

# *Bexar County Water Control & Improvement District #10*

## *Consumer Confidence Report 2023*

### *(Drinking Water Quality Report)*

**Bexar County Water Control and Improvement District (WCID) # 10** is proud to provide this report to you. We are committed to providing safe drinking water and believe this report reflects that commitment. It is a snapshot of the District's water quality for, the year 2023.

In 1974, Congress passed the Safe Drinking Water Act and gave the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) the job of making rules known as the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations which ensures that drinking water in this country is safe. In 1996, Congress passed amendments that require drinking water systems to give consumers important information about their water, including: where it comes from, what is in the water, and how your water quality compares with federal standards. We will post this annual report every year on our website for your review by July 1.

**YOUR DRINKING WATER IS REGULATED AND MEETS OR EXCEEDS ALL FEDERAL DRINKING WATER REQUIREMENTS.**

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

#### **EN ESPANOL**

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Si tiene preguntas ó discusiones sobre este reporte en español, favor de llamar al tel. (210) 655-2888 para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

#### **SPECIAL NOTICE:**

Infants, some elderly and immune-compromised persons such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer; those who have undergone organ transplants; those who are undergoing treatment with steroids; and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders may be particularly at risk from infections. People in these groups may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as cryptosporidium,

in drinking water. You should seek advice about your drinking water from your physician or health care provider. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Water for the District comes from wells drilled into the Edwards Aquifer and it is our sole source of water. Although aquifer water is moderately hard, it is otherwise, very pure. Out of the ground, it is safe to drink. In fact, many thousands of rural folks who have private wells drink it without doing anything to it. We add only a little chlorine to ensure it arrives in your home safe to drink. The District has four wells located strategically around the City which pump into a common distribution system. We can pump 4.6 million gallons per day. We have four (4) active wells located at: 250 Zephyr Drive, 470 Faircrest Drive, 8214 Fourwinds Drive and 9316 Jim Seal Drive in Windcrest, Texas.

**TO GET FURTHER INFORMATION**

**VISIT OUR WEBSITE:**

[www.bexarcountywcid10.com](http://www.bexarcountywcid10.com)

#### **WATER SOURCES**

The source of your drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes 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 include microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants include salt 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 may occur which come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses. Organic chemical contaminants may be present from synthetic and volatile organic chemicals

which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants which are naturally occurring can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

A Source Water Susceptibility assessment of our drinking water source 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 our drinking water source from human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment allows us to focus water protections strategies. Some of this assessment is available on Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/>. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

## ***Monthly Board Meeting***

**Date:** Third Thursday, Every Month

**Time:** 6:00 P.M.

**Location:** Council Chambers/Windcrest City Hall

**Phone Number:** (210) 655-2888

To learn about public meetings concerning your drinking water or to request to schedule one, please call 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 installing point of use devices. Drinking water, including bottled water can 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

### **DEFINITIONS/ABBREVIATIONS**

**Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant, which, if exceeded, triggers treatment (see Treatment Technique), or other requirements, which a water system must follow.

**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.

**Avg:** Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

**Contaminant:** Chemical or bacterial pollution of water that can be an actual hazard to public health. (See Pollution)

**Hardness:** Hardness is caused by the presence of calcium and magnesium. *Our water has 238 ppm of total hardness, making it moderately hard.* If you have a water softener, that is equivalent to about 14 grains of hardness per gallon. Note: Owners of water softeners that use salt should be aware that the salt can increase the sodium levels in the finished water.

**Level 1 Assessment:** A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Level 2 Assessment:** A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E.coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**MFL:** Million fibers per liter (measure of asbestos in water).

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant in drinking water allowed by law. MCLs are set as close to 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. MRDLs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

**MREM:** Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).

**Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU):** Term used to measure the amount of particles suspended in the water (e.g., clay, silt, and microorganisms) which give it a murky appearance.

**Pollution:** Chemicals, bacteria or heat in water that may not be an actual public health hazard (i.e., virtually anything in the water, good or bad, is a pollutant, but it may not be classified as a contaminant).

**ppm:** Part per million, milligram per liter, or mg/L (equivalent to one gallon in 1,000,000).

**pCi/l:** Pico Curie per liter. The measure of radioactivity in one liter of water.

**ppb:** Part per billion (1 gallon in 1 billion gallons) micrograms per liter, or parts per billion (mp/L).

**ppt:** Parts per trillion, (1 gallon in 10 trillion gallons) or nanograms per liter (ng/L).

**ppq:** Parts per quadrillion, (equivalent of 1 penny in \$10 trillion) or picograms per liter (pg/L).

**Treatment Technique:** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Trihalomethane:** A by-product of the chlorine disinfection process as it reacts with organic material found in water. As organic material is neutralized by chlorine, a number of trihalomethanes are produced. The maximum contaminant level is 80 ppb. Our last tests

indicated an average of 1.4 ppb.

**pH:** The symbol refers to the relative acidity or basicity of water. Water with a pH value under 7 is acidic (a lemon is acidic) and over 7 is basic (lye is basic). A pH of 7 is neutral. *Our water is slightly basic at a pH of 8.10.*

**Secondary Constituents:** Constituents such as calcium, sodium or iron which are often found in drinking water can cause taste, color, and odor problems. These constituents are called secondary constituents and are regulated by the State, not the EPA. Although they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water, they are not causes for health concern and are not reported.

**DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS AND DISINFECTANTS**

Disinfectant	Year	Average Level	Range of Level Detected	MRDL	MRDLG Measure	Units	Violation Y/N	Likely Sources of Contamination
Free Chlorine	2023	1.15	0.65-2.00	4.0	4.0	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes. (chlorine gas)
Disinfection By-Product	Year	Highest Level	Range of Level Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation Y/N	Sources of Contamination
Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2023	4	4.4-4.4	No Goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-Product of drinking water disinfection

**COLIFORM BACTERIA**

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E.Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. Of Positive E. Coli or fecal Coliform Samples	Violations	Likely Source of Contamination
0	1 positive monthly sample	1	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli MCL: A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive	0	N	Naturally present in the environment

**VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS**

Constituent	Year	Highest Level	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violations	Likely Source of Contamination
Xyleness	2023	0.0007	0-0.0007	10	10	ppm	N	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories.

**RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS**

Constituent	Year	Highest Level	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violations	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	2022	1.5	1.5-1.5	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits

**VIOLATIONS**

**Consumer Confidence Rule**

The Consumer Confidence Rule requires community water systems to prepare and provide to their customers the quality of the water delivered by the system.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
CCR Adequacy / Availability/ Content	07/01/2023	12/19/2023	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.

## INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Constituent	Year	Highest Level	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violations	Possible Sources of Contamination
Barium	2022	0.0924	0.0659-0.0924	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2023	0.26	0.18-0.26	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharges from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Chromium	2022	12.5	10.2-12.5	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	2022	4.4	0-4.4	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
Nitrate (Measured as Nitrogen)	2023	2	1.9-2	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

## LEAD AND COPPER

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 material 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>.

Constituent	Year	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violations	Likely Sources of Contamination
Lead	2022	1.9	0	15	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	2022	0.166	1.3	1.3	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.