2014 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

TX2300002

City of Gilmer

SPECIAL NOTICE

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain ccontaminants 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.

You may be more vunerable 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 steriods; 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).

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.

Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

The source of drinking water used by **CITY OF GILMER is Ground Water** from CARRIZO, WILCOX AQUIFER. The TECQ 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. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source 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.

For more information regarding this report contact:
Brian Rodgers at (903) 843-2552

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).

Information on Secondary Contaminants

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.

The City of Gilmer Public Works Department is committed to public se

2014 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Coliform Bacteria

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	1 positive monthly sample.	There were no TCR detections for this system in this CCR period.	—	0	N	Naturally present in this environment.

Lead and Copper

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

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	June-Sept 2013	1.3	1.3	0.39	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	June-Sept 2013	0	15	2.23	1	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Disinfectant Levels

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Units	Source of Disinfectant
2014	Chlorine Residual, Free	1.6	0.2	4.2	4.0	4.0	ppm	Chlorine gas used to control microbes.

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) *	08/07/2014	7.5	7.5-7.5	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Total Trihalomethanes (TThm) *	08/07/2014	38.5	38.5-38.5	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

Not all sample results may have been used for calculating the Highest Level Detected because some results may be part of an evaluation to determine where compliance sampling should occur in the future.

Inorganic Contaminants

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	04/28/2011	0.06	0.03 - 0.06	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	04/28/2011	0.559	0.382 - 0.559	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide	08/07/2014	6.61	0-6.61	200	200	ppb	N	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories.
Fluoride	08/07/2014	0.288	0.2-0.288	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes stong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum.
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	08/07/2014	0.0485	0 - 0.0485	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Nitrate Advisory - 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. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Thallium	04/28/2011	0.011	0.008 - 0.011	0.5	2	ppb	N	Discharge from electonics, glass, and leaching from ore-processing sites; Drug factories.
Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides	**Collection Date**	**Highest Level Detected**	**Range of Levels Detected**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Units**	**Violation**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Di (2-ethylhexyl) adipate	07/26/2012	0.05	0 - 0.05	400	400	ppb	N	Discharge from chemical factories.
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	07/26/2012	0.21	0 - 0.21	0	6	ppb	N	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories.

A COMSUMER'S GUIDE TO BACKFLOW PREVENTION IN TEXAS

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality requires all community water systems to maintain a cross-connection control program for protection of the system that distributes drinking water to your home or business. The cross-connetion control program includes:

- Inspections of the customer's private plumbing to identify and prevent cross-connections, and potential contamination, including contamination by illegal materials containing lead.
- Required installation and testing of backflow prevention assemblies where appropriate. The costs associated with the program are borne by the customer. Some public water systems are subject to a plumbing code that may have more stringent requirements than the TCEQ. TCEQ regulations are a minimum.

What is a cross-connection?

A physical connection between drinkable water and a liquid or gas that could make the water unsafe to drink. Wherever there is a cross-connection, there is a potential threat to public health from the liquid or gas contaminants.

What is backflow?

Water flowing in the opposite of its intended direction, either from a loss of pressure in the supply lines or an increase in pressure on the customer's side.

Common cross-connections:

- Garden hose: Backflow through cross-connections can occur at your home if you leave a garden hose turned on and submerged in a swimming pool, or insert it into your car's radiator to flush out the antifreeze, or attach it to an insecticide sprayer. That material could siphon back into your drinkable water.
- Private well: Backflow can also occur if a pump supplied from an untreated water supply, such as a private well, was connected to the drinkable water supply. The untreated water could be pumped into the drinkable water supply which serves your home and the public water system.
- Lawn sprinkler system: TCEQ regulations require that all lawn sprinkler systems be connected through a mechanical backflow prevention assembly—without which the stagnant water from the sprinkler system could be drawn into the drinkable water supply for your home.

How can backflow be prevented?

Backflow into a potable-water system can be prevented using an assembly approved by the water supplier, or a physical separation between the water supply and a potential source of pollution The water supplier determines the type of backflow prevention assembly required, based on the existing or potential degree of hazard.

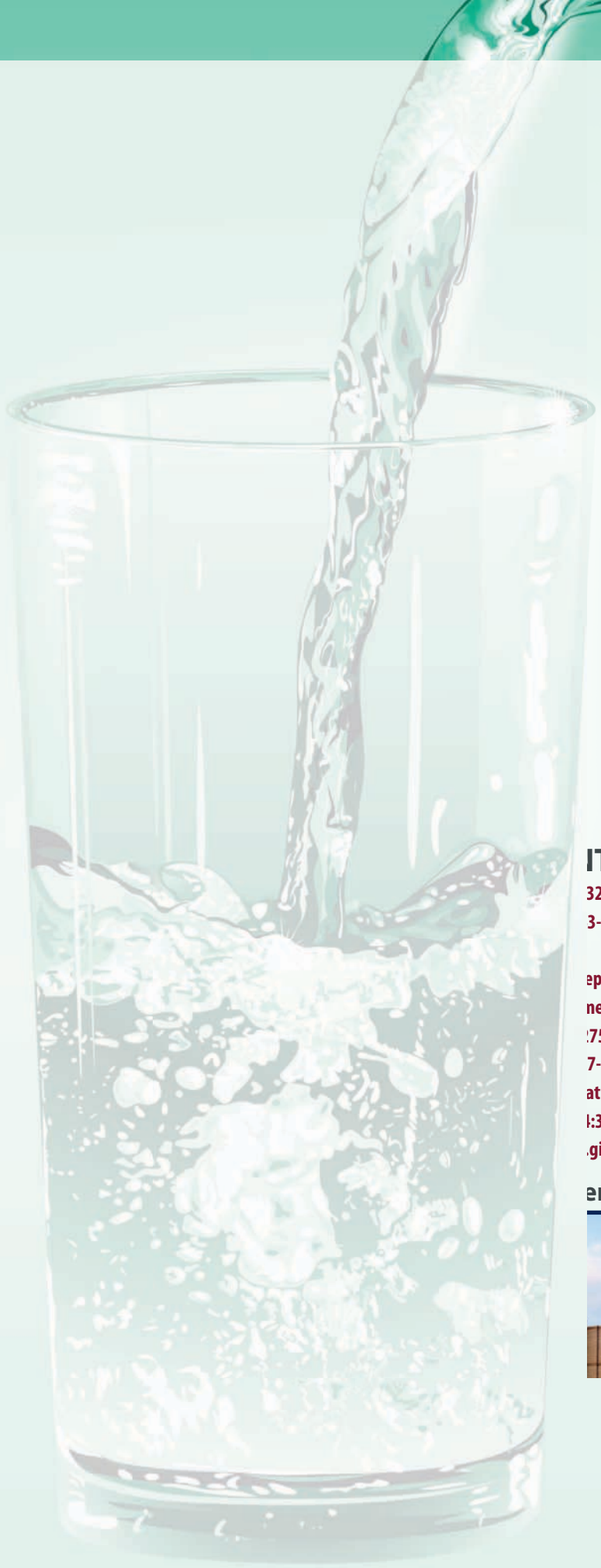
Testing backflow prevention assemblies

The TCEQ requires testing of all backflow prevention assemblies at installation by a TCEQ licensed tester. Backflow prevention assemblies installed to protect against any substance that can make you sick must be tested annually.

How can I find out more information about backflow?

For more information about backflow and cross-connection control, visit <www.tceq.state.tx.us/goto/cc>.

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.



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