

# 2013

# Annual Drinking

# Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

## East Central Special Utility District

Phone No: 210-649-2383

2014

### **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.

### **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).

**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.

### **Where do we get our drinking water?**

Our drinking water is obtained from SURFACE AND GROUND water sources. It comes from the following Lake/River/Reservoir/Aquifer: Guadalupe River. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(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 and/or the system(s) from which we receive water to focus on source water protecting strategies. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

### **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.

### **En Espanol**

Este informe incluye informacion importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en espanol, favor de llamar al tel. (210) 649-2383-para hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol.

### **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.

In the following tables you may find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we have provided the following definitions and abbreviations:

**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 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 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.

NTU ó Nephelometric Turbidity Units

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

pCi/L ó picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppm ó parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

ppb ó parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

ppt – parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

ppq ó parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

## TEST RESULTS

### Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Systems must complete and submit disinfection data on the Disinfection Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR). On the CCR report, the system must provide disinfectant type, minimum, maximum and average levels.

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Chemical
2013	Total Chlorine	2.43	.6	3.3	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

### Disinfection Byproducts

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contamination
2013	Total Haloacetic Acids	13.6	<1.0	27.1	60	ppb	By-product of drinking water Disinfection
2013	Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	16.36	<1.0	45.2	80	ppb	

### Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2013	Lead	1.95	1	15	Mg/L	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits.
2010	Copper	0.325	0	1.3	Mg/L	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

### Recommended Additional Health Information for Lead

All water systems are required by EPA to report the language below starting with the 2009 CCR to be delivered to you by July of 2010. We are providing this information now as a courtesy.

*“If present, elevated levels of leads can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Leads in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. This 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>.”*

## 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 Number of Positive Samples	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2013	Total Coliform Bacteria	0	*	Presence	Naturally present in the environment.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCL G	MC L	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2013	0.101	0.0811 – 0.111	2	2	ppb	N	Discharge of drilling waste; Discharge from metal refiners; Erosion of natural deposits
Beryllium	2013	<0.0008	0 – 0.198	4	4	ppb	N	Discharge from metal refineries and coal burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Cadmium	2013	0.001	0 – 0.217	5	5	ppb	N	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium	2013	<0.01	0 – 0.58	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2013	<0.1	0 – 0.07	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Thallium	2013	<0.0004	0.043 – 0.128	0.5	2	ppb	N	Discharge from electronics, glass, and Leaching from ore processing site; drug factories
Nitrates	2013	<0.01	0.50 – 0.50	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrites	2013	<0.01	0.020 – 0.020	1	1	ppm		Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCL G	MC L	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters	2012	4.6	4.6 – 4.6	0	50	mrem/yr	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	2012	<2.0	<2.0	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits

**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 (800-426-4791).

**PAYMENTS NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE!**

It is now available to pay your bill online via our website at [www.eastcentralsud.org](http://www.eastcentralsud.org). There is no charge to pay online or over the phone with your debit or credit card. It is also available to set your payments up to automatically pay your bill on the 10<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please take a look at our updated and informative website!

**CLOSED SYSTEM INFORMATION**

**In all new meter installations and meter replacements a check valve is installed, creating a closed system.**

A **closed system** is created when an approved backflow prevention assembly or a check valve (not approved for backflow prevention) is installed at a customer's service connection. The backflow prevention assembly or check valve does not allow water to flow backwards from the customer's private water system into the Public Water System's distribution. **Thermal expansion** is a result of heating water. When water is heated, its density decreases and its volume expands. Backflow prevention assemblies and other one-way valves installed at a customer's service connection eliminate a path for expanded water to flow back to the distribution system, resulting in increased system pressure. This increase in pressure can result in: pressure surges, dripping faucets, chronic or continuous dripping of temperature and pressure relief valves on hot water heating tanks, and other mechanical problems with hot water heating tanks, including distortion and rupture.

**Conclusion**

We want you to be knowledgeable and comfortable with the information about what's in your drinking water. We are all aware of our responsibility to you to deliver safe, clean water every day, and to guard and care for the source of that water.

If you have any questions about this report or any other issue(s) concerning your water utility, please contact the Manager, Albert Strzelczyk at (210) 649-2383 or (800) 354-2383. If you want to learn more please visit our web site [www.eastcentral.org](http://www.eastcentral.org) or you are welcome to attend any of our regularly scheduled Board meetings. They are held on the second Thursday of every month, at 7:30pm at East Central SUD, 5520 FM 1628, Adkins, Texas.