

Cameron

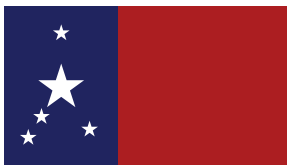
Hometown, Texas

P. O. Box 833
Cameron, TX 76520
www.camerontexas.net

Public Participation Opportunities

Date: Monday, July 18, 2011
Time: 5:30 pm
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.



Cameron

Hometown, Texas



2010 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Our Drinking Water Is Regulated

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.

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. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information 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 the assessment allows us to focus source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information is available on Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/>. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

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).

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.

Required 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>.



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.

2010 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, 2010. In the table you might find terms and abbreviations you are not familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

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.

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.

mrem – millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

NA – not applicable.

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units.

Parts per billion (ppb) – micrograms per liter (µg/l) or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

Parts per million (ppm) – milligrams per liter (mg/l) or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or immunocompromised such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer; those who have undergone organ transplants; those who are undergoing treatment with steroids; and people with or other immune system disorders can be particularly at risk infections. You should seek advice about drinking water your physician or health care provider. Additional guidelines appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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	2	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive	1	Y	Naturally present in the environment

Inorganic Contaminants							
Contaminant (Units)	Violation	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium (ppm)	N	2010	0.051	0.051-0.051	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	N	2010	0.57	0.57-0.57	4	4.0	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen) (ppm)	N	2010	1.02	1.02-1.02	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	N	2010	3.1	3.1-3.1	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines

Lead and Copper							
Contaminant (Units)	Date Sampled	MCLG	AL	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm)	09/13/2007	1.3	1.3	0.178	0	N	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems
Lead (ppb)	09/13/2007	0	15	2.9	0	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

Radioactive Contaminants							
Contaminant (Units)	Violation	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters (mrem/yr)	N	2010	4.5	4.5-4.5	0	4	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

Contaminant (Units)	Violation	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloramines (ppm)	N	2010	4.94	1.0-4.94	<4.0	4	Disinfectant used to control microbes
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	N	2010	11.4	11.4-11.4	No goal for total	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	N	2010	33.8	33.8-33.8	No goal for total	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Total Organic Carbon

Contaminant (Unit)	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	Likely Source of Contamination
Source Water (ppm)	2010	3.5	2.90-4.96	Naturally present in the environment
Drinking Water (ppm)	2010	1.62	1.13-2.63	Naturally present in the environment
Removal Ratio (% removal)*	2010	3.38	1.48-14.32	NA

Total Organic Carbon (TOC) has no health effect. The disinfectant can combine with TOC to form disinfection by-products. Disinfection is necessary to ensure that water does not have unacceptable levels of pathogens. By-products of disinfection include trihalomethanes (THM) and haloacetic acids (HAA), which are reported elsewhere in this report.

* Removal ratio is the percent of TOC removed by the treatment process divided by the percent of TOC required by TCEQ to be removed.

Synthetic Organic Contaminants (including pesticides and herbicides)

Contaminant (Units)	Violation	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Atrazine (ppb)	N	2010	0.48	0.11-0.48	3	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops

Turbidity

	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest Single Measurement	1 NTU	0.47 NTU	N	Soil runoff.
Lowest Monthly % Meeting Limit	0.3 NTU	98.17%	N	Soil runoff.

Unregulated Contaminants

Contaminant (Unit)	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloroform (ppb)	2010	5.8	5.8-5.8	By-products of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform (ppb)	2010	1.2	1.2-1.2	
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2010	10.3	10.3-10.3	
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	2010	11.7	11.7-11.7	

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Any unregulated contaminants detected are reported in this table. For additional information and data visit <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ucmr/ucmr2/index.html> or call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated (no associated adverse health effects)

Constituent (Unit)	Year	Average Level	Secondary Limit	Likely Source of Contamination
Bicarbonate (ppm)	2010	144	NA	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone
Chloride (ppm)	2010	33	300	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; by-product of oil field activity
pH (units)	2010	6.9	>7.0	Measure of corrosivity of water
Sodium (ppm)	2010	17.7	NA	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity
Sulfate (ppm)	2010	90	300	Naturally occurring common industrial by-product; by-product of oil field activity
Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ (ppm)	2010	118	NA	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2010	338	1000	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water

Violations Table

Total Coliform – Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MCL (TCR), Monthly	04/01/2010	04/30/2010	Total coliform bacteria were found in our drinking water during the period indicated in enough samples to violate a standard.