

ANNUAL Water Quality Report

REPORTING YEAR
2015



PRESENTED BY CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE



PWS ID#:0570048

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (972) 237-8055.

Our Drinking Water is Safe!

The City of Grand Prairie's goal is to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water. 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). This report is a summary of the quality of water we provide to you.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as *Cryptosporidium*, in drinking water. 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 (800) 426-4791.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. The City of Grand Prairie 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Information on Sources of Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulation limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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 can acquire naturally occurring minerals, in some cases radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances 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, or wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater 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 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 which may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 our business office. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Where Does Grand Prairie Water Come From?

Grand Prairie's drinking water is obtained from both surface and ground water sources and has maintained its "Superior" water quality rating.

Grand Prairie surface water supplies are purchased from the cities of Dallas, Fort Worth, and Midlothian. Dallas treats and uses surface water from seven sources: the Elm Fork of the Trinity River, and lakes Grapevine, Lewisville, Ray Hubbard, Ray Roberts, Tawakoni and Fork.

For Worth's drinking water sources include: Lake Benbrook, Lake Bridgeport, Eagle Mountain Lake, Lake Worth, Cedar Creek and Richland Chambers Reservoirs and the Clear Fork Trinity River.

Midlothian's drinking water sources include: Joe Pool Lake, Richland Chambers and the Cedar Creek Reservoirs.

Grand Prairie uses up to 10 ground water wells, mainly during the summer to meet demand. The wells have an average depth of 2,000 feet and are pumped from the Trinity Aquifer.

Source Water Assessment

The TCEQ completed a source water assessment and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for our water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. The susceptibility of our purchase water sources is not included in this assessment. For more information on source water assessment and protection efforts, please contact us at (972) 237-8055.

Fun Facts

The average pool takes 22,000 gallons of water to fill.



QUESTIONS

For more information about this report, contact Cindy Mendez at the Environmental Services Department at (972) 237-8055.

Additional copies of the Water Quality Report are available in the Environmental Services Department office at 206 West Church Street, 2nd floor, or visit the City website at www.gptx.org.



Public Participation

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 West College Street. For more information about public participation at council meetings, call (972) 237-8035.



Household Hazardous Waste

The City collects household hazardous wastes, which should not be put in the garbage or washed down the drain. To drop off household hazardous waste at one of the City's collection events, register at www.gptx.org/WQ/HHW.

Information on the Internet

The U.S. EPA Office of Water (www.epa.gov/watrhme) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) websites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation and public health.

Doo The Right Thing! Pick Up After Your Pet

Our waste is a problem if it's not picked up. Plus, rain and sprinklers wash our Doo down storm drains and into creeks polluting our water.



- **Pick up** after your dog with a small bag and toss it in the trash.
- **Set up a waste digester** - its like having a pet septic system.
- **Reuse plastic produce or shopping bags** to pick up pet waste.
- **Keep cats indoors**, they will be healthier, live longer, and won't contribute to water pollution.
- **Remember to pick up** pet waste in your yard at least weekly.

Grand Prairie
TEXAS
ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL	MCLG	HIGHEST AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW- HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Antimony (ppb)	2014	6	6	0.26	0-0.26	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; Fire retardants; Ceramics; Electronics; Solder
Arsenic (ppb)	2014	10	NA	1.4	0-1.4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Atrazine (ppb)	2015	3	3	0.4	0-0.4	No	Runoff from herbicide used in row crops
Barium (ppm)	2014	2	2	0.048	0-0.048	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/Photon Emitters (pCi/L)	2015	50	0	5.2	5.2	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Chloramines (ppm)	2015	4	4	5.3	0.05-5.3	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chromium (ppb)	2014	100	100	1.4	0-1.4	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	2014	200	200	107	0-107	No	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Fluoride (ppm)	2015	4	4	0.498	0.498	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAA] (ppb)	2015	60	NA	31.8	11.825-31.8	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2015	10	10	1.28	0.26-1.28	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (ppm)	2015	1	1	0.204	0-0.204	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	2014	50	50	3.5	0-3.5	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge of mines
Simazine (ppb)	2015	4	4	0.47	0-0.47	No	Herbicide runoff
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	2015	80	NA	56.15	16.875-56.15	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Coliform Bacteria (% positive samples)	2015	More than 5% positive monthly samples	0	0.68%	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment

REVIEWING TABLE INFORMATION

All drinking water testing results are 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.

For 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.

DEFINITIONS

AL (Action Level)

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

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)

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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal)

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.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES (CONTINUED)

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MRDL	MRDLG	HIGHEST AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW- HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloramines (ppm)	2015	4	4	5.3	0.05-5.3	No	Water additive used to control microbes

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analysis from sample sites throughout the community.

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2015	1.3	1.3	0.335	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2015	15	0	1	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	HIGHEST AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2015	8.74	1.13-8.74	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform (ppb)	2015	1.56	0-1.56	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (ppb)	2015	13.3	1.26-13.3	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	2015	4.73	0-4.73	By-product of drinking water disinfection

The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. U.S. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the time period of Jan-Dec 2015, our system lost an estimated 1,132,295,956 gallons of water. If you have any questions about the water loss audit, please call (972) 237-8055.

Fun Facts

75% of the human brain is water and 75% of a living tree is water. Water makes up about 66 percent of the human body.

DEFINITIONS (CONTINUED)

MRDL
(Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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 Disinfectant Level Goal)

The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the us disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

mrem/year
(mili-Roentgen equivalent man per year)

A measurement of radioactivity.

NA
Not applicable.

pCi/L
(picocuries per liter)

A measure of radioactivity.

ppm
(parts per million)

One part substance per million parts of water (or milligrams per liter).

ppb
(parts per billion)

One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

TT
(Treatment Technique)

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



When you see a hydrant flowing water, it is typically for one of the following reasons and all of them have to do with protecting public health.

WHY IS THE FIRE HYDRANT RUNNING?

Dead end flushing

All cities in Texas are required to flush areas called Dead Ends, which are like dead end streets. To keep water flowing in dead ends, a hydrant is opened to maintain disinfectant residual and palatable water.

Super-chlorinating and new construction

The water system has to be occasionally cleaned by adding high doses of chlorine to the pipes. New lines are also super-chlorinated before they are put into service. Super-chlorinated water cannot be consumed by the public and is released by a hydrant once cleaning completes.

Unidirectional flushing (UDF)

UDF cleans the water mainlines by flushing sequences with the water being discharged from a hydrant, removing mineral deposits, sediments and biological deposits that accumulate.

Servicing groundwater wells

During times of peak water demand, the City may turn on demand wells that need to be flushed before they can be put into the water system.

Fire department tests

Annually, the Fire Department is required to have the water system tested to make sure adequate pressure exists to fight fires which may include opening hydrants.

Wash down after sanitary sewer overflow (SSO)

A SSO is any overflow, spill or diversion of untreated wastewater from a sanitary sewer system. As part of the cleanup process, hydrants may open to wash a street down or flush out a storm drain of pollutants. That water is typically pumped back into the repaired sewer.