# 2001 Drinking Water Quality Report


**RRA - HOWARDWICK WATER SYSTEM**

**Red River Authority of Texas**

900 8th Street, Suite 520

Wichita Falls, Texas 76301


## OUR DRINKING WATER MEETS OR EXCEEDS ALL FEDERAL (EPA) DRINKING WATER REQUIREMENTS

This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide 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.

### Special Notice for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminates 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 (800/426-4791).

### En Espanol

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para obtener una copia de esta informacion traducir al Espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (940) 723-8697.

### Where do we get our drinking water?

The **RRA-Howardwick Water System** utilizes ground water from the Ogallala aquifer. The ground water is produced through Authority owned wells located in Donley County, Texas. The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) will be reviewing all of Texas' drinking water sources. The source water assessment process will be completed within three years. It is important to protect your drinking water by protecting your water source.

## 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 (940) 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 (940) 723-8697 or e-mail the Authority at: info@rra.dst.tx.us. For service requests or reporting leaks after normal business hours, contact your District Manager, Mr. Walt Rice at (806) 664-8385 or Mr. Scooter Gulley at (806) 447-1122.

## 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-Howardwick Water System** is one of the water systems operated by the Utility Division's District 18. In 2001, the system served 387 active connections with an average water use of 170 gallons per day per connection. The primary use of the water was seasonal and rural domestic. A new well was placed in service in 2001 replacing one in the Carroll Creek Addition.

The Authority has upgraded the Utility Division's Water Conservation and Drought Contingency Plan. Information on the plan is available on the Authority's web page at www.rrra.dst.tx.us or can be obtained by calling (940) 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.

**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.

### Inorganics

| Year | Constituent | Highest Level at Any Sampling Point | Range of Detected Levels | MCL | MCLG | Unit of Measure | Source of Constituent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1998 | Arsenic | 4.5 | 4.5000-4.5000 | 50 | 0 | ppb | Erosion of natural deposits: Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes. |
| 1998 | Barium | 0.049 | 0.0490-0.0490 | 2 | 2 | ppm | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| 2001 | Fluoride | 0.9 | 0.9000-0.9000 | 4 | 4 | ppm | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. |
| 2001 | Nitrate | 6.88 | 6.8800-6.8800 | 10 | 10 | ppm | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| 1999 | Nitrite | 0.01 | 0.0100-0.0100 | 1 | 1 | ppb | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits |
| 1998 | Selenium | 24.2 | 24.2000-24.2000 | 50 | 50 | ppb | Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines. |
| 1998 | Sodium | 77 | 75.0000-77.0000 | NA | NA | ppm | Erosion of natural deposits; By-products of oil field activity. |
| 1998 | Gross alpha adjusted | 2.7 | 2.7000-2.7000 | 15 | 0 | pci/l | Erosion of natural deposits. |
| 1998 | Combined Radium 226 & 228 | 0.56 | 0.5600-0.5600 | 5 | 0 | pci/l | Erosion of natural deposits |
| 1998 | Gross beta emitters | 9 | 9.0000-9.0000 | 50 | 0 | pci/l | Decay of natural and manmade deposits. |

**NA = MCL not applicable - not regulated. Special Monitoring Requirement.**

## Nitrate

### (Above 5 mg/l, but below the MCL)

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. If you are caring for an infant you should seek advice from your health care provider.

**Red River Authority of Texas**
**Hamilton Building**
**900 8th Street, Suite 520**
**Wichita Falls, Texas 76301-6894**

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## Unregulated Contaminants

| Year | Constituent | Average of All Sampling Points | Range of Detected Levels | Reason for Monitoring |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2001-2001 | Bromoform | 5.5 | 5.5000-5.5000 ppb | Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants. |
| 2001-2001 | Chlorodibromomethane | 1 | 1.0000-1.0000 ppb | Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants. |

## Lead and Copper

| Year | Constituent | The 90th Percentile | Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level | Action Level | Unit of Measure | Source of Constituent |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1999 | Copper | 0.1120 | 0 | 1.3 | ppm | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives. |
| 1999 | Lead | 10.3000 | 0 | 15 | ppb | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits. |

**Organics -** NOT TESTED FOR OR NOT DETECTED

**Total Coliform -** NOT DETECTED

**Disinfection By-Products -** NOT TESTED FOR OR NOT DETECTED

**Fecal Coliform -** NOT DETECTED