

2004 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

BMWD NORTHWEST

Phone No: (210) 922-1221

Special Notice for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. 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. The 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).

Public Participation Opportunities

Date: Every 4th Monday of the Month

Time: 6:00 PM

Location: 2047 W. Malone

Phone No: (210) 922-1221

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

Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds All Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Requirements

This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

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: microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

En Español

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre éste informe en español, favor de llamar al tel. (210) 922 - 1221 - para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.



Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from Ground water sources. It comes from the following Aquifer: EDWARDS.

TCEQ completed an assessment of our source water and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for our water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants will be found in this report. If we receive or purchase water from another system, their susceptibility is not included in this assessment. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

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 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).

Secondary Constituents

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.

About The Following Pages

The pages that follow list all of the federally regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants.

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 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 contaminant in drinking water.

Action Level (AL)

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

ABBREVIATIONS

NTU	- Nephelometric Turbidity Units
MFL	- million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
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 (µg/L)
ppt	- parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
ppq	- parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

Inorganic Contaminants

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
1999 2004	Barium	0.043	0.038	0.0494	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
1999 2004	Chromium	1.682	0	2.63	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
1999 2004	Fluoride	0.163	0.1	0.2	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2004 2004	Nitrate	1.876	1.71	2.05	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
2002 2004	Gross alpha	0.220	0	1.1	15	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.

Organic Contaminants NOT TESTED OR REPORTED, OR NONE DETECTED

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2004	Chlorine	1.025	0.5	2	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

Disinfection Byproducts

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2004 2004	Total Haloacetic Acids	0.831	0	8.3	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2004 2004	Total Trihalomethanes	3.640	0	13.6	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Unregulated Contaminants

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2004 2004	Dibromochloromethane	0.157	0	1.1		ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Lead and Copper

Year (Range)	Contaminant	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2004 2004	Lead	3.7000	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2004 2004	Copper	0.1680	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Turbidity NOT REQUIRED

Total Coliform NOT DETECTED

Fecal Coliform NOT DETECTED

Availability of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule Data (UCMR)

We participated in gathering data under the UCMR in order to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of possible drinking water contaminants. If any unregulated contaminants were detected, they are shown in the tables elsewhere in this report. This data may also be found on EPA's web site at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/data/ncod.html>, or you can call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Secondary and Other Not Regulated Constituents

(No associated adverse health effects)

Year (Range)	Constituent	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2004 2004	Bicarbonate	212.417	197	255	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2004 2004	Calcium	67.558	65.8	76	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2004 2004	Chloride	19.292	18	22.5	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity
2004 2004	Copper	0.016	0	0.0261	NA	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
2004 2004	Hardness as Ca/Mg	225.400	224	228	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.
2004 2004	Lead	0.117	0	1.41	NA	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2004 2004	Magnesium	14.533	13	15.4	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2004 2004	Nickel	1.569	0	2.96	NA	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits.
2002 2002	pH	7.832	7.3	8.01	NA	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2004 2004	Sodium	8.807	8.1	9.82	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2004 2004	Sulfate	18.225	16.3	20	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2004 2004	Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	204.750	197	209	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2002 2002	Total Dissolved Solids	264.000	264	264	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
1999 1999	Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	243.000	243	243	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.
2004 2004	Zinc	9.962	0	43.6	5000	ppb	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element; used in the metal industry.