

2007 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

BMWD NORTHWEST

Phone No: (210) 357-5713

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: 4th Monday of the Month

Time: 6:00pm

Location: 2047 W. Malone Ave.

Phone No: (210) 354-6500

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)357 -5713 - para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

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Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from GROUND water sources. It comes from the following Aquifer: EDWARDS AND ASSOCIATED LIMESTONES -

(BALCONES FAULT). A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water sources(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and will be provided to us this year. The report will describe 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 will allow us to focus our source water protection strategies. 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 or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2004	Barium	0.049	0.049	0.049	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2004	Chromium	1.1	1.1	1.1	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
2007 2005	Fluoride	0.69	0.2	1.01	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2007 2006	Nitrate	2.01	1.9	2.12	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Organic Contaminants NONE DETECTED

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2007	Chlorine Residual, Free	1.08	0.3	1.9	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

Disinfection Byproducts

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Total Trihalomethanes	5.2	0	10.5	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts NOT YET SAMPLED

Unregulated Contaminants NONE DETECTED

Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Lead	3.3	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2007	Copper	0.189	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Total Coliform

Total coliform bacteria are used as indicators of microbial contamination of drinking water because testing for them is easy. While not disease-causing organisms themselves, they are often found in association with other microbes that are capable of causing disease. Coliform bacteria are more hardy than many disease-causing organisms; therefore, their absence from water is a good indication that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption.

Year	Contaminant	Highest Monthly % of Positive Samples	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Total Coliform Bacteria	2	*	Presence	Naturally present in the environment.

*** Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% or more of the monthly samples.**

Fecal Coliform

Fecal coliform bacteria and, in particular, E. coli, are members of the coliform bacteria group originating in the intestinal tract of warm-blooded animals and are passed into the environment through feces. The presence of fecal coliform bacteria (E. coli) in drinking water may indicate recent contamination of the drinking water with fecal material.

Year	Contaminant	Total Number of Positive Samples	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Fecal Coliform or E.coli	1	*	Presence	Human and animal fecal waste.

*** A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive.**

Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated

(No associated adverse health effects)

Year or Range	Constituent	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Secondary Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2007 2005	Bicarbonate	204	202	205	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2004	Calcium	65.9	65.9	65.9	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2007 2005	Chloride	15	12	18	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity
2007 2005	Hardness as Ca/Mg	235	231	240	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.
2004	Magnesium	15.1	15.1	15.1	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2004	Nickel	0.003	0.003	0.003	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
2007 2005	pH	7.9	7.8	7.9	>7.0	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2004	Sodium	10	10	10	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2007 2005	Sulfate	16	15	18	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2007 2005	Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	204	202	205	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2007 2005	Total Dissolved Solids	271	270	273	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2004	Zinc	0.005	0.005	0.005	5	ppm	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element; used in the metal industry.