

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.

## Public Participation Opportunities

Date: July 15, 2019  
Time: 5:30 p.m.  
Phone: (254) 697-6646  
Location: City Council Chambers  
100 S. Houston Avenue  
Cameron, TX 76520

To learn about future public meetings (concerning your drinking water), or to request to schedule one, please call us.

## Questions

If you have questions about this report or your water service, please contact Utility Director Jerald Brunson at 254-697-6646.

## 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. (254) 697-6646 – para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.



## City of Cameron

PWS ID# TX1660001

PO Box 833

Cameron, TX 76520

# 2018 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report



# Cameron

Hometown, Texas

PWS ID# TX1660001

## Source of Drinking Water

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 may come from 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.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

The source of drinking water used by the City of Cameron is surface water. The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that some of your sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact Utility Director Jerald Brunson at 254-697-6646.

## All Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants

When drinking water meets federal standards there may not be any health 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).

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

## 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 concern. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

## 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>.

## Definitions

The charts on the following pages may contain terms and abbreviations with which you are not familiar. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

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

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

**Avg.** – Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly samples.

**Level 1 Assessment** – A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Level 2 Assessment** – A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed 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 risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**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.

**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.

**NA** – not applicable.

**NTU** – nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity).

**Parts per billion (ppb)** – micrograms per liter ( $\mu\text{g}/\text{l}$ ) or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

**Parts per million (ppm)** – milligrams per liter ( $\text{mg}/\text{l}$ ) or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** – a measure of radioactivity.

## 2018 Test Results

We routinely monitor for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The test results table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2018.

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; persons 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 providers. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Inorganic Contaminants							
Contaminant (Units)	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	2018	0.0547	0.0547-0.0547	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppm)	2018	90	90-90	200	200	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories
Fluoride (ppm)	2018	0.3	0.32-0.32	4	4.0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen) (ppm)	2018	7	1.07-6.94	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper							
Contaminant (Units)	Date Sampled	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm)	2016	1.3	1.3	0.22	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (ppb)	2016	0	15	2.8	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Coliform Bacteria						
MCLG	Total Coliform MCL	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli MCL	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	1 positive monthly sample.	0	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli MCL: A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive.	0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

Radioactive Contaminants							
Contaminant (Units)	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	2010	4.5	4.5-4.5	0	50	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.*



## Disinfection By-Products

Contaminant (Units)	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloramines (ppm)	2018	2.384***	0.6-3.3	4	4	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	2018	58*	11.3-129	NA	60	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	2018	105**	43.1-194	NA	80	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

\* The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all HAA5 sample results collected at a location over a year.

\*\* The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all TTHM sample results collected at a location over a year.

## Synthetic Organic Contaminants (including pesticides and herbicides)

Contaminant (Units)	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Atrazine (ppb)	2018	0.22	0.22-0.22	3	3	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Dalapon (ppb)	2018	1.5	0-1.5	200	200	No	Runoff from herbicide used on rights of way
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	2017	1	0 - 0.6	0	6	No	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Simazine (ppb)	2018	0.7	0.7-0.7	4	4	No	Herbicide runoff

## Turbidity

	Level Detected	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest Single Measurement	0.4 NTU	1 NTU	No	Soil runoff
Lowest Monthly % Meeting Limit	98%	0.3 NTU	No	Soil runoff

Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system.

## Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.

## Violations

### Interim Enhanced SWTR

The Interim Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule improves control of microbial contaminants, particularly Cryptosporidium, in systems using surface water, or ground water under the direct influence of surface water. The rule builds upon the treatment technique requirements of the Surface Water Treatment Rule.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, ROUTINE (IESWTR/LT1), MAJOR	06/01/2018	06/30/2018	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

### Interim Enhanced SWTR

The Surface Water Treatment Rule seeks to prevent waterborne diseases caused by viruses, Legionella, and Giardia lamblia. The rule requires that water systems filter and disinfect water from surface water sources to reduce the occurrence of unsafe levels of these microbes.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, RTN/RPT MAJOR (SWTRFILTER)	06/01/2018	06/30/2018	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

### Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MCL, LRAA	01/01/2018	03/31/2018	Water samples showed that the amount of this contaminant in our drinking water was above its standard (called a maximum contaminant level and abbreviated MCL) for the period indicated.
MCL, LRAA	04/01/2018	06/30/2018	
MCL, LRAA	07/01/2018	09/30/2018	
MCL, LRAA	10/01/2018	12/31/2018	