2023 Annual Quality Water Report
Baytown Area Water Authority
281-420-5310
PWS ID #1011742

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (281) 420-5310.

This is your water quality report for January 1 to December 31, 2023.

This report is about the quality of water and services we deliver every day. Our constant goal is to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts made in continually improving the water treatment process and protecting our water resources.

The Baytown Area Water Authority operates the Fritz Lanham Water Treatment Facility, which was completed in 1980. The facility is located on a 68-acre tract of land located at 7425 Thompson Road. This facility is operated on a 24-hour basis and has been rewarded “Superior Water System” rating from the State of Texas. The Baytown Area Water Authority uses a conventional filtering system that uses Coagulation, Flocculation, Sedimentation, Filtration, and Disinfection, to reduce or remove possible harmful contaminants that may be in the source water. Ferric Chloride and Cationic Polymer provide coagulation and then pass through Flocculation and Sedimentation chambers to clarify the water. Then, the water is filtered by passing through anthracite coal, sand, and gravel. Chloramine disinfection, the addition of ammonia and chlorine, is used to disinfect the water. For more information regarding this report, please contact the Baytown Area Water Authority by calling 281-420-5310 or writing to 7425 Thompson Rd, Baytown TX 77521.

BAYTOWN AREA WATER AUTHORITY receives surface water from the Trinity River via the Coastal Water Authority Canal.

The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that some of your sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confident Report. For more information on source water assessment and protection efforts at our system, contact Baytown Area Water Authority at (281) 420-5310.

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 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**: such as salts 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** which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.

- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

EPA Wants You To Know:

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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causing for health concerns.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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; persons 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 providers. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

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. The City of Baytown 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at *http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead*.

Coliform Bacteria								
Coliform Bacteria	Year Sampled	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Total Coliform Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	2023	NA	5% of monthly samples are positive	0	TT		N	Naturally present in the environment.
Fecal Coliform and E.Coli	2023	NA	5% of monthly samples are positive		TT	0	N	Human and animal fecal matter.

Suspended Particle and Carbon Removal								
Contaminant	Unit	MCLG Health Goal	MCL EPA's Limits	Lowest Level Detected	Highest Level Detected	Violation (Yes / No)	Year [1] Sampled	Potential Source of Contamination
Turbidity[2]	NTU	NA	TT / 0.3	0.04	0.135	NO	2023	Soil Runoff.
Total Organic Carbon	mg/L	The Percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal Requirements Set, Unless a TOC violation is noted in the violation section.						Naturally present in the environment
Radioactive Contaminants								
Contaminant	Unit	MCLG Health Goal	MCL EPA's Limits	Average Level Detected	Highest Level Detected	Violation (Yes / No)	Year [1] Sampled	Potential Source of Contamination
Beta Emitters	pCi/L	0	50	5.6	6.8	NO	2021	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Combined Radium 226/228	pCi/L	0	5	1.5	1.5	NO	2021	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Inorganic Contaminants								
Barium	mg/L	2	2	0.045	0.049	NO	2023	Discharge of drilling wastes. Discharge from metal refineries. Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	mg/L	4	4	0.54	0.54	NO	2023	Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive to promote strong teeth. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	mg/L	10	10	0.30	0.44	NO	2023	Runoff from fertilizer use. Leaching from septic tanks, sewage. Erosion of natural deposits.

Synthetic Organic Contaminants									
Contaminant	Unit	MCLG Health Goal	MCL EPA's Limits	Average Level Detected	Lowest Level Detected	Highest Level Detected	Violation (Yes / No)	Year [1] Sampled	Potential Source of Contamination
Atrazine	ug/L	3	3	0.12	0.10	0.16	NO	2023	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.
Simazine	ug/L	4	4	0.12	< detection limit	0.16	NO	2023	Herbicide runoff.
Volatile Organic Contaminants, Disinfectants and Disinfectant Byproducts									
Cyanide	mg/L	.2	.2	.13	.13	.13	NO	2023	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Chloramines	mg/L	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	3.59	1.4	5.2	NO	2023	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ug/L	NA	60	20.1	20.1	20.1	NO	2023	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	ug/L	NA	80	12.5	12.5	12.5	NO	2023	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorite	mg/L	NA	1	0.02	< detection limit	0.02	NO	2022	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Any unregulated contaminants detected are reported in the following table.

Substance	Unit	Level Detected	Range	Year Sampled	Potential Source of Contamination
Bromodichloromethane	ug/L	7.86	0-100	2023	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
Chloroform	ug/L	22.06	0-100	2023	
Dibromochloromethane	ug/L	4.5	0-100	2023	

Secondary and Physical Characteristics Results are from 2023 unless otherwise stated [1]

Substance	Unit	Average Level Detected	Potential Source of Contamination
Alkalinity	mg/L	97.65	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
Bicarbonate	mg/L	110	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
Calcium	mg/L	38.0	Abundant naturally occurring element.
Chloride	mg/L	49.5	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity.
Magnesium	mg/L	4.19	Abundant naturally occurring element.
Manganese	mg/L	0.001	Abundant naturally occurring element.
pH	units	7.57	Measure of corrosivity of water.
Sodium	mg/L	37.95	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
Sulfate	mg/L	42.5	naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	269	Total Dissolved mineral constituents in water.
Hardness	mg/L	112.0	Naturally occurring calcium.
Zinc	mg/L	0.035	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element; used in the metal industry.

NOTES:

[1]The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

[2]Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system

[3]Some people who use water containing chloramines well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chloramines well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort and anemia.

[4]The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

Definitions and Abbreviations

Level 1 Assessment: A level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify 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.

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

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 risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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 contaminants.

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

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

90th Percentile: 90% of samples are equal to or less than the number in the chart.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): A measure of clarity.

NA: Not applicable.

ND: Not detectable at testing limits.

ug/L (micrograms per liter): ppb (parts per billion)

mg/L (milligrams per liter): ppm (parts per million)

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

mrem/year--millirems per year: a measure of radiation absorbed by the body.