



# 2011 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](mailto: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 1/1/2011 to 12/31/2011

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 on contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's 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.

**Special Notice** (required language for ALL community public water supplies): Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/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 (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 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.

The source of drinking water used by CITY OF CANTON is Surface Water.

**Secondary Contaminants:** 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.

### Additional Health Information for Lead:

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant woman and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Canton 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>.

### Where Do We Get our Drinking Water?

Our drinking water is obtained from a COMBINATION of water sources. It comes from the following Lake/River/Reservoir/Aquifer: CARRIZO-WILCOX, MILL CREEK LAKE. source water assessment information is available on Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/>. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessments allows us to focus source water protection strategies.

### Information about Source Water Assessments

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information described the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment allows us to focus source water protection strategies.

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

### Abbreviations

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units	ppm – parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L0
pCi/L – picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)	ppb – parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (pg/L0
MFL – million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)	ppt – parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
	ppq – parts per quadrillion, or pictograms per liter

### 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 o a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**Mrem/year:** millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

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

**Ppm:** Milligrams per liter or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

**Ppb:** Micrograms per liter or parts per billion – or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

**NA:** Not applicable

## Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Halooacetic Acids (HAA5)*	2011	7	0 - 14.2	No goal for total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHm)*	2011	9	0 - 17	No goal for total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination

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	2011	0.485	0.485 - 0.485	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	2011	0.0479	0.0479 - 0.0479	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	2011	1.51	1.51 - 1.51	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2011	0.6	0.57 - 0.57	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)	2011	0.07	0.07 - 0.07	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	0.27 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	1 sample was positive		0	N	Naturally present in the environment

## Lead and Copper

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 exceed, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	09/24/2010	1.3	1.3	0.114	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead	09/24/2010	0	15	3.4	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

## Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Systems must complete and submit disinfection data on Surface Water monthly Operations Report (SWMOR). On the CCR report, the system must provide disinfectant type, minimum, maximum and average levels.

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Chemical
2011	Chloramines	2.9	2.3	4.0	4.0	.5	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

**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
Monitoring, Source (GWR), Major	10/1/2011	10/31/2011	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

CITY OF CANTON  
WATER & WASTEWATER TREATMENT DIVISION  
P O BOX 245  
CANTON TX 75103

PRESORTED STANDARD  
U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
CANTON, TX 75103  
PERMIT 171

CURRENT RESIDENT OR