

2012 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

SOUTHWEST MILAM WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION – Public Water System I.D. # 1660015

Phone No: (512) 446-2604

Our Drinking Water Is Regulated.

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 about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Source of Drinking Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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, 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, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Information about 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.

Where do we get our drinking water? The source of drinking water used by SOUTHWEST MILAM WATER is Ground Water.

Special Notice – Required language for ALL community public water supplies:

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 to 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 (800-426-4791).

Public Participation Opportunities – If there are any questions or concerns regarding this Consumer Confidence Report, you can contact Ken Hall, General Manager at (512) 446-2604 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday, or attend any regularly scheduled Board of Directors meeting on the 3rd Monday of the month at 6 pm – 706 E. Cameron Ave. Rockdale TX 76567. Please feel free to post this notice or make copies to employees, tenants, campuses or other individuals.

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. SOUTHWEST MILAM 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>.

Information about Source Water Assessments

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 detection 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 Ken Hall, General Manager at (512) 446 – 2604.

DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) The highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the 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 addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

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

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

ppm: milligrams per liter (mg/L) or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

ppb: micrograms per liter (ug/L) or parts per billion – or one ounce in 7,350, 000 gallons of water.

ppt - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

ppq - parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

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

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units (a measure of turbidity)

pCi/l - picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

Collection Date	Inorganic Contaminant	Highest Level	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminant
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		Detected	Detected					
2012	Barium	0.189	0.189 - 0.189	2	2	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2012	Fluoride	0.18	0.18-0.18	4	4.0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2010	Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	1	0 -0.5	10	10	ppm	No of	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
2012	Thallium	1.9	1.9 – 1.9	0.5	2	ppb	No and	Discharge from electronics, glass leaching ore-processing sites, Drug factories.

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 health care provider.

Year	Radioactive Contaminant	Highest Level	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2012	Beta/photon emitters	7.4	7.4 -7.4	0	50	pCi/L	No deposits	Decay of natural + man-made
2012	Combined Radium 226/228	2.8	2.8 – 2.8	0	5	pCi/L	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits.
2012	Gross Alpha Compliance	3.7	3.7 – 3.7	0	15	pCi/L	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits.
	Volatile Organic Contaminant							
2012	Xylenes	0.0009	0 – 0.0009	10	10	ppm	No	Discharge from Petroleum factories, Discharge from Chemical factories.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2012	Chlorine Residual (Free)	1.00	2.01	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes – Gas Chlorine

Disinfection Byproducts

Year Range	Contaminant	Range of levels Detected	Highest Level Detected	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
9/16/2010	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	0 - 1.1	1.1	60	ppb	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
9/16/2010	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHm)	4.9 -9.8	9.8	80	ppb	No	Byproduct 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.

Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	MCLG	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Violation	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
8/27/2010	Lead	0	3.62	0	15	No	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits;
8/27/2010	Copper	1.3	0.151	0	1.3	No	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits. Leaching from wood preservatives.

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

Total Coliform REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA.

Fecal Coliform REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.