

CITY OF ORCHARD 2012 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

TX0790037

CITY OF ORCHARD

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2012

For more information regarding this report contact:

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 ORCHARD is Ground Water

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en Español, favor de llamar al teléfono (979) 478-6893.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

DATE:	City Council Meetings 2 nd Monday of Each Month
TIME:	6:30 pm
LOCATION:	City Hall 9714 Kibler
PHONE:	(979) 478-6893

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

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 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?wtsrc=>

Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL: <http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW>

Source Water Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
1 - 9921 GAL VESTON RD	9921 GAL VESTON RD	GW	Active Gulf Coast
2 - 9921 GAL VESTON RD (W OF I)	9921 GAL VESTON RD (W OF I)	GW	Active Gulf Coast

Year	Disinfectant	Average level	Minimum level	Maximum level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of measure	Source of chemical
2012	Chlorine	2.14	1.0	2.9	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes

2012 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Water Quality Test Results

Definitions:

Avg:

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG:

MFL

na:

NTU

pCi/L

ppb:

ppm:

ppt

ppq

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.

million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

not applicable.

nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)

picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)

Regulated Contaminants

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	2012	3.6	3.6 - 3.6	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	2012	0.219	0.219 - 0.219	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2012	0.16	0.16 - 0.16	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]	2012	0.45	0.45 - 0.45	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	2012	3.1	3.1 - 3.1	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
Gross Alpha Compliance	08/02/2010	3.4	3.4 - 3.4	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

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

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	08/05/2009	.1	1.3	90%	0	MG/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	08/05/2009	.00188	15	90%	0	MG/L	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Violations Table

Total Coliform			
Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING (TCR), ROUTINE MAJOR	03/01/2012	03/31/2012	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated. Out test was made on February 29, 2012.