

HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT No. 208

Drinking Water Quality Report

June 2009

Public Water Supply No. 1012419

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800 426-4791)

Water Quality Information (281 861-6215)

Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds

All Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Requirements

Providing safe and reliable drinking water is the highest priority of the Board of Directors of Harris County Municipal Utility District No. 208. This report is a summary of the quality of water we provide our customers. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in our drinking water. The analysis was made using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached water quality tables. Our water system is currently purchasing water from the West Harris County Regional Water Authority (WHCRWA) and blending with MUD 208 groundwater. The water from WHCRWA is from 5 different treatment plants and the analysis of that water is included in tables on page 7 and 8. The water quality tables for the blended water provided by MUD 208 to its customers are included in pages 3 and 4 of this report.

All constituents are well below the regulatory standards.

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)

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 **Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791)** or the EPA's website at www.epa.gov/safewater.

***En Espanol:** Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en espanol, favor de llamar al tel. (281 861-6215) para hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol.*

UNDERSTANDING THE TABLES

The attached tables contain all of the federally regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in our drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test up to 97 contaminants. **All contaminants levels were below the limits set by the EPA and Safe Drinking Water Act.** 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 concerns. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - 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.

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.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL) - The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of 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.

Action Level - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

ppm - Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L). **ppb** -Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L).

pCi/l - picocuries per liter; a measure of radioactivity.

Public Participation Opportunities

Harris County MUD No. 208

Date: 3rd Friday of Each Month
or as otherwise posted.

Time: 12:00 pm

Location: 1301 McKinney, Suite 5100

Phone No: 713 651-3620

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 a combination of water sources and is blended at our water plant. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), the state agency that provides sampling and monitoring for the EPA, is updating an assessment of our source water and will be provided to us this year. This 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 this 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 at 281 861-6215.

Harris County MUD No. 208 - Inorganic Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2005	Arsenic	3	3	3	10	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
2005	Barium	0.185	0.185	0.185	2	2	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries.
2005	Fluoride	0.6	0.6	0.6	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
2007	Nitrate	0.21	0.21	0.21	10	10	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.

Harris County MUD No 208 - Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2008	Chloramine Residual	2.31	0.5	4	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

Harris County MUD No. 208 - Lead & Copper - Regulated at the Customer's Tap

Year	Contaminant	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Levels	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Copper	0.443	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
2007	Lead	7.2	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

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. Harris County MUD No. 208 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 water 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Harris County MUD No. 208 - Disinfection Byproducts

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Total Haloacetic Acid	12.6	12.6	12.6	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2007	Total Trihalomethanes	17.7	17.7	17.7	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Harris County MUD No. 208 - Unregulated Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2006	Chloroform	17	17	17	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2006	Dibromochloromethane	2.1	2.1	2.1	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2006	Bromodichloromethane	7.5	7.5	7.5	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Bromodichloromethane, chloroform, and dibromochloromethane are disinfection byproducts. There is no maximum contaminant level for these chemicals at the point of entry to distribution.

Harris County MUD No. 208 - Secondary and Other Not Regulated Constituents

(No associated adverse health effects)

Year	Constituent	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2005	Bicarbonate	348	348	348	N/A	ppm	Dissolving of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2005	Calcium	15.5	15.5	15.5	N/A	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2005	Chloride	48	48	48	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification.
2005	Copper	0.004	0.004	0.004	1	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2005	Iron	0.174	0.174	0.174	0.3	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
2005	Magnesium	4.5	4.5	4.5	N/A	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2005	Manganese	0.0074	0.0074	0.0074	0.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2005	pH	6.9	6.9	6.9	>7.0	Units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2005	Sodium	134	134	134	N/A	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
2005	Sulfate	7	7	7	300	ppm	Naturally occurring.
2005	Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	285	285	285	N/A	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2005	Total Dissolved Solids	404	404	404	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2005	Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	57	57	57	N/A	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.