



2005 Drinking Water Quality Report

RRA - HOWARDWICK WATER SYSTEM

Red River Authority of Texas

P. O. Box 240

Wichita Falls, Texas 76307-0240

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 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 Espanol

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Si tiene preguntas o' discusiones sobre este reporte en espanol, favor de llamar al tel. (940) 723-8697 par hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol.

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 Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has completed a Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water 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 information contained in this assessment will allow us to focus our source water protection activities. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts for our system contact Henry C. Wied at (940) 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 (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. Michael Cook at (806) 205-0879.

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 2005, the system served 377 active connections with an average water use of 162 gallons per day per connection. The primary use of the water was seasonal and rural domestic. No major capital improvement items were scheduled for 2005.

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 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.

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 (a measure of asbestos)

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
2004	Barium	0.048	0.048	0.048	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
2005	Fluoride	1.06	1.06	1.06	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2005	Nitrate	7.47	7.08	7.98	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
2004	Selenium	11.6	11.6	11.6	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
2004	Uranium	19	19	19	30	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits.
2004	Combined Radium 226 & 228	0.1	0.1	0.1	5	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
2004	Gross alpha	6.5	6.5	6.5	15	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
2004	Gross beta emitters	11.4	11.4	11.4	50	0	pCi/L	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

Required Additional Health Information for Nitrate

Because the highest reported nitrate level on this report is above 5 ppm, but below the MCL, this information is required by the EPA:

“Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of 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 as advice from your health care provider.”

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
2005	Chlorine Residual, Free	1.47	0.8	2	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
2004	Total Haloacetic Acids	7.4	7.4	7.4	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2004	Total Trihalomethanes	7.8	7.8	7.8	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Unregulated Contaminants

Bromoform, chloroform, dichlorobromomethane, and dibromochloromethane are disinfection byproducts. There is no maximum contaminant level for these chemicals at the entry point to distribution.

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2002	Chloroform	0.35	0	0.7	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2002	Bromoform	2.7	2.3	3.1	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2002	Bromodichloromethane	1.7	1.6	1.8	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2002	Dibromochloromethane	3.15	3.1	3.2	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	The 90 th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2002	Copper	0.081	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.
2002	Lead	2.9	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Turbidity - NOT REQUIRED

Total Coliform - REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA

Fecal Coliform - REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA

CONSERVATION TIPS

In the bathroom...

- ☺ Test toilets for leaks. Add a few drops of food coloring or a dye tablet into the water in the tank, but do not flush the toilet. Watch to see if the coloring appears in the bowl within a few minutes. If it does, the toilet has a silent leak that needs to be repaired.
- ☺ Take a shower instead of filling the tub and taking a bath. Showers with low-flow showerheads usually use less water.
- ☺ When brushing teeth, turn the water off until it is time to rinse.

In the kitchen...

- ☺ Never run the dishwasher without a full load. This practice will save water, energy, detergent, and money.
- ☺ Use a small pan of cold water when cleaning vegetables, rather than letting the water run over them.

Outdoors...

- ☺ Water lawns early in the morning to avoid evaporation.
- ☺ Water slowly for better absorption, and never water on windy days.
- ☺ Forget watering the streets, walks or driveways...they will never grow a thing.
- ☺ Do not "sweep" walks and driveways with the hose. Use a broom or rake instead.
- ☺ Use a sprinkler that produces large drops of water, rather than a fine mist.