

2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

TX09S0002

CITY OF HALE CENTER

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2015

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.

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CITY OF HALE CENTER is Ground Water

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar.
Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (806) 839-2411

Sources of Drinking Water

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 pickup 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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, 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 immunocompromised 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 indicate that some 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 Jack Needham. For more information about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/gis/svawiew>. Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL: <http://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/>

Source Water Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
11 - 0.25 MI NW OF 15TH ST	GW	Y	Hale County/Ogallala Aquifer
12 - N AVE H WEST WELL	GW	Y	Hale County/Ogallala Aquifer
13 - N AVE H NORTH WELL	GW	Y	Hale County/Ogallala Aquifer
3 - 14TH / AVE E	GW	Y	Hale County/Ogallala Aquifer
4 - 12TH / AVE E	GW	Y	Hale County/Ogallala Aquifer
5 - 14TH / AVE K	GW	Y	Hale County/Ogallala Aquifer
6 - 14TH / AVE H	GW	Y	Hale County/Ogallala Aquifer
7 - 11TH / AVE E	GW	Y	Hale County/Ogallala Aquifer
8 - FM 1914 / AVE K	GW	Y	Hale County/Ogallala Aquifer

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions:

- AVG: Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL.
- MAX: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG.
- MRDL: Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL.
- MRDLG: Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG.

- MFL: million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
- na: not applicable.
- NFU: nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)
- pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
- ppb: micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
- ppm: milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
- ppt: parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
- ppq: parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)

The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation. Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples. 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. 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. 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. 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.

Disinfectant	Year	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2015	1.04	0.31	1.06	4	4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

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)*	2015	2	1.5 - 1.5	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2015	3	2.52 - 2.52	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	2015	2.5	2.5 - 2.5	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	2015	0.15	0.15 - 0.15	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	2015	1.2	1.2 - 1.2	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2015	3	3.02 - 3.02	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)	2015	2	0.938 - 2.25	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	2015	2	2 - 2	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/Photon emitters	07/17/2014	7.8	7.8 - 7.8	0	50	pCi/L*	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium	07/17/2014	10.9	5 - 10.9	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium	07/17/2014	8.2	8.2 - 8.2	0	30	ug/l	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

Violations Table

Consumer Confidence Rule

The Consumer Confidence Rule requires community water systems to prepare and provide to their customers annual consumer confidence reports on the quality of the water delivered by the systems.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
CCR ADEQUACY/AVAILABILITY/CONTENT	07/01/2014	2015	We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that adequately informed you about the quality of our drinking water and the risks from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water.
CCR REPORT	07/01/2015	10/19/2015	We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that informs you about the quality of our drinking water and characterizes the risks from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water.

Lead and Copper Rule

The Lead and Copper Rule protects public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosivity. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
FOLLOW-UP OR ROUTINE TAP M/R (LCR)	10/01/2015	2015	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the

"This is an alert about your drinking water and a cosmetic dental problem that might affect children under nine years of age. At low levels, fluoride can help prevent cavities, but children drinking water containing more than 2 milligrams per liter (mg/L) of fluoride may develop cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth (dental fluorosis). The drinking water provided by your community Water System City of Hale Center has a fluoride concentration of 3.02 mg/L.

Dental fluorosis, in its moderate or severe forms, may result in a brown staining and/or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from the gums. Children under nine should be provided with alternative sources of drinking water or water that has been treated to remove the fluoride to avoid the possibility of staining and pitting of their permanent teeth. You may also want to contact your dentist about proper use by young children of fluoride-containing products. Older children and adults may safely drink the water.

Drinking water containing more than 4 mg/L of fluoride (the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's drinking water standard) can increase your risk of developing bone disease. Your drinking water does not contain more than 4 mg/L of fluoride, but we're required to notify you when we discover that the fluoride levels in your drinking water exceed 2 mg/L because of this cosmetic dental problem.

For more information, please call Jack Needham of City of Hale Center at 806-839-2411. Some home water treatment units are also available to remove fluoride from drinking water. To learn more about available home water treatment units, you may call NSF International at 1-877-NSF-HELP."