



CITY OF WACO

2020 WATER QUALITY REPORT

ABOUT THIS REPORT

City of Waco drinking water meets or exceeds all federal and state drinking water requirements. The City of Waco Water Utility Services Department (Public Water System #1550008) is proud to maintain a **Superior** water quality rating from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provided our customers during 2020. The analysis was made by using data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests. Our goal is that this information will help you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

The tables that follow (pp. 3-4) list all of the federally regulated and/or monitored contaminants that have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 different contaminants.

Where Does Our Water Come From?

Waco's drinking water is 99% surface water with less than 1% coming from ground water sources. The primary source of drinking water for residents of the City of Waco and surrounding communities is Lake Waco, located within the City of Waco, with less than 1% coming from the Trinity Aquifer.

Source Water Assessment and Protection

The TCEQ completed an assessment of our source water and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for our water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants will be found in this report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts in our system, contact the City of Waco Water Quality Lab at (254) 750-1662.

Special Notice

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or immunocompromised, 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 infection. 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 at (800) 426-4791.

En Español

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre éste informe en español, favor de llamar al (254) 299-2489 para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

Abbreviations

Avg -	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly samples
MFL -	million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
mrem -	millirems (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
NTU -	Nephelometric Turbidity Units (a measure of turbidity)
pCi/L -	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm -	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L), or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water
ppb -	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L), or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water
ppt -	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
ppq -	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)

Definitions

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

Level 1 Assessment - A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria were found.

Level 2 Assessment - A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *Escherichia coli* (E. coli) maximum contaminant level (MCL) violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria were found on multiple occasions.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - 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) - 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.

Drinking Water Standards

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

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:

- 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff and septic systems
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities

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

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, and 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 Waco Water Utility Services.

Water Loss

In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the time period of January - December 2020, the City of Waco water system lost an estimated 281,873,162 gallons of water. This is 2.8% of the total water system input volume.

Water loss from a system occurs, primarily, due to leaks and line breaks, customer meter inaccuracy, data handling errors and unauthorized usage.

If you have any questions about the water loss audit, you may call: (254) 299-CITY (2489).

WACO WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS

Inorganic Contaminants

COLLECTION DATE OR YEAR	CONTAMINANT	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	MIN - MAX LEVELS	MCL/MCLG	UNITS	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION	
2020	Arsenic	2	0 - 2.1	10	0	ppb	No	<i>Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.</i>
2020	Barium	0.0675	0.0436 - 0.0675	2	2	ppm	No	<i>Decay of natural and man-made deposits</i>
2020	Cyanide	180	0 - 180	200	200	ppb	No	<i>Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories</i>
2020	Fluoride	0.7	0.73 - 0.99	4	4	ppm	No	<i>Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories</i>
2020	Nitrate	0.24	0 - 0.24	10	10	ppm	No	<i>Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits</i>

Residual Disinfectant Level

COLLECTION DATE OR YEAR	DISINFECTANT	AVG LEVEL	MIN - MAX LEVELS	MRDL/MRDLG	UNITS	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION	
2020	Monochloramine	2.41	0.16 - 3.92	4.0	4.0	ppm	No	<i>Disinfectant used to control microbes.</i>

Disinfection Byproducts

COLLECTION DATE OR YEAR	CONTAMINANT	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	MIN - MAX LEVELS	MCL/MCLG	UNITS	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION	
2020	Bromate	2	0 - 9.94	10	0	ppb	No	<i>By-product of drinking water disinfection</i>
2020	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	21	9.3 - 21	60	No Goal	ppb	No	<i>By-product of drinking water disinfection</i>
The value in the Highest Level Detected column is the highest average of all HAA5 sample results collected at a location over a year.								
2020	Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	57	29.7 - 65.4	80	No Goal	ppb	No	<i>By-product of drinking water disinfection</i>
The value in the Highest Level Detected column is the highest average of all TTHM sample results collected at a location over a year.								

Synthetic Organic Contaminants

COLLECTION DATE OR YEAR	CONTAMINANT	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	MIN - MAX LEVELS	MCL/MCLG	UNITS	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION	
2020	Atrazine	0.2	0 - 0.2	3	3	ppb	No	<i>Runoff from herbicide used on row crops</i>

Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set.

WACO WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS (CONT)

Radioactive Contaminants

COLLECTION DATE OR YEAR	CONTAMINANT	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	MIN - MAX LEVELS	MCL/MCLG	UNITS	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
2017	Radium 226/228	1.5	1.5 - 1.5	5	0	pCi/L	No <i>Erosion of natural deposits</i>

Lead and Copper

Action Level Goal (ALG): The concentration of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

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

YEAR	CONTAMINANT	90TH PERCENTILE	SITES EXCEEDING ACTION LEVEL	MCLG	ACTION LEVEL	UNIT OF MEASURE	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
2018	Lead	2.4	2	0	15	ppb	No	<i>Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of household plumbing systems; leaching from wood preservatives</i>
2018	Copper	0.14	0	1.3	1.3	ppm	No	

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 are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Turbidity

YEAR		LIMIT (TT)	LEVEL DETECTED	UNIT OF MEASURE	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
2020	Highest single measurement	1	0.19	NTU	No	<i>Soil Runoff</i>
2020	Lowest monthly % meeting limit	0.3	100%	NTU	No	<i>Soil Runoff</i>

Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of water caused by suspended particles. It is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of filtration.

Coliform Bacteria

YEAR	CONTAMINANT	HIGHEST NUMBER OF POSITIVE SAMPLES	MCL/MCLG	VIOLATION	LIKELY SOURCE OF CONTAMINATION
2020	Total Coliform Bacteria	3.1	5% 0%	No	<i>Naturally present in the environment</i>
2020	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli	0	0% 0%	No	<i>Naturally present in the environment</i>

Water Conservation Tips

Conserving Water Just Makes Cent\$!

WATER SAVING TIPS:

- Water your lawn and outdoor plants in the morning or evening, when temperatures are cooler and there is less evaporation.
- Use a timer when watering to avoid forgetful over watering.
- Wash fruits and vegetables in a pan of water instead of under a running faucet.
- If you have a pool or spa, use a cover to decrease evaporation.
- Replace part of your lawn with shrubs or ground cover.
- Adjust your lawn mower to a higher setting. Taller grass helps soil hold more moisture.
- Collect rain water from your roof to water plants.



Did you know?

More water is used in Waco for outdoor watering than for anything else.

A good rain can eliminate the need for watering for up to two weeks.

- Check pipes and faucets, indoors and out, for leaks on a regular basis.
- Shorten your showers by just a minute or two and save up to 150 gallons per month.
- Defrost food in the refrigerator instead of under running water.
- Wash dishes and clothes only when loads are full.
 - Turn off the faucet while brushing your teeth or shaving.
 - Use water-saving aerators on all of your faucets.

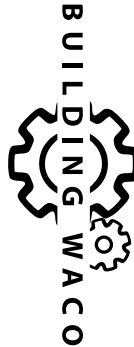


CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Follow these projects and more at: www.BuildingWaco.com



The new Ritchie Road Tower, at Ritchie Rd. and Panther Way, is complete and fully operational. The new two-million-gallon composite tank replaces the previous, 33-year-old tank. Demolition and removal of the old tank is expected to be complete later this year.



Building for the Future

The WMARSS Transfer Lift Station project is fully complete. The three-phase project included building a completely new lift station facility, bypassing and removing the old La Salle Ave. Lift Station with the installation of a new wastewater line on the east side of the river, along with a new force main to the central wastewater treatment plant.



www.WacoWater.com

You can pay your bill, sign up for e-bill, setup auto-pay, check current news about projects or service outages, find conservation tips and any available opportunities for public participation and involvement, all online at: www.wacowater.com.

Ways to pay your bill:

Online at: www.wacowater.com

At the City of Waco Water Office:

425 Franklin Avenue, Waco, Texas 76701

Lobby: (Mon-Fri) 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Drive-Thru: (Mon-Fri) 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

COMING SOON!

New Online Account System!

Featuring WaterSmart® Technology

- Completely new payment engine
- View your home's water use daily
- Get personalized tips on ways to save water
- See how your water use compares to similar homes
- Sign up for alerts and notifications to take control of your water use



By phone: 299-CITY (2489)

At your Neighborhood HEB:

9100 Woodway Dr., 1301 Wooded Acres Dr., 801 N. IH-35,
1821 S. Valley Mills Dr., 3801 N. 19th St.

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Water Utility Services

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