



# CITY OF HEREFORD

## ***CITY OF HEREFORD MUNICIPAL WATER SUPPLY***

Phone Number (806) 363-7101

### **2016 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT (Consumer Confidence Report)**

**\*\*\*\*\*OUR DRINKING WATER IS SAFE\*\*\*\*\***

**Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds all Federal (E.P.A.) Drinking Water Requirements**

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

### ***HEREFORD'S WATER SOURCES***

Our drinking water is obtained entirely from groundwater sources. The City of Hereford operates 60 wells in and around the city. Of these wells, 50 pump from the Ogallala aquifer and 10 pump from the Santa Rosa (Dockum) aquifer. These wells have a maximum pumping capacity of approximately 15.0 million gallons per day. These 60 wells pump into four pump stations in town that have 7.5 million gallons of storage capacity. During 2016 the City supplied **1.672 billion** gallons of water to the residents and businesses of Hereford. This calculates to an average of **4.569 million** gallons per day.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has completed an assessment of your water source 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 detection of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts of our system, contact the City of Hereford Water Department at (806) 363-7101. Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL: <http://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/>.

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.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these 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).

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, agriculture 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.

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. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office at (806) 363-7101.

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as *Cryptosporidium*, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or immuno-compromised; 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 for 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 (1-800-426-4791).

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 (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

#### *\*Special Fluoride Notice\**

This is an alert about your drinking water and a cosmetic dental problem that might affect children under nine years of age. At low levels, fluoride can help prevent cavities, but children drinking water containing more than 2 milligrams per liter (mg/L) of fluoride may develop cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth (dental fluorosis). The drinking water provided by the City of Hereford, has a fluoride concentration of 2.6 mg/L.

Dental fluorosis, in its moderate or severe forms, may result in a brown staining and/or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from the gums. Children under nine should be provided with alternative sources of drinking water or water that has been treated to remove the fluoride to avoid the possibility of staining and pitting of their permanent teeth. You may also want to contact your dentist about proper use by young children of fluoride-containing products. Older children and adults may safely drink the water.

Drinking water containing more than 4 mg/L of fluoride (the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's drinking water standard) can increase your risk of developing bone disease. Your drinking water does not contain more than 4 mg/L of fluoride, but we're required to notify you when we discover that the fluoride levels in your drinking water exceed 2 mg/L because of this cosmetic dental problem.

For more information, please call the City of Hereford Water Department at 806-363-7101. Some home water treatment units are also available to remove fluoride from drinking water. To learn more about available home water treatment units, you may call NSF International at 1-800-673-8010.

#### *En Espanol*

Este informe incluye informacion importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (806) 363-7101 para hablar con una persona bilingue.

#### **HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?**

You can get involved by attending and voicing any questions or concerns you may have at the following meeting:

<b>DATE</b>	<b>July 06, 2017</b>	<b>LOCATION:</b>	<b>Commission Chamber at City Hall</b>
<b>TIME:</b>	<b>5:00 PM</b>		<b>224 North Lee</b>
			<b>Hereford, Texas</b>

You may also contact the City of Hereford Water Department at (806) 363-7101

## Definitions

(The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation)

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

*Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)* - The highest level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

*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.

*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)* - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is not known or suspected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

*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.

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

*Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal (MRDLG)* - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

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

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

*NTU* - nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)

*ppb* - micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

*ppt* - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

*na* - not applicable

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

*ppm* - milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

*ppq* - parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)

## Regulated Contaminants Table

### Inorganic Contaminants

Collection Date	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source of Contaminant
2016	Arsenic	2.40	1.10-2.40	0.000	10.000	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
2016	Barium	0.045	0.023-0.045	2.000	2.000	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
2016	Chromium	4.40	0.00-4.40	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mill; Erosion of natural deposits
2016	Fluoride	3.90	3.87-3.87	4.000	4.000	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
2016	Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2.29	0.477-2.29	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
2016	Selenium	6.70	1.30-6.70	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.

### Radioactive Contaminants

Collection Date	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source of Contaminant
2016	Beta/photon emitters	16.70	8.60-16.70	0.000	50.000	pCi/L	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
2016	Combined Radium 226/228	1.15	0.00-1.15	0.000	5.000	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits
2016	Gross alpha excluding radon	16	9-24	0.000	15.000	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits
2016	Uranium	18.00	11.70-28.00	0.000	30.000	ug/l	N	Erosion of natural deposits

### Disinfection By-Products

Collection Date	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source of Contaminant
2016	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	4	1.20-9.60	N/A	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
2016	Total Trihalomethanes	5	2.18-11.80	N/A	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination

### Lead & Copper

Collection Date	Contaminant	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	No. of Sites Over AL	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source of Contaminant
08/16/2013	Copper	1.3	1.3	0.165	0	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

### Volatile Organic Contaminants

Collection Date	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source of Contaminant
2016	Toluene	0.00057	0-0.00057	1	1	ppm	N	Discharge from petroleum factories.

## *Violations Table*

### Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium

Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Explanation/Corrective Action
MCL, AVERAGE	10/01/2016	12/31/2016	Water samples showed that the amount of this contaminant in our drinking water was above its standard (called a maximum contaminant level and abbreviated MCL) for the period indicated. The City ran additional tests to locate the source of the contamination. The water system was back in compliance after the next tests conducted by the State lab.

### Lead and Copper Rule

The Lead and Copper Rule protects public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosivity. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Explanation/Corrective Action
FOLLOW-UP OR ROUTINE TAP M/R (LCR)	10/01/2016	2016	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated. The City has and will continue to conduct all required testing to ensure that system is in compliance.
LEAD CONSUMER NOTICE (LCR)	12/30/2013	2016	We failed to provide the results of lead tap water monitoring to the consumers at the location water was tested. These were supposed to be provided no later than 30 days after learning the results. The City will provide all required test results to affected consumers for all future testing.

### Public Notification Rule

The Public Notification Rule helps to ensure that consumers will always know if there is a problem with their drinking water. These notices immediately alert consumers if there is a serious problem with their drinking water (e.g., a boil water emergency).

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Explanation/Corrective Action
PUBLIC NOTICE RULE LINKED TO VIOLATION	07/11/2016	2016	We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about a violation of the drinking water regulations. The City will notify our water customers of any future drinking water violations.

## *Disinfectant Residual Table*

Disinfectant	Year	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	2016	.58	.21	1.3	2.0	2.0	ppm	No	Water additive used to control microbes.