

## 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 necessarily 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. For more information on secondary constituents contact H<sub>2</sub>O Consulting at **281-861-7265**.



## SPECIAL NOTICE For the Elderly, Infants, Cancer Patients, People with HIV/AIDS or Other Immune Problems

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants such as *Cryptosporidium*, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly, or immuno-compromised 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 provider. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline: **1-800-426-4791**.

## QUESTIONS?

If you would like to talk to a District representative about your Water Quality Report, please call **281-861-7265**. For more information from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, you may call the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **1-800-426-4791**.

*En español: Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono **281-861-7265**.*

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Board of Directors of Harris County MUD No. 239 meet at 11:00 am on the third Tuesday of each month or as otherwise posted at 1300 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1400 Houston, TX. You may mail comments to:

**Harris County MUD No. 239**  
**Attn.: Board of Directors**  
**5870 Highway 6 North, Suite 215**  
**Houston, TX 77084**

Or call **281-861-7265**

## ABOUT OUR DRINKING WATER

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has assessed our system and determined that our water is safe to drink. This analysis is based on the data in the attached tables. If your water meets federal standards there may not be any health benefits to purchasing bottled water or point-of-use devices.

## WHERE DO WE GET OUR WATER?

Our drinking water is obtained from multiple sources. Our groundwater comes from the Chicot aquifers. Our surface water is purchased from Harris County MUD No 127 and is supplied by the West Harris County Regional Water Authority (WHCWRA). Texas Commission on Environmental Quality 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 are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants will be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. If we receive or purchase water from another system, their susceptibility is not included in this report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts visit Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/> or contact H<sub>2</sub>O Consulting at **281-861-7265**.

## 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. 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 two 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>.

## WATER SOURCES

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 prior to treatment 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 stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, and farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater 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 stormwater 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, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Federal Food and Drug Administration Agency regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

**HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 239**  
5870 Highway 6 North, Suite 215 • Houston, TX 77084  
281-861-7265



# 2017 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT



**HARRIS COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 239**

PWD ID#: 1012392

## ABOUT THE TABLES

The attached table contains all of the contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants. All contaminants detected in your water are below state and federal allowed levels. The State of Texas allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Our water system purchases water from WHCRWA and is also a shared water system with Harris County MUD No. 127. Both of their water quality information is provided below.

### HARRIS COUNTY MUD 239 – Lead and Copper (Regulated at the Customer’s Tap)

Year	Contaminant	AL	MCLG	90th Percentile	No. Sites Over AL	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2016	Copper	1.3	1.3	0.268	0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems
2016	Lead	15	0	2	1	ppb	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

### HARRIS COUNTY MUD 239 – Inorganic Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Highest or Average Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2017	Arsenic	3.9	3.9–3.9	10	0	ppb	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
2017	Barium	0.108	0.108–0.108	2	2	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
2017	Cyanide	20	20–20	200	200	ppb	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; discharge from steel/metal factories
2017	Fluoride	0.62	0.62–0.62	4	4	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
2015	Nitrite (measured as Nitrogen)	0.29	0.29–0.29	1	1	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

### HARRIS COUNTY MUD 239 – Radioactive Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Highest or Average Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2014	Combined Radium 226/228	3.1	3.1–3.1	5	0	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits
2014	Gross Alpha (excluding Radon and Uranium)	3.1	2–3.1	15	0	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits
2014	Uranium	1.3	1.3–1.3	30	0	µg/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits

### HARRIS COUNTY MUD 239 – Disinfectant Residual

Year	Contaminant	Highest or Average Level	Range of Detected Levels	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2017	Chloramone/Free Cl <sub>2</sub>	2.5	0.52–4.0	4	4	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits

## DEFINITIONS AND UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

**AL** Action Level – The concentration level of a contaminant which, if exceeded, requires a water system to treat water or follow other requirements.

**Avg** Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples

**MCL** Maximum Contaminant Level – 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.

**MCLG** Maximum Contaminant Level Goal – 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.

**MFL** Million Fibers per Liter (a measure of asbestos)

**MRDL** Maximum Residual Disinfection Level – 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.

**MRDLG** Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal – The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected health risk. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**mrem/yr** 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** Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L), or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

**ppm** Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L), 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)

**TT** Treatment Technique – a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

### HARRIS COUNTY MUD 127 – Disinfection Byproducts

Year	Contaminant	Highest or Average Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2017	Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) <sup>1</sup>	20	19.5–19.5	60	No Goal	ppb	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2017	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) <sup>1</sup>	24	24.1–24.1	80	No Goal	ppb	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

### HARRIS COUNTY MUD 127 – Inorganic Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Highest or Average Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2016	Barium	0.0992	0.0992–0.0992	2	2	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
2017	Cyanide	120	120–120	200	200	ppb	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; discharge from steel/metal factories
2015	Fluoride	0.27	0.27–0.27	4	4	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
2017	Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	1	0.97–0.97	10	10	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
2014	Nitrite (measured as Nitrogen)	0.02	0.02–0.02	1	1	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
2016	Selenium	3	3–3	50	50	ppb	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines

### HARRIS COUNTY MUD 127 – Radioactive Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Highest or Average Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2015	Beta/Photon Emitters <sup>2</sup>	4.5	4.5–4.5	50	0	pCi/L	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
2015	Uranium	1	1–1	30	0	µg/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits

### HARRIS COUNTY MUD 127 – Synthetic Organic Contaminants (Including Pesticides and Herbicides)

Year	Contaminant	Highest or Average Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2017	Atrazine	0.36	0.36–0.36	3	3	ppb	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
2017	Simazine	0.19	0.19–0.19	4	4	ppb	No	Herbicide runoff

### WHCRWA – Disinfection Byproducts

Year	Contaminant	Highest or Average Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2015	Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	20.5	20.5–20.5	60	No Goal	ppb	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2015	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	32.4	32.4–32.4	80	No Goal	ppb	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

### WHCRWA – Inorganic Contaminants (Regulated at the Water Plant)

Year	Contaminant	Highest or Average Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2017	Barium	0.05	0.0462–0.0597	2	2	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
2017	Cyanide	25	0–50	200	200	ppb	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; discharge from steel/metal factories
2017	Fluoride	0.22	0–0.45	4	4	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
2017	Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	0.67	0.41–0.88	10	10	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

### WHCRWA – Radioactive Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Highest or Average Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2017	Gross Beta <sup>2</sup>	5.9	5.9–5.9	50	0	pCi/L	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

### WHCRWA – Synthetic Organic Contaminants (Including Pesticides and Herbicides)

Year	Contaminant	Highest or Average Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2017	Atrazine	0.46	0.11–0.91	3	3	ppb	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
2017	Simazine	0.06	0–0.09	4	4	ppb	No	Herbicide runoff

### WHCRWA – Unregulated Contaminants<sup>3</sup>

Year	Contaminant	Highest or Average Level	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2017	Bromodichloromethane	6.53	2.4–8.8	NA	NA	ppb	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2017	Chloroform	26.0	13–47	NA	NA	ppb	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2017	Dibromochloromethane	1.16	0–2.5	NA	NA	ppb	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

<sup>1</sup>The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all HAA5 and TTHM sample results collected at a location over a year.

<sup>2</sup>The EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

<sup>3</sup>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.