

# 2010 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

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## CITY OF PALESTINE

Phone Number: 903-731-8400

### SPECIAL NOTICE

Required language for ALL community public water supplies:

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.

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### Public Participation Opportunities

**Date:**

**Time:**

**Location:** *None Scheduled*

**Phone Number:** *(903) 731-8400*

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

### OUR DRINKING WATER IS REGULATED

by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and they have determined that certain water quality issues exist which prevent our water from meeting all of the requirements as stated in the Federal Drinking Water Standards. Each issue is listed in this report as a violation and we are working closely with the TCEQ to achieve solutions.

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**WATER SOURCES:** 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 before treatment include: herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

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#### *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. (903) 731-8400 - para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

## Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from SURFACE water sources. It comes from the following Lake/River/Reservoir/Aquifer: NECHES RIVER. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water sources(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 our source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information will be available later this year 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 based 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.

## About The Following Pages

The pages that follow list all of the federally regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants.

### **DEFINITIONS**

#### **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)**

The highest permissible level of a contaminant 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 health risk.

MCLGs allow for a margin of safety

#### **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)**

The highest level of 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 contamination.

#### **Treatment Technique (TT)**

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

#### **Action Level (AL)**

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

### **ABBREVIATIONS**

<b>NTU</b>	- Nephelometric Turbidity Units
<b>MFL</b>	- million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
<b>pCi/L</b>	- picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
<b>ppm</b>	- parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
<b>ppb</b>	- parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
<b>ppt</b>	- parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
<b>ppq</b>	- parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

**Inorganic Contaminants**

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2005	Barium	0.052	0.052	0.052	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
2009	Flouride	0.57	0.75	0.96	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natral deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2009	Nitrate	0.14	0.14	0.14	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from spetic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
2005	Gross beta emmitters	3.3	3.3	3.3	50	0	pCi/L	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

**Organic Contaminants**

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Di(2-ethylhexy)phthalate	0.052	0.052	0.052	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level**

Systems must complete and submit disinfection data on the Surface Water Monthly Operations Report (SWMOR). On the CCR report, the system must provide disinfectant type, minimum, maximum and average levels.

Year	Disinfectant	Average level of Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Chemical
2009	Disinfectant Used	Average level of CCR year's quarterly	Minimum result Single sample	Maximum result single sample	4.0	<4.0	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes

**Disinfection Byproducts**

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2010	Total Haloacetic Acids	3.8	0	6.6	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2010	Total Trihalomethanes	35.8	30.9	40.2	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

**Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts**

WAIVED OR NOT YET SAMPLED

**Unregulated Contaminants**

Bromoform, chloroform, dichlorobromomethane, and dibromochloromethane are disinfection byproducts. There is no maximum contaminant level for these chemicals at the entry point to distribution

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Chloroform	5.8	5.8	5.8	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2009	Bromoform	0.9	0.9	0.9	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2009	Bromodichloromethane	9.3	9.3	9.3	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

## Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Lead	2.3	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2009	Copper	0.353	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

### 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>."

## Turbidity

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Year	Contaminant	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Turbidity	0.1	100	0.3	NTU	Soil runoff.

## Total Organic Carbon

Total organic carbon (TOC) no health effects. The disinfectant can combine with TOC to form disinfection byproducts. Disinfection is necessary to ensure that water does not have unacceptable levels of pathogens. Byproducts of disinfection include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAA) which are reported elsewhere in this report.

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Source Water	8.79	6.94	13.20	ppm	Naturally present in the environment.
2009	Drinking Water	3.92	2.96	5.00	ppm	Naturally present in the environment.
2009	Removal Ratio	53.9	37.8	75.8	% removal*	NA

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

## Cryptosporidium Monitoring Information

*We monitored for Cryptosporidium, a microbial parasite that may be commonly found in surface water. Cryptosporidium may come from animal and human feces in the watershed. The result of our monitoring indicated that there may be Cryptosporidium in the raw water and/or treated finished water. Although treatment by filtration removes Cryptosporidium, it cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. The testing methods used cannot determine if the organisms are alive and capable of causing cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection with nausea, diarrhea and abdominal cramps that may occur after ingestion of contaminated water.*

Total Coliform	REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA.
Fecal Coliform	REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.

## VIOLATIONS

Violation Type	Health Effects	Duration	Explanation	Steps to correct
<b>ROUTINE COLIFORM MONITORING - MINOR-NOT ENOUGH ROUTINE SAMPLES</b>	We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During this compliance period, we did not correctly monitor, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.	4/1/2009 to 4/30/2009	<i>This was caused by the sampler did not allow enough time to collect all of the necessary samples (human error).</i>	<i>Supervisor to monitor the collection of coliform sampling to assure that all of the samples are taken.</i>

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

Year or Range	Constituent	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Secondary Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2005	Aluminum	0.021	0.021	0.021	0.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2009	Bicarbonate	24	24	24	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2005	Calcium	19.4	19.4	19.4	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2010	Chloride	18.8	18.8	18.8	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity
2005	Copper	0.002	0.002	0.002	1	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
2008	Hardness as Ca/Mg	61	61	61	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.
2005	Magnesium	3.2	3.2	3.2	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2005	Manganese	0.0016	0.0016	0.0016	0.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2005	Nickel	0.002	0.002	0.002	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
2010	pH	8.1	8.1	8.1	>7.0	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2009	Sodium	14	14	14	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2010	Sulfate	36.1	36.1	36.1	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2010	Total Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	24	24	24	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2009	Total Dissolved Solids	150	150	150	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2005	Total Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	61	61	61	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.
2005	Zinc	0.008	0.008	0.008	5	ppm	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element; used in the metal industry.