

2009 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

CITY OF WAXAHACHIE

401 S. Rogers Waxahachie, Texas 75165
(972) 937-7330 ext.122 local (972) 937-2101 ext.122 metro
www.waxahachie.com

SPECIAL NOTICE

Required language for ALL community public water systems

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; those 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 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

Public Participation Opportunities

Date: City Council Meetings, 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month

Time: 7:00 p.m.

Location: Council Chambers, 401 S. Rogers, Waxahachie, Texas 75165

Phone: 972-937-7330

To learn about future public meetings (concerning your drinking water), or to request to schedule one, please call us.

En Español Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre éste informe en español, favor de llamar al tel. (972) 937-7330 para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds All Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Requirements

We are proud to provide this report which summarizes the quality of water that we provide to 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.

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 water sources. It comes from the following Lake/Reservoir: LAKE WAXAHACHIE, BARDWELL RESERVOIR, CEDAR CREEK RESERVOIR and RICHLAND CHAMBERS RESERVOIR. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking 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 our source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information will be available later this year 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.

Do you conserve water? You can do your part to conserve water by; not watering between the hours of 10:00 am to 6:00 pm (this is the hottest part of the day); do not water the gutters and sidewalks; water every third to fifth day instead of every day. More water saving information is available at city hall.

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).

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.

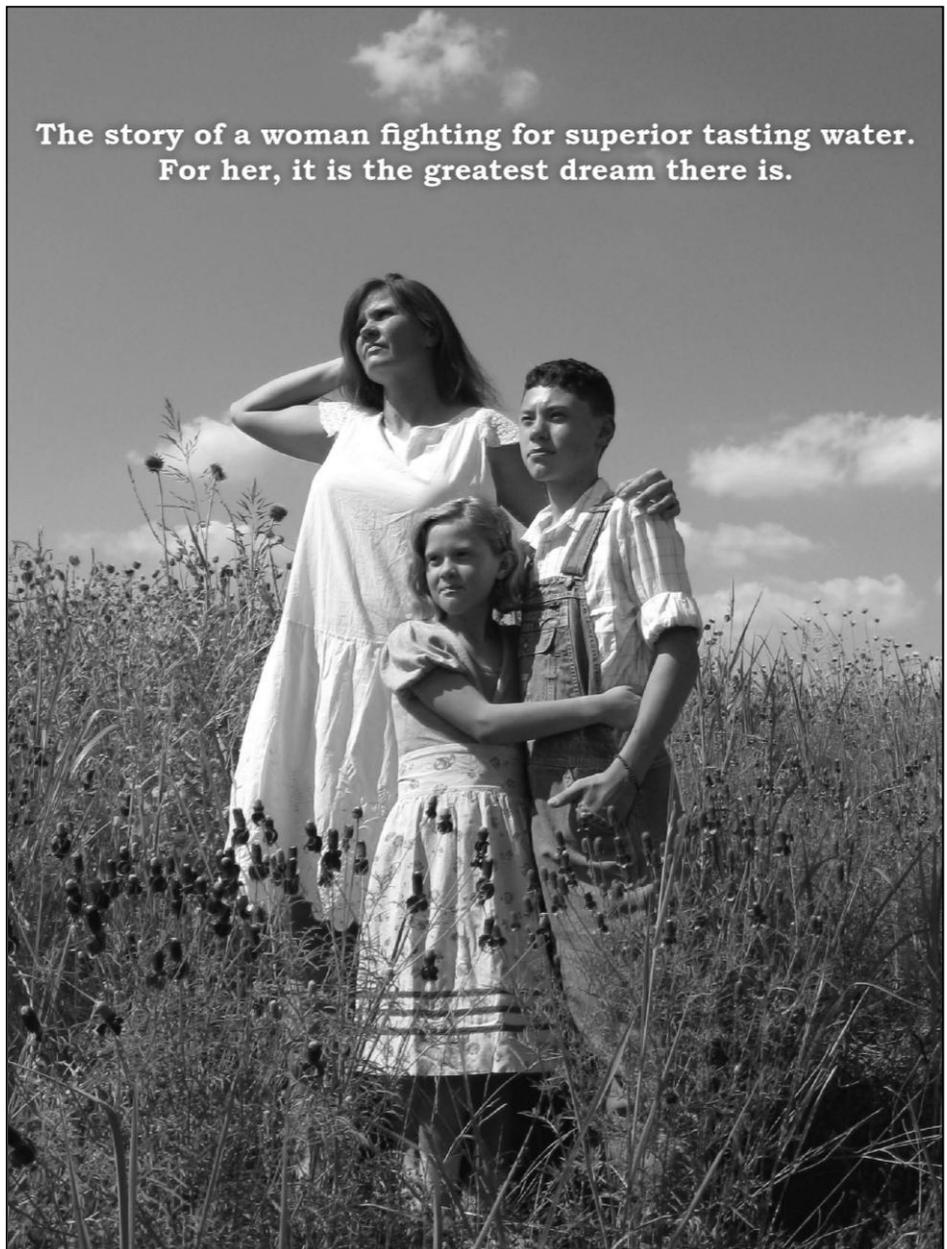
About The Following Pages

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.

Not only does this annual Water Quality Report contain important information about our drinking water, it also recognizes the men and women who work hard each day to maintain Waxahachie's superior water system. These employees are truly the "stars" that work tirelessly to provide healthy water to our community. Inspired by movies that have been filmed in Waxahachie, we've created graphics for this report that not only include Waxahachie's Water Department employees and their families, but will also entertain and educate our citizens at the same time.

Occasionally, our local water system will go through periods when residents notice an unpleasant taste and odor in the water. This is caused by a harmless organic compound called geosmin. Geosmin is produced by several different types of microbes, including blue-green algae, that are found in "Places In The Lake", and is released when the microbes die. Dramatic changes in temperature can cause these beneficial organisms to die and release geosmin. These periods of taste and odor are harmless and usually last only a few weeks.

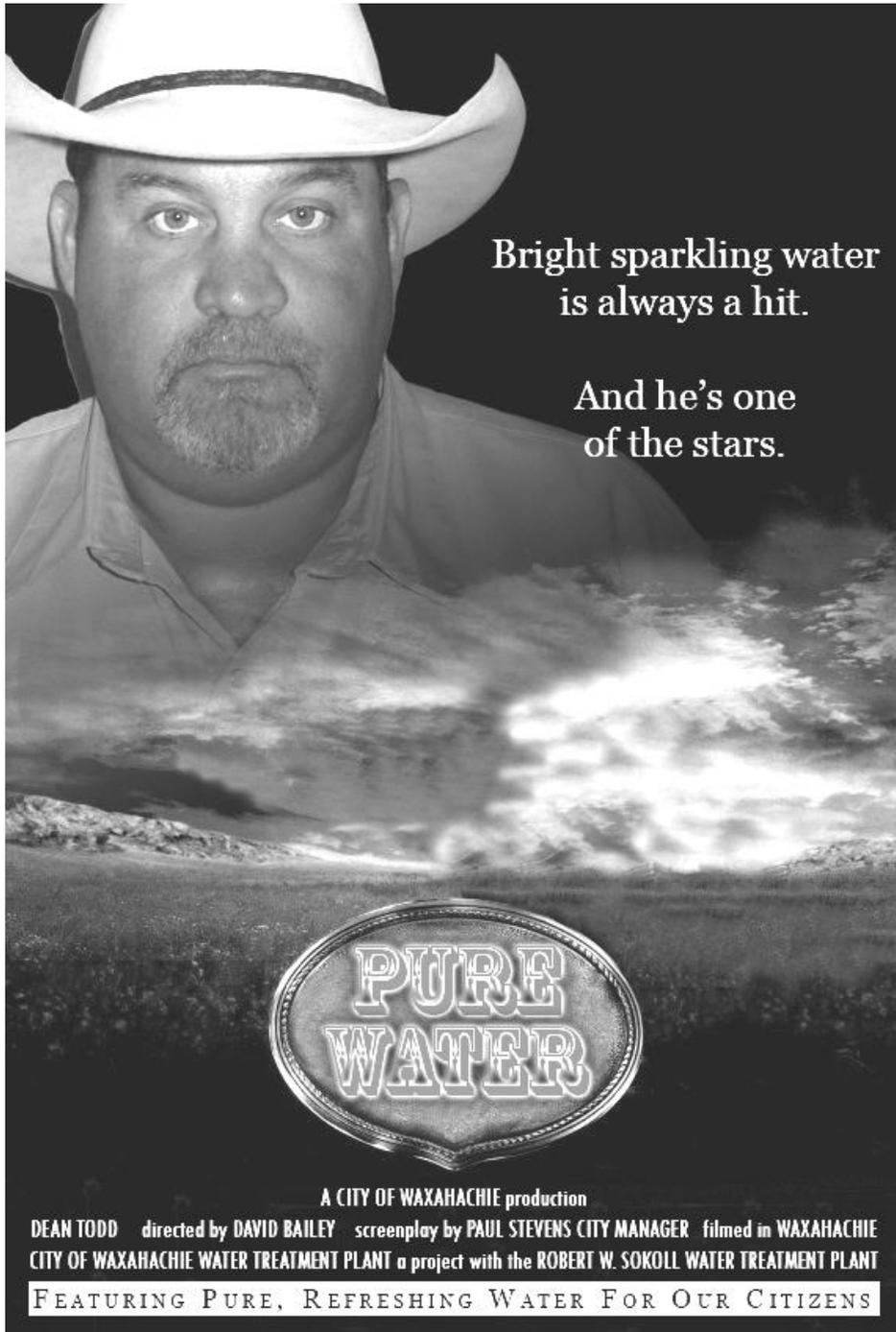
Places in the Heart was filmed in Waxahachie in 1984. Sally Field received an Academy Award for her performance as Edna Spalding and the film also received the Best Screenplay Oscar.



**The story of a woman fighting for superior tasting water.
For her, it is the greatest dream there is.**

PLACES IN THE LAKE

"PLACES IN THE LAKE" presented by CITY OF WAXAHACHIE WATER DEPARTMENT
City of Waxahachie Presents REGINA NEWMAN, SENIOR WATER PLANT OPERATOR, ROBERT W. SOKOLL WATER TREATMENT PLANT
POLLY BRIGMAN CARTER BRIGMAN and dad STEVE BRIGMAN, INDUSTRIAL PRETREATMENT INSPECTOR
executive producer DAVID BAILEY, DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES photos shot on location at JEFFERSON STREET LIFT STATION



Bright sparkling water
is always a hit.

And he's one
of the stars.

**PURE
WATER**

A CITY OF WAXAHACHIE production
DEAN TODD directed by DAVID BAILEY screenplay by PAUL STEVENS CITY MANAGER filmed in WAXAHACHIE
CITY OF WAXAHACHIE WATER TREATMENT PLANT a project with the ROBERT W. SOKOLL WATER TREATMENT PLANT

FEATURING PURE, REFRESHING WATER FOR OUR CITIZENS

The City of Waxahachie participates in the Texas Water Optimization Program through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The Texas Optimization Program (TOP) is a voluntary, non-regulatory program designed to dramatically improve the performance of existing surface water treatment plants without major capital improvements. Participation in the TOP requires constant, voluntary additional testing of water quality. The City of Waxahachie has received numerous awards from the TOP for consistently meeting and exceeding their standards for excellent water quality.

Several scenes from the 1992 film Pure Country were filmed in areas surrounding Waxahachie. The movie starred country music star George Strait.

DEFINITIONS

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 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. 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.

ABBREVIATIONS

NTU -Nephelometric Turbidity Units

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

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

ppm - parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb -parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

ppt -parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

ppq -parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

You can help prevent grease buildups from blocking sewer lines!

Follow these guidelines to help stop sewer overflows into streets and storm drains. Doing so will also save money on costly cleanups and repairs, and protect the quality of our water.



DO!

Put used oil and grease in covered containers.

Scrape food scraps from dishes into cans and garbage bags and dispose of properly. Avoid using your garbage disposal.

Remove oil and grease from dishes, pans, fryers and griddles. Cool first before you skim, scrape, or wipe excess grease.

Rinse dishes and pans with cold water before putting them in the dishwasher.

Cover kitchen sink with catch basket and empty into garbage can as needed.

DON'T!

Don't pour oil and grease down the drain.

Don't put food scraps down the drain.

Don't run water over dishes, pans, fryers and griddles to wash oil and grease down the drain.

Don't rinse off grease with hot water.



Inorganic Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2004	Barium	0.045	0.045	0.045	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2009	Fluoride	0.97	0.97	0.97	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2009	Nitrate	0.16	0.16	0.16	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Organic Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Atrazine	0.78	0.78	0.78	3	3	ppb	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.
2009	Carbon tetrachloride	4.97	0	9.94	5	0	ppb	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities

Disinfection Byproducts

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Total Haloacetic Acids	35.5	22.6	55.7	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2009	Total Trihalomethanes	50	34.1	71.4	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts

This evaluation is sampling required by EPA to determine the range of total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acid in the system for future regulations. The samples are not used for compliance, and may have been collected under non-standard conditions. EPA also requires the data to be reported here. Please contact your water system representative if you have any questions.

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Total Haloacetic Acids	33.6	18	50.9	NA	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2008	Total Trihalomethanes	41.6	22.1	56.4	NA	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Unregulated Contaminants

Chloroform, bromoform, bromodichloromethane and dibromochloromethane are disinfection byproducts. There is no maximum contaminant level for these chemicals at the entry point to the distribution system.

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Chloroform	33.24	20.46	46.01	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2009	Bromoform	0.76	0	1.52	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2009	Bromodichloromethane	22.96	17.15	28.76	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2009	Dibromochloromethane	10.72	10.28	11.16	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Total Organic Carbon

Total organic carbon (TOC) has no health effects. The disinfectant can combine with TOC to form disinfectant byproducts. Disinfection is necessary to ensure that water does not have unacceptable levels of pathogens. Byproducts of disinfection include trihalomethanes (THM's) and haloacetic acids (HAA) which are reported elsewhere in this report.

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Source Water	5.1	3.1	7.9	ppm	Naturally present in the environment.
2009	Drinking Water	2.4	1.2	3.3	ppm	Naturally present in the environment.
2009	Removal Ratio	1.51	2.43	1.05	% removal*	NA

* Removal ratio is the percent of TOC removed by the treatment process divided by the percent of TOC required by TCEQ to be removed.

COLIFORMS

What are coliforms?

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.

Fecal coliform bacteria and, in particular, E. coli, are members of the coliform bacteria group originating in the intestinal tract of warm-blooded animals and are passed into the environment through feces. The presence of fecal coliform bacteria (E. coli) in drinking water may indicate recent contamination of the drinking water with fecal material. The following table indicates whether total coliform or fecal coliform bacteria were found in the monthly drinking water samples submitted for testing by your water supplier last year.

Total Coliform

Year	Contaminant	Highest Monthly Number of Positive Samples	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Total Coliform Bacteria	1	*	Presence	Naturally present in the environment.

* Two or more coliform found samples in any single month.

Fecal Coliform REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA

Cryptosporidium Monitoring Information

Monthly monitoring conducted in 2008, lab results indicated no detection of Cryptosporidium.

Secondary and Other Not Regulated Constituents

(No associated adverse health effects)

Year (Range)	Constituent	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2004	Aluminum	0.033	0.033	0.033	.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2009	Bicarbonate	85	85	85	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2004	Calcium	59.6	59.6	59.6	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2009	Chloride	15	15	15	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity
2004	Copper	0.002	0.002	0.002	1	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

2004	Magnesium	2.1	2.1	2.1	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2004	Nickel	0.002	0.002	0.002	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
2009	pH	7.9	7.9	7.9	≥7.0	units	Measure of corrosiveness of water.
2004	Sodium	20	20	20	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2009	Sulfate	55	55	55	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2009	Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	85	85	85	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2009	Total Dissolved Solids	212	212	212	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2008	Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	117	117	117	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.

Leaks and faulty plumbing such as a dripping faucet can waste a great deal of water and money. One dripping faucet alone can waste three gallons of water per day – that is nearly 1,100 gallons in a year. A dripping faucet is an easy and inexpensive repair, much less than the cost of the water that is lost over time. It is also important to the city to make sure public water lines are functioning properly and leak free. If you suspect a leak or other problem in a public water line, please call the city to report it. During business hours, call 972-937-7330, and after hours please call 972-937-9940. Our crews are on call 24 hours a day!

Love Hurts was filmed in Waxahachie in 1989 and starred Jeff Daniels and Cloris Leachman. The film included scenes that featured many Waxahachie landmarks, including Central Presbyterian Church and the historic Texas Theater.

LEAKS HURT



LEAKS ARE PAINFUL TO OUR WATER SYSTEM.

CITY OF WAXAHACHIE
presents
NICK MALDANADO
SENIOR UTILITY WORKER
support provided by
RITA MUNOZ and MICHELLE GARCIA
directed by **DAVID BAILEY, DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES**
and **JOEL OTTS, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF UTILITIES**
a CITY OF WAXAHACHIE PRODUCTION

Lead and Copper

Year (Range)	Contaminant	The 90 th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Lead	1	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
2009	Copper	0.204	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Additional Health Information for Lead

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. 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>.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Chloramines	2.9	0.8	4.1	4.0	<4.0	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.
2009	Chlorite	.40	0.0	.68	1.05	<1.05	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes
2009	Chlorine Dioxide	0.02	0	0.17	.8	<.8	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes

Turbidity

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Maximum Level	Lowest Monthly % of samples meeting limits	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Turbidity	0.29	100.00	0.3	NTU	Soil runoff

WATER QUALITY REPORT



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WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS 75168

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