2023

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

City of Harker Heights
305 Miller's Crossing
Harker Heights, TX 76548

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En Español…
Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para assistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (254)953-5600-para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

This report for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2023, identifies our water source and the quality of water that is provided to the citizens of Harker Heights. It is to be made available to all citizens of Harker Heights annually, based on the right-to-know provisions in the 1996 Amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act. The City of Harker Heights supports passage of this regulation in order to assure our customers that our water meets and exceeds all federal (EPA) standards.

Our main concern is to provide the citizens of Harker Heights with high-quality potable water and to deliver an uninterrupted flow of water and adequate pressure in the required quantities while protecting your health and welfare.

The City of Harker Heights, Public Water System ID #0140023, is recognized as a Superior Water System by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) – the highest rating available – and we want our residents to know that the water is safe to drink. **Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds All Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Requirements.** This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

This report will be forwarded to the TCEQ.

For More Information Concerning This Report

Contact…

Mark Hyde
Public Works Director
City of Harker Heights
254-953-5649
mhyde@harkerheights.gov

Or visit our web site at
www.harkerheights.gov

For Public Participation Opportunities…

The City Council governing the City of Harker Heights meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:00 pm at City Hall, located at 305 Miller's Crossing Harker Heights, Texas.

The Water District is governed by a Board of Directors. To participate in meetings call the District Office at 254-501-9243

For More Water Quality Information…

Bell County WCID #1
P. O. Box 43
Killeen, TX 76540-0043
254-501-9243
www.wcid1.org

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
www.tceq.texas.gov

EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline
800-426-4791
www.epa.gov/OW

Overview of Water Environment

In 1997, the City entered into an agreement with the Bell County Water Control & Improvement District No. 1 (WCID #1) to increase its daily treated water maximum use from 3.506 million gallons per day (MGD) to 9.0 MGD. Based on the 2006 Water Master Plan, a daily treated water maximum of 11.07 MGD is projected for the year 2020. On May 22, 2007, the City Council authorized a resolution to participate in a minor plant upgrade at the WCID #1 Lake Belton Water Treatment Plant that increased the City of Harker Heights daily treated water maximum to 13.5 MGD. On March 26, 2013, the City Council authorized a resolution to purchase 2.0 MGD of water treatment plant capacity in the proposed WCID #1 Lake Stillhouse Hollow Water Treatment Plant. On December 12, 2017, the City Council authorized a resolution to purchase 0.75 MGD of additional water treatment plant capacity that became available in the proposed WCID #1 Lake Stillhouse Hollow Water Treatment Plant. The City has 16.25 MGD of combined water treatment plant capacity in the Lake Belton Water Treatment Plant and the Lake Stillhouse Hollow Water Treatment Plant. The 16.25 MGD of treated drinking water will adequately serve the City of Harker Heights projected build out population of 45,000 residents.
On April 1, 2006, the City signed a water supply agreement with the Brazos River Authority to increase our raw water supply in Lake Belton from 5,265 acre-feet (1,715,605,515 gallons) to 8,500 acre-feet (2,769,725,000 gallons).
On June 1, 2006, the City signed a water supply agreement with the Brazos River Authority for 300 acre-feet (97,755,000 gallons) of raw water in Lake Stillhouse Hollow. The execution of these agreements insures Harker Heights will have an adequate supply of raw water well into the future.

The 2017 Water Master Plan provides a recommended capital improvements plan for water system infrastructure for the 22 year study period. The totals for the projects are prioritized as follows:
Priority 1 Capital Improvement Projects (2018-2020): Four projects totaling $1,144,925.
Priority 2 Capital Improvement Projects (2020-2025): Four projects totaling $4,150,260.
Priority 3 Capital Improvement Projects (2025-2030): Two projects totaling $3,401,200.
Priority 4 Capital Improvement Projects (2030-2035): Three projects totaling $4,372,150.
Priority 5 Capital Improvement Projects (2035-2040): Three projects totaling $7,391,000.

In 2023, the City used 1,805,654,000 gallons of water, with an average of 4.9 million gallons running through approximately 194 miles of water mains each day. The City can also store approximately 6.0 million gallons of water at a given time. The City's per capita use for 2023 was 140 gallons per day.

Water Loss Audit Results: All public water suppliers are required to publish their annual water loss. The City of Harker Heights submitted its annual Water Loss Audit to the Texas Water Development Board for calendar year 2023. The estimated water loss for calendar year 2023 was 228,571,974 gallons of water. Water loss occurs through water line leaks, inaccurate water meters, theft and other causes.

Be assured that the City of Harker Heights is prepared and is able to provide its citizens with a high quality of potable water while protecting health and welfare for many years to come.

Where does our drinking water come from?

CURRENTLY ALL OF THE CITY'S DRINKING WATER COMES FROM LAKE BELTON, A SURFACE WATER SUPPLY. This lake is used both for flood control and conservation (water supply). Belton Lake has a capacity of 887,000 acre-feet of water, 372,000 acre-feet of that amount is reserved for water supply. The City of Harker Heights purchases water from BELL COUNTY WCID 1. BELL COUNTY WCID 1 provides purchase surface water from Lake Belton located in Bell County, Texas. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has completed a Source Water Susceptibility assessment report for all drinking water systems that own their own sources. The 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 information contained in the assessment allows us to focus source water protection strategies. The Bell County WCID 1 received the assessment report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact the City of Harker Heights Public Works Department at (254) 953-5649.
For more information about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: https://gisweb.tceq.texas.gov/swav/Controller/index.jsp?wtrsrc=

Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at:
http://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/

Source Water Name	Type of Water	Report Status	Location
SW FROM WCID 1 CC FROM TX0140016 BELL	SW	_____	_____

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in the water provided by the public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Acre-foot: Amount of water that covers an acre of land to a depth of one foot. 1 acre-foot = 325,851 Gallons.

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 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 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).

Information On *Cryptosporidium & Giardia*

Cryptosporidium and Giardia are naturally present in bodies of water throughout the world. Surface water supplies are particularly vulnerable if they receive runoff from human or animal waste. For more information regarding cryptosporidium or giardia, please contact the TCEQ at (512)-239-3465 or the EPA at (800)-426-4791.

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. Contact the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800-426-4791) for more information about contaminants and potential health effects.

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 City of Harker Heights Public Works Department at (254)-953-5649.

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, agriculture 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.

Important Definitions & Abbreviations

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

Action Level (AL) – 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 (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 (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 (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 (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 – 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).

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

About the Attached Tables

The attached tables list all the federally regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test up to 97 contaminants.

Inorganic Contaminants								
Year or Range	Violation	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2023	N	Antimony	Less than detection limit	N/A	6	6	ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder; test addition
2023	N	Arsenic	Less than detection limit	N/A	10	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
2022	N	Asbestos	Less than detection limit	N/A	7	7	MFL	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; Erosion of natural deposits
2023	N	Barium	0.065	0.0297-0.065	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
2023	N	Beryllium	Less than detection limit	N/A	4	4	ppb	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace and defense industries
2023	N	Cadmium	Less than detection limit	N/A	5	5	ppb	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; Runoff from waste batteries and paints
2023	N	Chromium	Less than detection limit	N/A	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
2023	N	Cyanide	100	0-100	200	200	ppb	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
2023	N	Fluoride	0.20	0.20-0.22	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
2023	N	Mercury	Less than detection limit	N/A	2	2	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland
2023	N	*Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	.21	.0.20-0.21	10	10	ppm	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 periods of time because of rainfall or agriculture activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask for advice from your health care provider.								
2022	N	Nitrite	Less than detection limit	N/A	1	1	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants Continued								
Year or Range	Violation	Contaminant	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2023	N	Selenium	Less Than Detection Limit	N/A	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
2023	N	Thallium	Less than detection Limit	N/A	2	.4	ppb	Leaching form ore-processing sites; Discharge from electronics, glass and drug factories

Radioactive Contaminants								
Year or Range	Contaminant	Maximum Level	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
2021	Beta/Photon Emitters	6	5.7-6	0	50	pCi/L	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

EPA Considers 50 pCI/L to be the limit of concern for beta particles.

Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticide and Herbicides								
Year or Range	Contaminant	Maximum Level	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
2023	2, 4-D	N/A	Less than detection limit	70	70	ppb	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
2023	2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	N/A	Less than detection limit	50	50	ppb	N	Residue of banned herbicide
2023	Alachlor	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	2	ppb	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
2023	Atrazine	0.13	0.1-0.13	3	3	ppb	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
2023	Benzo(a)pyrene (PAH)	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	0.2	ppb	N	Leaching from linings of water storage tanks and distribution lines
2023	Carbofuran	N/A	Less than detection limit	40	40	ppb	N	Leaching of soil fumigant used on rice and alfalfa
2023	Chlordane	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	2	ppb	N	Residue of banned termiticide
2023	Dalapon	N/A	Less than detection limit	200	200	ppb	N	Runoff from herbicide used on rights of way
2023	Di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate	N/A	Less than detection limit	400	400	ppb	N	Discharge from chemical factories
2023	Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	6	ppb	N	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories

Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticide and Herbicides (Continued)								
Collection Date	Contaminant	Maximum Level	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
2023	Dinoseb	N/A	Less than detection limit	7	7	ppb	N	Runoff from herbicide used on soybeans and vegetables
2023	Endrin	N/A	Less than detection limit	2	2	ppb	N	Residue of banned insecticide
2022	Ethylene dibromide	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	0.5	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum refineries
2023	Heptachlor	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	.40	ppb	N	Residue of banned termiticide
2023	Heptachlor epoxide	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	0.2	ppb	N	Breakdown of heptachlor
2023	Hexachloro benzene	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	0.1	ppb	N	Discharge from metal refineries and agricultural chemical factories
2023	Hexachlorocyclo pentadiene	N/A	Less than detection limit	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from chemical factories
2023	Methoxychlor	N/A	Less than detection limit	40	40	ppb	N	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on fruits, vegetables, alfalfa, livestock
2022	Oxamyl (vydate)	N/A	Less than detection limit	200	200	ppb	N	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on apples, potatoes and tomatoes
2023	Penta chlorophenol	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	1	ppb	N	Discharge from wood preserving factories
2023	Picloram	N/A	Less than detection limit	500	500	ppb	N	Herbicide runoff
2023	Simazine	N/A	Less than detection limit	4	4	ppb	N	Herbicide runoff
2023	Toxaphene	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	3	ppb	N	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on cotton and cattle

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level								
Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2023	Chloramine Residual	2.44	0.5	4.2	40	40	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes

Regulated Contaminants								
Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2023	18.6	10.6-18.6	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)	2023	44.3	35.1-44.3	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
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.								

Unregulated Contaminants

Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2023	Chloroform	4.45	3.0	5.9	ppb	By product of drinking water disinfection.
2023	Bromoform	11.3	3.7	18.9	ppb	By product of drinking water disinfection.
2023	Bromodichloromethane	9.85	8.9	10.8	ppb	By product of drinking water disinfection.
2023	Dibromochloromethane	13.5	11.0	16.0	ppb	By product of drinking water disinfection.

Lead and Copper

Date Sampled	Contaminant	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# of Sites over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
2022	Copper	1.3	1.3	0.0737	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
2022	Lead	0	15	10	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

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.

Volatile Organic Compounds

Year or Range	Contaminant	Maximum Level	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
2023	Benzene	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	5	ppb	N	Discharge from factories; Leaching from gas storage tanks and landfills
2023	Carbon tetrachloride	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	5	ppb	N	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities
2023	Chlorobenzene	N/A	Less than detection limit	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from chemical and agricultural chemical factories
2023	o-Dichlorobenzene	N/A	Less than detection limit	600	600	ppb	N	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
2023	p-Dichlorobenzene	N/A	Less than detection limit	75	75	ppb	N	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
2023	1,2-Dichloroethane	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	5	ppb	N	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
2023	1,1-Dichloroethylene	N/A	Less than detection limit	7	7	ppb	N	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
2023	cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	N/A	Less than detection limit	70	70	ppb	N	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
2023	trans-1-,2-Dichloroethylene	N/A	Less than detection limit	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from industrial chemical factories

Volatile Organic Compounds Continued								
Collection Date	Contaminant	Maximum Level	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
2023	Dichloromethane	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	5	ppb	N	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories
2023	1,2-Dichloropropane	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	5	ppb	N	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
2023	Ethylbenzene	N/A	Less than detection limit	700	700	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum refineries
2023	Styrene	N/A	Less than detection limit	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from rubber and plastic factories; Leaching from landfills
2023	Tetrachloroethylene	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	5	ppb	N	Leaching from PVC pipes; Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
2023	1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	N/A	Less than detection limit	70	70	ppb	N	Discharge from textile-finishing factories
2023	1,1,1-Trichloroethane	N/A	Less than detection limit	200	200	ppb	N	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
2023	1,1,2-Trichloroethane	N/A	Less than detection limit	5	5	ppb	N	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
2023	Trichloroethylene	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	5	ppb	N	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
2023	Toluene	N/A	Less than detection limit	1000	1000	ppm	N	Discharge from petroleum factories
2023	Vinyl Chloride	N/A	Less than detection limit	0	2	ppb	N	Leaching from PVC piping; Discharge from plastics factories
2023	Xylenes	N/A	Less than detection limit	10000	10000	ppb	N	Discharge form petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories

How can I protect water quality once it reaches my home?

You can protect the water after it reaches you.
When the water reaches your home, it is clean and meets or exceeds all state and federal water quality requirements. But without proper precautions, water can be contaminated if a sudden pressure drop in the pipe causes contaminated water to be pulled from your home or yard into your plumbing. If this happens, you could contaminate the water in your home and possibly your neighbor's homes.

- Do not leave a garden hose connected to a faucet with the other end submerged in a swimming pool, bucket, dog's bath water … anything.
- Keep an air gap between your kitchen or bathroom faucet and the water in the sink. Do not attach a hose to your indoor faucet with the other end submerged in the sink or tub.
- Do not allow garden hoses to be connected directly to pressurized tanks that contain pesticides, herbicides or toxic materials of any kind. Insist that an air gap be maintained between the water source and tank when the tank is being filled.
- Do not leave your kitchen sink spray nozzle submerged in the sink.
- If you have the typical, older-style toilet that fills from the bottom, be cautious about putting toilet bowl cleaners in the tank. If the water pressure drops and the fill valve in the toilet tank is leaking, water from the tank can be drawn back into the water lines, especially if there is a faucet open in the house at the time.
- If you have an automatic irrigation system, make sure that you have a backflow prevention device and that it is working properly.
- **Texas State law requires residential irrigation backflow prevention assemblies to be tested when they are installed. Backflow prevention assemblies in commercial areas will be retested every year. Residential homes with septic systems requires backflow prevention assemblies to be tested every year. Residential backflow prevention assemblies in non-health hazard applications will be tested every three years. All annual or every 3-year certification certificates must be provided to the City of Harker Heights. Certification must be conducted by state certified testers.**

Microbiological Contaminants

Turbidity				
	Level Detected	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest Single Measurement	0.86 NTU	1 NTU	N	Soil runoff.
Lowest monthly & meeting limit	97 %	0.3 NTU	N	Soil Runoff.

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. 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 our filtration.

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	5% of monthly samples are positive.	0	0	0	No	Naturally present in the environment.

Total coliform bacteria are used as indicators of microbial contamination of drinking water because testing for them is easy. While not disease-causing organisms themselves, they are often found in association with other microbes that are capable of causing disease. Coliform bacteria are hardier than many disease-causing organisms; therefore, their absence from water is a good indication that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption. The City of Harker Heights collected 480 bacteriological samples for 2023.

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

Total Organic Carbon (% Removal)							
Sample Date	Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Average Level	Range of levels detected	Violation	Major sources in drinking water
202	Total Organic Carbon	NA	TT	4.34	2.45-9.22	No	Naturally present in the environment

Total Organic Carbon (TOC) has no health effects. Disinfectant can combine with TOC to form disinfection byproducts. Byproducts of disinfection include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAA) which are reported in the Regulated Contaminants table above.

WATER CONSERVATION

- Only run your dishwasher when it is full
- Only use the garbage disposal when necessary (composting is a great alternative).
- Take short showers instead of baths
- Apply mulch around shrubs and flower beds to reduce evaporation, promote plant growth and control weeds.
- Run full loads of laundry.
- Keep your home leak-free by repairing dripping faucets, toilet valves, and showerheads. In most cases, fixture replacement parts do not require a major investment and can be installed by do-it-yourselfers.

Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated (No associated adverse health effects)							
Year or Range	Constituent	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Secondary Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2023	Bicarbonate	138	131	146	N/A	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2023	Calcium	37.13	30	40.9	N/A	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2023	Chloride	60.33	41	98	N/A	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity.
2023	Magnesium	16.3	11.2	21.4	N/A	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2023	Manganese	0.002	0.0012	0.0026	N/A	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2023	Nickel	0.0021	0.0016	0.0026	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2012	pH	7.1	7.1	7.2	N/A	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2023	Sodium	33.45	21.6	45.3	N/A	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2023	Sulfate	28.3	26	31	N/A	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2023	Total Alkalinity	129	103	137	N/A	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2023	Total Dissolved Solids	256	241	287	N/A	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2013	Total Hardness as Ca/Mg	140.33	139	141	N/A	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.

SOURCE WATER PROTECTION TIPS

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source
- Pick up after your pets
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public sanitary sewer system.

Results from
the Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5)

As part of its responsibilities under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) implements Section 1445(a)(2), Monitoring Program for Unregulated Contaminants. The SDWA requires that once every five years, EPA issue a list of priority unregulated contaminants to be monitored by certain public water systems across States, Tribes, and Territories. ***These contaminants may be present in drinking water but are not yet subject to EPA drinking water standards.***

UCMR 5 monitoring included 29 per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), and lithium.

PFAS are a group of synthetic chemicals used in a wide range of consumer products and industrial applications including non-stick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain-resistant fabrics and carpets, cosmetics, firefighting foams, electroplating, and products that resist grease, water, and oil. PFAS are found in the blood of people and animals and in water, air, fish, and soil at locations across the United States and the world.

UCMR 5 requires water systems to include results for contaminants detected above the *minimum reporting level*.

Of the 30 contaminants monitored, the City of Harker Heights had three contaminants detected above the *minimum reporting level,* listed in the table below:

Unregulated Contaminant	Collection Date	Average Level (ppb)	Range of Levels Detected (ppb)	UCMR Minimum Reporting Level (ppb)
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	2023	0.0034	0.0-0.0034	0.003
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (PFHxS)	2023	0.004	0.0032-0.0048	0.003
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	2023	0.0058	0.0054-0.0066	0.005