



# 2007 Drinking Water Quality Report

## RRA - HINDS WATER SYSTEM

Red River Authority of Texas

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### OUR DRINKING WATER IS REGULATED

by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and they have determined that certain water quality issues exist which prevent our water from meeting all of the requirements as stated in the Federal Drinking Water Standards. Each issue is listed in this report as a violation and we are working closely with the TCEQ to achieve solutions.

#### **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. 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 at (800) 426-4791.

#### **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. (866) 723-8697 para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

### WHERE DO WE GET OUR DRINKING WATER?

The **RRA-Hinds Water System** utilizes ground water from the alluvium formation purchased from the City of Vernon. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has completed a Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for all drinking water systems that own their source(s). This report 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 system(s) from which we purchase our water received the assessment report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts for our system contact Henry C. Wied at (866) 723-8697.

## 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Authority's Board of Directors regularly meets on the third Wednesday of January, April, July, and September of each year. Specific times and locations of these and/or any special meetings can be obtained by contacting the Authority at (866) 723-8697.

For more information about the water quality of your water system, public participation programs, water conservation programs, and/or general operations policies, call (866) 723-8697 or e-mail the Authority at: [info@rra.dst.tx.us](mailto:info@rra.dst.tx.us). For service requests or reporting leaks after normal business hours, contact your District Manager, Mr. Terry Dyer at (940) 636-8037 or Mr. Mike Carlson at (940) 636-8064.

## SYSTEM INFORMATION

The Red River Authority of Texas owns and operates 29 registered public water supply systems through its Utility Division. The Utility Division maintains over 2,150 miles of transmission lines, two surface water treatment plants, 65 pumping facilities and serves approximately 10,000 customers residing in a 15 county area of the Red River Basin. The Utility Division is subdivided into geographical districts for proper management, maintenance, and financial accounting of individual systems.

The **RRA-Hinds Water System** is one of the water systems operated by the Utility Division's District 13. In 2007, the system served 64 active connections with an average water use of 213 gallons per day per connection. The primary use of the water was rural domestic. No major capital improvements items were scheduled for 2007.

The Authority maintains a Water Conservation and

Drought Contingency Plan for the Utility Division. Information on the plan is available on the Authority's web page at [www.rra.dst.tx.us](http://www.rra.dst.tx.us) or can be obtained by calling (866) 723-8697.

### **DEFINITIONS:**

#### **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) -**

The highest 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.

**NTU-** Nephelometric Turbidity Units

**MFL-** million fibers per liter

**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 (ug/l)

**ppt-** parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

**ppq-** parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

## 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 concerns. 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 TABLES

U.S. EPA requires water systems to test up to 97 constituents. The attached table contains all of the federally regulated or monitored constituents which have been found in your drinking water.

### Inorganic Contaminants

Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2005	Barium	0.211	0.211	0.211	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
2005	Fluoride	0.5	0.5	0.5	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2007	Nitrate	15.88	15.3	17.2	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
2005	Selenium	3.3	3.3	3.3	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
2005	Combined Radium 226 & 228	0.6	0.6	0.6	5	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
2005	Gross Alpha	1.9	1.9	1.9	15	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.

### Organic Contaminants - TESTING WAIVED, NOT REPORTED, OR NONE DETECTED

#### Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2007	Chlorine Residual, Free	0.7	0.35	1.6	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

#### Disinfection Byproducts

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2005	Total Haloacetic Acids	3.9	3.9	3.9	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2005	Total Trihalomethanes	20.3	20.3	20.3	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

### Unregulated Contaminants - NOT REPORTED OR NONE DETECTED

### Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts - WAIVED OR NOT YET SAMPLED

### Turbidity - NOT REQUIRED

### Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
1999	Lead	4.7	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
1999	Copper	0.126	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.



**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**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>.

**VIOLATIONS**

<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Health Effects</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Steps to Correct</b>
<b>MCL Violation-Nitrate</b>	Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill, and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.	1/1/2007 to 3/31/2007	Nitrate levels were recorded at 15.3 ppm, exceeding the MCL.	Alternative water sources and nitrate removal treatment techniques are currently under study by the Authority. Bottled water is provided to qualified persons.
<b>MCL Violation-Nitrate</b>	Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill, and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.	4/1/2007 to 6/30/2007	Nitrate levels were recorded at 15.3 ppm, exceeding the MCL.	Alternative water sources and nitrate removal treatment techniques are currently under study by the Authority. Bottled water is provided to qualified persons.
<b>MCL Violation-Nitrate</b>	Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill, and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.	7/1/2007 to 9/30/2007	Nitrate levels were recorded at 17.2 ppm, exceeding the MCL.	Alternative water sources and nitrate removal treatment techniques are currently under study by the Authority. Bottled water is provided to qualified persons.
<b>MCL Violation-Nitrate</b>	Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill, and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.	10/1/2007 to 12/31/2007	Nitrate levels were recorded at 15.7 ppm, exceeding the MCL.	Alternative water sources and nitrate removal treatment techniques are currently under study by the Authority. Bottled water is provided to qualified persons.

**Total Coliform - REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA**

**Fecal Coliform - REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA**