

# 2003 Water Quality Report

OUR DRINKING WATER IS SAFE



The City of Grand Prairie's goal is to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water and we are happy to report that our water supply meets

the standards for drinking water quality as required by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). As it has since 1993, our water supply has again been given a "Superior" water quality rating.

## A SPECIAL NOTICE FOR THE ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, AND PEOPLE WITH HIV OR OTHER IMMUNE SYSTEM CONCERNS.

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; 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, 800-426-4791.



## WHERE DO WE GET OUR DRINKING WATER?

Grand Prairie's drinking water is obtained from both surface and ground water sources and includes water from the cities of Dallas and Fort Worth. As water consumption increases during the warm summer months, the City begins to utilize ground water supplies to meet customer demand.

Grand Prairie purchases the majority of our drinking water supply from the City of Dallas. Dallas treats and uses surface water from six sources, the Elm Fork of the Trinity River and

Lakes Ray Roberts, Lewisville, Grapevine, Ray Hubbard, and Tawakoni.



Fort Worth's drinking water sources include: Lake Benbrook, Lake Bridgeport, Eagle Mountain Lake, Lake Worth, and the

Cedar Creek and Richland-Chambers Reservoirs.

Grand Prairie utilizes up to 11 ground water wells with an average depth of 2,000 feet to pump water out of the Trinity Aquifer.



A current assessment of source water susceptibility for all drinking water sources for Grand Prairie is available by

calling 972-237-8055. This report describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with City drinking water sources based on human activities and natural conditions.



**EN ESPAÑOL** Este reporte incluye información relevante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este reporte, favor de comunicarse al 972-237-8055 para hablar en español con una persona bilingüe.

The tables located in this report contain all detected regulated and unregulated contaminants within the water system. Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards.

The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. All drinking water testing results are well below those established by the EPA to ensure that the water coming from your tap is safe to drink. 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 may be found in drinking water that can 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 Environmental Services Department at 972-237-8055.

#### A NOTE ABOUT CRYPTOSPORIDIUM

Cryptosporidium has not been found in our treated drinking water supply. To ensure that we deliver the safest drinking water to the public, the water treatment facilities are required to treat all contaminants such as Cryptosporidium with the most effective methods of filtration, sedimentation, and disinfection available.

### UNREGULATED CHARACTERISTICS\* DETECTED VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Constituent	Average Amount Detected in Water	Range Detected	Possible Source
Bromochloroacetic Acid (ppb)	7.3	5.9 - 97.0	Chlorination by-product
Bromoform (ppb)	0.52	ND - 3.0	Disinfection by-product
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	8.01	ND - 14.0	Disinfection by-product
Chloroform (ppb)	10.24	ND - 17.0	Disinfection by-product
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	4.5	ND - 10.0	Disinfection by-product
Dichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	14.0	3.0 - 14.0	Disinfection by-product
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	7.0	ND - 7.0	Disinfection by-product

### DETECTED INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Sulfate (ppm)	45.5	37.0 - 54.0	Minerals and nutrients
Sodium (ppm)	33.0	12.0 - 54.0	Natural constituent
Total hardness (ppm)	135.5	92.0 - 179.0	Natural constituent
Total alkalinity (ppm)	90.5	28.0 - 153.0	Natural constituent

\* Unregulated characteristics do not have a MCL or MCLG and are not currently regulated by themselves. However, the EPA does regulate them as part of separate groups. Volatile organic contaminants are regulated as part of a group known as Trihalomethanes (next page, under Disinfection by-products). Inorganic contaminants are regulated as part of a group known as Haloacetic Acids and can also be found under Disinfection by-product.

### TERMINOLOGY

**Action Level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant 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.

**N/A** - Not applicable.

**ND** - Not detected.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU)** - A measure of turbidity in water (reported as single highest reading and lowest monthly percentage).

**pCi/L** - Picocuries per liter. A measure of radiation.

**ppm** - Parts per million. One part per million is similar to one packet of artificial sweetener sprinkled into 250 gallons of iced tea.

**ppb** - Parts per billion. One part per billion is similar to one packet of artificial sweetener sprinkled into an Olympic-sized pool.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Turbidity** - A measure of the clarity of drinking water. The lower, the better.

**REGULATED CHARACTERISTICS  
DETECTED INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS**

Constituent	Highest Single Measurement	Range Detected	MCLG	MCL	Possible Sources
Barium (ppm)	0.058	0.017 - 0.058	2.0	2.0	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge of drilling wastes or metals
Fluoride (ppm)	1.43	0.1 - 1.43	4.0	4.0	Water additive, natural geology
Nitrate (ppm)	2.1	ND - 2.1	10.0	10.0	Fertilizer runoff, septic tank leakage, sewage, natural deposits and erosion
Nitrite (ppm)	0.03	ND - 0.03	1.0	1.0	Same as nitrate
Selenium (ppb) (2002*)	2.8	ND - 2.8	50.0	50.0	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits

**DETECTED ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS**

Atrazine (ppb)	0.92	ND - 0.92	3.0	3.0	Agricultural herbicide runoff
Simazine (ppb)	0.72	ND - 0.72	4.0	4.0	Herbicide runoff

**LEAD AND COPPER**

Constituent	90th percentile	Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Possible Sources
Copper (ppm)	0.39	0	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead (ppb)	0.0022	0	0.015	Corrosion of household plumbing

**DETECTED MICROBIAL CONTAMINANTS**

Constituent	Amount Found in Water	MCLG	MCL	Possible Source
Fecal coliform and E. coli	Total number of positive samples = 0	0	Routine and repeat sample total coliform positive, and one also fecal coliform or E. coli positive	Human and animal fecal waste
Total coliform bacteria	Highest monthly % of positive samples = 3.05	0	Greater than 5% of monthly samples positive for total coliform	Naturally present in the environment

**DETECTED RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS**

Constituent	Highest Single Measurement	Range Detected	MCLG	MCL	Possible Source
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	1.0	ND - 1.0	0	5.0	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	5.6	ND - 5.6	0	50.0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

**DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS**

Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	36.16 <sup>1</sup>	ND - 82.0	0	60.0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Trihalomethanes** (ppb)	44.85 <sup>1</sup>	ND - 93.8	0	100.0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Bromate (ppb)	7.0 <sup>1</sup>	0.0 - 7.0	0	10.0	By-product of ozonation

**TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS**

Constituent	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	MCL	Possible Source
Turbidity <sup>†</sup> (NTU)	0.14 <sup>††</sup>	100%	TT AL=0.3	Soil runoff

\* In accordance with the regulations, the data presented in this report is from the most recent testing done. No date indicates testing done in 2003. \*\*Annual running average. • Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. <sup>†</sup>Turbidity must be less than 0.3 NTU for 95% of monthly samples. <sup>††</sup>This was the highest single reading on any sample taken at the water treatment plant. <sup>1</sup>Number represents the average of the range detected.

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# 2003 Water Quality Report



For more information about this report, contact the Grand Prairie Environmental Services Department at 972-237-8055. Additional copies of the Water Quality Report are available in the Environmental Services Department office at 201 NW 2nd Street, Suite 100, or visit the City of Grand Prairie website at [www.gptx.org](http://www.gptx.org).

To participate in decisions concerning water, attend Grand Prairie City Council meetings on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in Council Chambers located at City Hall, 317 W. College.

For more information about public participation at council meetings, call 972-237-8035.

