

WQR 2005



DALLAS DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono 214/670-0917.

City of Dallas

Publication #05/06-50

Why you've received this report

This report is produced to provide information about the Dallas water system including source water, the levels of detected contaminants and compliance with drinking water rules. This report is also produced in order to answer your water quality questions. If you need more information, please call our water quality information line at 214/670-0917.

As the report shows, the levels of contaminants in Dallas water meet or are below the amounts allowed by law. Regular monthly tests are conducted on Dallas water to ensure that it is clean and meets all water quality requirements.

Special notice for the elderly, infants, cancer patients, people with HIV/AIDS and other immune problems

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

Where your water comes from

Dallas uses surface water from six sources: the Elm Fork of the Trinity River and lakes Ray Roberts, Lewisville, Grapevine, Ray Hubbard and Tawakoni.

All drinking water may contain contaminants

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 U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1/800/426-4791).

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, U.S. EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration, which provides the same protection for public health, prescribes regulations which establish limits for contaminants in bottled water.

Cryptosporidium

Cryptosporidium is a tiny intestinal parasite found naturally in the environment. It is spread by human and animal waste. If ingested, *cryptosporidium* may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection (symptoms include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps). Some of the ways *cryptosporidium* can be spread include drinking contaminated water, eating contaminated food that is raw or undercooked, exposure to the feces of animals or infected individuals (i.e. changing diapers without washing hands afterward), or exposure to contaminated surfaces. Not everyone exposed to the organism becomes ill.

During 2005, Dallas continued monthly testing for *cryptosporidium* in both untreated and treated water. Dallas Water

Utilities began monitoring for cryptosporidium in 1993. It has been found only in the untreated water supply. Cryptosporidium has not been found in Dallas treated drinking water. To protect your drinking water, Dallas works to protect the watershed from contamination and optimizes treatment processes. Although Dallas' water treatment process removes cryptosporidium, immuno-compromised persons should consult their doctors regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection.

To request more information on cryptosporidium, please call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1/800/426-4791).

Source Water Assessment and Protection

TCEQ completed an assessment of Dallas' source water and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for Dallas' water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants will be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts call (214) 670-0917.

In 2004, the City of Dallas participated in gathering data under the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) in order to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of possible drinking water contaminants. This data may be found on

EPA's web site at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/data/ncod.html>, or you can call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

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 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 storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;
- pesticides and herbicides, which might have 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; and

- radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color or odor problems. These type of problems are not necessarily cause for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor or color of drinking water, please contact Dallas at (214) 670-0917.

Your participation is welcome

Dallas Water Utilities is a not-for-profit department of the City of Dallas and is governed by the Dallas City Council. The City Council meets weekly on Wednesdays. For information about meetings and how to register as a speaker, contact the City Secretary's office at 214/670-3738.

Following are other helpful telephone #:

- Questions or concerns about water quality
- 214/670-0917
- Questions about your bill
- 214/651-1441
- For brochures on water conservation
- 214/670-3155.

Year of Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
Año del rango	Contaminante	Nivel promedio	Nivel mínimo	Nivel máximo	MCL	MCLG	Unidad de medición	Procedencia del contaminante
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS / CONTAMINANTES INORGÁNICOS								
2002	Barium / Bario	26.7	17	39	2	2	ppb	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits / Descarga de desechos de perforación o de refineries de metales, erosión de depósitos naturales.
2005	Flouride / Floururo	0.5	0.3	0.6	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories / Erosión de depósitos naturales, aditivo para fomentar la salud dental, descarga de fábricas de fertilizantes y aluminio.
2005	Nitrate / Nitrato	0.33	0.1	0.66	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits / Escorrentía de fertilizantes, lixiviación de fosas sépticas, aguas residuales, erosión de depósitos naturales.
2002	Selenium / Selenio	2.7	2.6	2.8	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits, discharge from mines / Descarga de refineries de petróleo y metales, erosión de depósitos naturales, descarga de minas.
2005	Gross beta emitters / Total de emisores beta	4	3	5	50	0	pCi/L	Decay of natural and man-made deposits / Deterioro de depósitos naturales y hechos por el hombre.
ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS / CONTAMINANTES ORGÁNICOS								
2005 - 2004	Atrazine / Atrazina	0.24	0	0.39	3	3	ppb	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops / Escorrentía de herbicidas para las cosechas.
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS / SUBPRODUCTOS DE LA DESINFECCIÓN								
2005	Total Haloacetic Acid / Total del ácido haloacético	26	17	40	60	NA	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection / Subproducto de la desinfección del agua potable.
2005	Total Trihalomethanes / Total de trihalometanos	33	19	43	80	NA	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection / Subproducto de la desinfección del agua potable.
2005	Chloroform / Cloroformo	16.6	7.3	35	*	*	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection / Subproducto de la desinfección del agua potable.
2005	Bromoform / Bromoformo	0.3	0	0.8	*	*	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection / Subproducto de la desinfección del agua potable.
2005	Bromochloromethane / Bromoformometano	6.2	4.7	8.8	*	*	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection / Subproducto de la desinfección del agua potable.
2005	Dibromochloromethane / Dibromoformometano	2.9	1.1	5.9	*	*	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection / Subproducto de la desinfección del agua potable.
TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON / TOTAL DE CARBONO ORGÁNICO								
2005	Source Water / Reservas de agua	6.02	4.29	8.60	Treated Water Alkalinity / Alcalinidad del agua tratada <60 mg/L as CaCO3		ppm	Naturally present in the environment / Presente naturalmente en el medio ambiente
DISINFECTANT / DISINFECTANTE								
2005	Total Chlorine Residual / Total del residuo de cloro	2.96	0.2	5.1	4.0**	NA	ppm	

Year of Range	Contaminant	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
Año del rango	Contaminante	El percentil 90	Numero de sitios sobrepasando el nivel de acción	Nivel de acción	Unidad de medición	Procedencia del contaminante
LEAD AND COPPER / PLOMO Y COBRE						
2003	Lead / Plomo	2	1	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits / Corrosión de la tubería doméstica, erosión de depósitos naturales.
2003	Copper / Cobre	0.4	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives / Corrosión de la tubería doméstica, erosión de depósitos naturales, lixiviación de preservativos en la madera.

Year of Range	Contaminant	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
Año del rango	Contaminante	Medida singular más alta	Porcentaje mensual más bajo de muestras que cumplen con los límites	Límites de turbidez	Unidad de medición	Procedencia del contaminante
TURBIDITY / TURBIDEZ						
2005	Turbidity / Turbidez	0.29	100.00	0.3	NTU	Soil Runoff / Escorrentía del suelo.

Year of Range	Contaminant	Highest Monthly % of Positive Samples	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
Año del rango	Contaminante	Porcentaje mensual más alto de muestras positivas	MCL	Unidad de medición	Procedencia del contaminante
TOTAL COLIFORM / TOTAL DE COLIFORMO					
2005	Total Coliform bacteria / Total de bacterias coliformes	0.9	5% or more of monthly samples / 5% o más de las muestras mensuales	Found/Not Found / Encontrado/No encontrado	Naturally present in the environment / Presente naturalmente en el medio ambiente.

* No maximum contaminant level at the entry point to distribution / Ningún nivel máximo de contaminantes en el punto de entrada al sistema de distribución.
** As annual average / Como promedio anual .

Definitions / Definiciones

Definitions

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

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

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCL/G): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

mrem/year: Millirem per year (measure of radiation absorbed by the body).

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 contaminants.

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

ND: Not detected.

Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU): Measure of turbidity in water.

pCi/L: Pico-curies per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

POE: Point of entry. Sample measured at the point where water enters the distribution system.

ppb: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L).

ppm: Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L).

Treatment Technique (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Turbidity: A measure of the clarity of drinking water. The lower the turbidity, the better.

Definiciones

Grado máximo de contaminantes (MCL): El grado más alto de un contaminante que se permite en el agua potable. Los MCLs se fijan tan cerca de los MCLGs como sea posible mediante el uso de la más avanzada tecnología de saneamiento disponible.

Meta máxima en el nivel de contaminantes

(MCLG): Grado de concentración de un contaminante en el agua potable por debajo del cual no existe o no se espera que haya un riesgo conocido para la salud. Los MCLGs ofrecen un margen de seguridad.

mrem/año: Milirems por año (unidades de radiación absorbidas por el cuerpo).

ND: No detectado.

Nivel de acción (AL): Grado de concentración de un contaminante que, al ser excedido, se debe llevar a cabo un tratamiento u otros requisitos a los cuales se debe atener un sistema de abastecimiento

de agua.

Nivel máximo residual de desinfectante (MRDL, por sus siglas en inglés): el nivel más alto de desinfectante permitido en el agua potable. Hay evidencia convincente que es necesaria la adición de un desinfectante para controlar los contaminantes microbianos.

Objetivo de nivel máximo residual de desinfectante (MRDLG, por sus siglas en inglés): Nivel de desinfectante en el agua potable por debajo del cual no se conocen o se espera causar riesgo a la salud. Los MRDLGs no reflejan los beneficios del uso de desinfectantes para controlar los contaminantes microbianos.

pCi/L: Picocuries por litro (una medida de la radiactividad).

POE: Punto de entrada. Muestra de medición tomada en el punto donde el agua entra al sistema de distribución.

ppb: Partes por mil millones o microgramos por litro.

ppm: Partes por millón o miligramos por litro.

Técnica de tratamiento (TT): Un proceso obligatorio cuyo propósito es reducir la concentración de un contaminante en el agua potable.

Turbidez: Una medida de la claridad del agua potable. Entre más baja sea la turbidez, mejor. Unidades nefelométricas de turbidez (NTU): Unidades que miden la turbidez del agua.