

## 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.



POSTAL CUSTOMER  
GRAND PRAIRIE, TX

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Environmental Services Department  
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# ANNUAL Water Quality Report

REPORTING YEAR 2013



PRESENTED BY CITY OF GRAND  
PRAIRIE

Grand Prairie  
TEXAS

PWS ID#:0570048

## 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 at (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. This water supply 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/safe-water/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safe-water/lead).

## 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 and Fort Worth. Dallas treats and uses surface water from six sources: the Elm Fork of the Trinity River, and lakes Grapevine, Lewisville, Ray Hubbard, Ray Roberts and Tawakoni.

Fort Worth's drinking water sources include: lakes Benbrook, Bridgeport, Eagle Mountain and Worth, and the Cedar Creek and Richland-Chambers 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.

## Arsenic in Water

While your drinking water meets U.S. EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. U.S. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. U.S. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

## 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:

[www.gptx.org/EnvironmentalServices/WQ](http://www.gptx.org/EnvironmentalServices/WQ)

## 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](http://www.gptx.org/WQ/HHW).

## Information on the Internet

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

**FUN FACT:** It takes about 1,000 gallons of water to grow the wheat to make a two pound loaf of bread, and about 120 gallons to produce one egg.

## REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL (MRDL)	MCLG (MRDLG)	HIGHEST AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Antimony (ppb)	2011	6	6	0.3	0-0.30	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; Fire retardants; Ceramics; Electronics; Solder
Arsenic (ppb)	2011	10	NA	1.27	0.86-1.27	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Atrazine (ppb)	2013	3	3	0.28	0-0.28	No	Runoff from herbicide used in row crops
Barium (ppm)	2011	2	2	0.04	0.02-0.04	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/Photon Emitters (pCi/L)	2012	50	0	0	0-0	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Chloramines (ppm)	2013	[4]	[4]	5.1	0.01-5.1	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chromium (ppb)	2011	100	100	5.07	0.45-5.07	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	2011	200	200	7.6	0-7.6	No	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Fluoride (ppm)	2011	4	4	1.16	0.6-1.16	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAA] (ppb)	2013	60	NA	23.4	2.6-23.4	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2013	10	10	0.88	0-0.88	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (ppm)	2013	1	1	0.1	0-0.1	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	2011	50	50	3.22	0-3.22	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge of mines
Simazine (ppb)	2013	4	4	0.54	0-0.54	No	Herbicide runoff
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	2013	80	NA	35.8	4.3-35.8	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Coliform Bacteria (% positive samples)	2013	More than 5% positive monthly samples	0	4.55	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment

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/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2012	1	1.3	0.33	1/50	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2012	15	0	3.82	3/50	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)	2012	3.82	3.82-3.82	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform (ppb)	2012	0	0-0	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (ppb)	2012	4.45	4.45-4.45	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	2012	2.7	2.7-2.7	By-product of drinking water disinfection

## UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	HIGHEST AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH
1,4-Dioxane (p-Dioxane) (ppb)	2013	0.036	0.034-0.036
4-Androstene-3, 17-dione (ppb)	2013	0.0025	0-0.0025
Bromochloromethane (ppb)	2013	0.52	0-0.52
Chlorate (ppb)	2013	807	0-807
Chlorodifluoromethane (ppb)	2013	0.061	0-0.061
Chromium (ppb)	2013	0.7	0.33-0.70
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	2013	0.42	0-4.2
Molybdenum (ppb)	2013	2.5	1.1-2.5
Perfluorononanoic acid (ppb)	2013	0.0032	0-0.0032
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (ppb)	2013	0.014	0-0.014
Perfluorooctanoic acid (ppb)	2013	0.015	0-0.015
Strontium (ppb)	2013	450	233-450
Vanadium (ppb)	2013	0.7	0-0.7

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.

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.

EPA uses the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring (UCM) program to collect data for contaminants suspected to be present in drinking water, but that do not have health-based standards set under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Every five years EPA reviews the list of contaminants, largely based on the Contaminant Candidate List.

In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the time period of Jan-Dec 2013, our system lost an estimated 1,024,907,389 gallons of water. If you have any questions about the water loss audit please call (972) 237-8055.

## REVIEWING TABLE INFORMATION

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.

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.

### 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 use of 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.

## COMMON QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR WATER

**What is that black stain in my sink?** Manganese, a harmless chemical, is colorless when dissolved in water. When it comes in contact with air, it turns black and adheres to the surface of your sink. You can clean these stains with a household cleanser or a special stain remover.

**I am noticing a blue or green stain. What is this?** Copper usually causes this. Copper is probably used in your home plumbing and it is being dissolved into your drinking water. A commercial stain remover should help clean these stains.

**There are white particles in my water. What are they?** Get some of the white material and put it in a glass container. Add some vinegar. If the white particles dissolve, they are most likely harmless calcium compounds formed from the hardness in your water. If the particles do not dissolve, and they float, they are probably nontoxic parts of your water heater's dip tube. Have your water heater serviced.

**Why is my water milky white?** Many times this is caused by air dissolved in the water. Fill a glass and let it sit on your counter. See if the cloudiness disappears after a few minutes.

