

CITY OF ELKHART
Drinking Water Quality Report
Consumer Confidence Report

2019

PWS ID Number: TX 0010005

The City of Elkhart is pleased to present its 2019 Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is produced to provide you with important information regarding the quality of your drinking water in a comprehensive yet concise format.

Highly trained professionals perform extensive monitoring and testing of our water system throughout the year in compliance with federal and state regulations. These tests measure levels of chemical and biological contaminants to ensure that the water we provide to you is safe to drink. The following report details the results of tests performed by contaminant.

The City of Elkhart recognizes the duty we have in delivering this essential resource and works diligently to provide reliable, regulated, and responsible water service to you, our customer.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) requires every community public water system to provide a consumer confidence report to its customers each year to help you become more knowledgeable about your drinking water. The City of Elkhart 2019 Drinking Water Quality Report is hereby submitted for your review.

SOURCE OF DRINGING 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 City of Elkhart provides ground water from Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer located in Anderson County, Texas. TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water, and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system is 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 at our system contact the **City of Elkhart (903) 764-5657**.

The information contained in the assessment allows us to better focus our source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information is available on Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/>.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT 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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we 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>.

SPECIAL NOTICE...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).

VIOLATIONS

Consumer Confidence Rule			
The Consumer Confidence Rule requires community water systems to prepare and provide to their customers annual consumer confidence reports on the quality of the water delivered by the systems.			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
CCR REPORT	07/01/2018	01/30/2019	We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that informs you about the quality of our drinking water and characterizes the risks from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water.

2019 Water Quality Test Results

LEAD AND COPPER

Parameter/Substance	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2019	1.3	1.3	1.26	1	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

Parameter/Substance	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2019	9	8.8 - 8.8	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2019	37	36.7 - 36.7	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2019	0.0075	0.0075 - 0.0075	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	02/15/2018	0.254	0.254 - 0.254	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2019	0.0427	0.0378 - 0.0427	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

RAIDOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	05/12/2015	1.5	1.5 - 1.5	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL

Disinfectant Residual	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MRDL	MRDL G	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source in Drinking Water
Disinfectant Residual	2019	1.56	.90 – 2.53	4	4	Ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

Action Level - 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 are 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 or 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 or 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 or 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 or 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.

MFL - million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

Mrem - millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

Na - not applicable.

NTU - nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)

pCi/L - picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppb - micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

Ppm - milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

Ppq - parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)

Ppt - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

Treatment Technique or TT - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.