

# 2019 Consumer Confidence Report for Public Water System THE CONSOLIDATED WSC CENTRAL SYSTEM

This is your water quality report for January 1 to December 31, 2019

For more information regarding this report contact:

THE CONSOLIDATED WSC CENTRAL SYSTEM provides surface water from Houston County Lake located in Houston County, TX.

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Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (936)544-2986

## Definitions and Abbreviations

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The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

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.

na:

not applicable.

NTU

nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)

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.

Treatment Technique or TT:

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

## Information about your 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.

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.

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.

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.

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).

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>.

## Information about Source Water

The Consolidated WSC Central System purchases water from Houston County WCID 1. Houston County WCID 1 provides purchased surface water from Houston County Lake located in Houston County, TX.

TCEQ completed a Source Water Susceptibility for all drinking water systems that own their sources. This report describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with the drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The system(s) from which we purchase our water received the assessment report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system contact Amber Stelly at 936-544-2986.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	08/14/2018	1.3	1.3	0.048	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	08/14/2018	0	0.015	0	0	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

## 2019 Water Quality Test Results

Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2019	51	13.1 - 63.5	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	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

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2019	85	55.9 - 109	No goal for the total	80	ppb	Y	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
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\* 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

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Barium	2019	0.035	0.035 – 0.035	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2019	0.499	0.4 – 0.8	4.0	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories; Water additive.
Chromium	2019	0.001	0.001 – 0.001	0.005	0.005	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

## Turbidity

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

	Level Detected	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest single measurement	0.39 NTU	0.3 NTU	N	Soil runoff.
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	99.954%	95%	N	Soil runoff.

## Secondary and Other Constituents

Secondary constituents are not necessarily causes for health concerns but may cause taste, color and odor problems.

Constituent	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	Secondary Limit	Unit of Measure	Source in Drinking Water
Aluminum, Total	2019	0.41	0.41 – 0.41	0.2	mg/L	Water additive used to control microbes.
Bicarbonate Alkalinity	2019	22.6	22.6 - 22.6	NA	mg/L	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
Calcium, Total	2019	20.8	18.0 – 22.3	NA	mg/L	Abundant naturally occurring element.
Chloride	2019	14.1	12.8 – 14.8	250	mg/L	Abundant naturally occurring element; Used in water purification; by-product of oil field activity.
Magnesium, Total	2018	2.28	2.28 - 2.28	NA	mg/L	Abundant naturally occurring element.
pH	2019	8.29	7.5 – 9.0	9	units	Measure of the acidity or basicity of water.
Sodium, Total	2019	7.32	6.47 – 8.42	NA	mg/L	Erosion of natural deposits; By-product of oil field activity.
Sulfate	2019	29.76	26.3 – 32.4	250	mg/L	Naturally occurring; Common industrial by-product; By-product of oil field activity.
Alkalinity, Total (CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	2019	26.3	22.6 – 30	NA	mg/L	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
Total Dissolved Solids	2019	106.33	103 - 112	500	mg/L	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
Total Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	2019	66.1	54.3 – 74	NA	mg/L	Naturally occurring calcium.
Zinc, total	2019	0.0076	0.0076 - 0.0076	5	mg/L	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element used in the metal industry.

## Disinfectant Residual

Disinfectant Residual	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source in Drinking Water
Chloramines	2019	2.16	0.34-3.71	4	4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

## Violations

### 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	04/01/2019	06/30/2019	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	07/01/2019	09/30/2019	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	10/01/2019	12/31/2019	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.