

2008 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

CITY OF WAXAHACHIE

401 S Rogers
Waxahachie, Texas 75165

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www.waxahachie.com

***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 (1-800-426-4791).

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 St, Waxahachie, Texas

Phone No: 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.

Our drinking water is obtained from Surface water sources. It comes from the following Lake/Reservoir: LAKE WAXAHACHIE and BARDWELL RESERVOIR. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking sources (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 to focus our source water protection strategies. 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.

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 ($\mu\text{g/L}$)

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 (Range)	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.
2008	Fluoride	0.53	0.53	0.53	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2008	Nitrate	0.11	0.11	0.11	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

Organic Contaminants TESTING WAIVED, NOT REPORTED, OR NONE DETECTED

Disinfection Byproducts

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Total Haloacetic Acids	33.23	17.7	49.1	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2008	Total Trihalomethanes	40.77	22.1	56.4	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts

WAIVED OR NOT YET SAMPLED

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	
2008	Chloroform	20.68	8.0	33.5	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.	
2008	Bromoform	ND	ND	ND	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.	
2008	Bromodichloromethane	13.76	8.8	18.3	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.	
2008	Dibromochloromethane	6.35	3.6	8.8	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.	

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
2008	Turbidity	0.29	100.00	0.3	NTU	Soil runoff

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
2008	Source Water	4.1	3.6	4.7	ppm	Naturally present in the environment.
2008	Drinking Water	2.6	1.6	3	ppm	Naturally present in the environment.
2008	Removal Ratio	1.66	1.17	2.44	% 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
2008	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.

Availability of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule Data (UCMR)

We participated in gathering data under the UCMR in order to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of possible drinking water contaminants. If any unregulated contaminants were detected, they are shown in the tables elsewhere in this report. This data may also be found on EPA's web site at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/data/ncod.html>, or you can call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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.
2008	Bicarbonate	98	98	98	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2004	Calcium	59.6	59.6	59.6	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008	Chloride	10.6	10.6	10.6	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.
2008	pH	8.07	8.07	8.07	≥7.0	units	Measure of corrosiveness of water.
2004	Sodium	20	20	20	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2008	Sulfate	43.9	43.9	43.9	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2008	Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	99	99	99	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2008	Total Dissolved Solids	210	210	210	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2008	Total Hardness as CaCO ₃	117	117	117	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.

Lead and Copper

Year (Range)	Contaminant	The 90 th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Lead	3.4	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
2008	Copper	0.256	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Chloramines	2.9	1.2	4.8	4.0	<4.0	NA	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.
2008	Chlorite	.54	0.07	.95	NA	NA	1.0	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes
2008	Chlorine Dioxide	0.01	0	0.12	NA	NA	0.8	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes

Violations

Violation Type	Health Effects	Duration	Explanation	Steps to Correct
DISTRIBUTION: Failure to monitor required chlorite sample set	None	11/1/08 to 11/31/08	Failure to collect the required monthly sample set for chlorite monitoring of the water entering & throughout the distribution system. However, we analyze at least one sample daily of the water entering the distribution system from our treatment plant. All residuals for chlorite were well below the MCL.	12/1/08 monthly sampling resumed

Help to make
Waxahachie
 citizens
**Water-
 Wise!**

Help to conserve one of our most important resources!



Check every faucet in your home for leaks. A slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day.

Put a bit of food coloring in the toilet tank. Without flushing, watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It's not uncommon to lose 100 gallons a day in one of these otherwise invisible leaks.

Don't shower too long. Five minutes in the shower or five inches in the tub is a good rule to follow.

Use dishwashers and washing machines with full loads only.

Avoid watering your lawn in midday heat. See that the water is going where it should, and not on driveways or sidewalks.



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