – parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

ppt – parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

ppq – parts per quadrillion, or pictograms per liter

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	2012	27	26.1-26.9	No goal for total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)*	2012	25	25-25.6	No goal for total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	2012	0.324	0.324-0.324	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards and electronics production wastes
Barium	2012	0.0467	0.0467-0.0467	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	2012	1.51	1.51-1.51	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2012	0.6	0.59 – 0.59	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2012	0.6	0.59-0.59	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Nitrate Advisory – Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice from your healthcare provider.

Turbidity

	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest single measurement	1 NTU	0.3 NTU	N	Soil runoff
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	0.3 NTU	100%	N	Soil runoff

Coliform Bacteria

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive E coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Fecal Coliform or E Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	1 positive monthly sample			0	N	Naturally present in the environment

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant	Avg Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Chemical
2012	Chloramines	3.0	0.9	4.0	4.0	.5	Ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes

Lead and Copper

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	9/24/2010	1.3	1.3	0.114	0	Ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead	9/24/2010	0	1.5	3.4	0	Ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Violations

E Coli			
Fecal coliforms and E coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.			
Violation Type	Violation Began	Violation Ended	Violation Explanation
MONITOR GWR TRIGGERED ADDITIONAL MAJOR	10/1/2011	2012	We failed to collect follow-up samples within 24 hours of learning of the total coliform-positive sample. These needed to be tested for fecal indicators from all sources that were being used at the time the positive sample was collected.

City of Canton
 Water & Wastewater Treatment Division
 P. O. Box 245
 Canton, Texas 75103

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