

# TYLER COUNTY SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT

## 2016 WATER QUALITY REPORT

**OUR DRINKING WATER IS REGULATED BY THE TEXAS COMMISSION ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY.** This Report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide to our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent required tests, in conjunction with the Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Standards, and is presented in the following pages. We hope this information helps you to become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water. [*En Espanol: Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Si tiene preguntas o' discusiones sobre este reporte en espanol, favor de llamar al tel. (409) 429-3994 par hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol.*] NOTE: The pages that follow (pages 3 – 4) lists all the federally regulated or monitored contaminants found in your drinking water.

**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 some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the 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, iron, or manganese) which are often found in drinking water, can cause taste, color, and odor problems; these are called Secondary Constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not EPA. These constituents are not a cause for health concerns and are not required to be a part of this report, but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water. NOTE: Groundwater sources in Tyler County contain Iron (Fe) and Manganese (Mn), which are aesthetic issues – not health issues – and these constituents often cause discolored water. The Tyler County SUD has successfully completed the Rehabilitation of the Groundwater Filters at the Rockland Well, and these Filters are significantly reducing the levels of Iron and Manganese before the water enters the Rockland water distribution system.

**Special Notice for the Elderly, Infants, Cancer Patients, People with HIV/AIDS, or other Immune Problems:** Some people (as these listed or with similar health problems) may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

**Water Sources:** 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. Contaminants that may be present in source water before treatment include: microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

**Definitions and Water Quality Information:** The following definitions pertain to the terms and abbreviations listed on the "2016 Water Quality Report" displayed on the following pages. Telephone numbers for obtaining additional water quality information include: TCEQ (512-239-1000) and the Tyler County SUD (409-429-3994).

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** = The highest permissible level of a contaminant (constituents) in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to 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 health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that disinfection is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of disinfectant (chlorine) 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 contamination.



- **Treatment Technique (TT)** = A required process intended to reduce the level of a water contaminant.
- **Action Level (AL)** = The concentration of a contaminant, which – if exceeded – triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
- **VOCs** = Volatile Organic Chemicals
- **Measurement Definitions:** **pCi/l** or **mrem/year** (picocuries per liter or millirems per year – measures of radioactivity); **ppm** (parts per million, or milligrams per liter – mg/l); **ppb** (parts per billion, or micrograms per liter), **NTU** (Nephelometric Turbidity Units – a measure of the degree of turbidity), **ppt** (parts per trillion or nanograms per liter), and **ppq** (parts per quadrillion or picograms per liter).

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** The Tyler County SUD Board of Directors normally holds a Regular Monthly Board Meeting on the Third Tuesday of each Month (6:00 p.m.) at the TCSUD Office. Additionally, the TCSUD General Manager and Office Staff may be contacted via telephone # 409-429-3994, if you have any comments or questions in regard to this Water Quality Report or other issues associated with the Tyler County Special Utility District. **NOTE:** The TCSUD Office is open extended hours on Monday – Thursday (7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.); Emergency Calls can be made to the TCSUD Answering Service (# 409-429-3994) when the Office is closed (after-hours and on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday). An outside Drop-Box is also available for receiving payments.

**In 2015, based on the outstanding performance of the Tyler County Special Utility District, the TCEQ designated it as a SUPERIOR PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM.**

**Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?** Our drinking water is obtained from GROUNDWATER water sources and is pumped from the following Aquifer: GULF COAST. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The report will describe the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment will allow us to focus on source water protection strategies. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us at # 409-429-3994; other details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch (TCEQ) at the following: <http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW> ...

| Source Water Name (Well) | Community / Area Served |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 – FM 92 / DAM B        | DAM B and TOWN BLUFF    |
| 3 – FM 92 / SPURGER      | SPURGER                 |
| 4 – FM 92 / FRED         | FRED                    |
| 5 – FM 1013 / HILLISTER  | HILLISTER               |
| 6 – FM 1745 / DIES       | DIES                    |
| 7 – FM 255 / ROCKLAND    | ROCKLAND                |
| 8 – ROCKLAND             | ROCKLAND                |

**NOTE:** The TCSUD Board of Directors, in order to better serve our Customers, has approved and established a SOURCE WATER PROTECTION PROGRAM and this Programs creates barriers of protection for TCSUD groundwater sources and helps prevent the contamination of our local aquifers.

**THE CUSTOMER COMES FIRST:** It is the GOAL of the TCSUD Board and Directors and Employees to make sure that that the **Customer Comes First** when he or she is being served by the Tyler County Special Utility District. This means that we are working hard to cut costs, to make certain that we are listening to Customer Concerns and that our response to these concerns is quick and complete, that we are being flexible (within the boundaries of TCSUD Policies) in dealing with Customer issues, that we respect our Customers and realize their value, and that we are making organizational improvements for the benefit of our Customers. **If you have any issues with the TCSUD, questions about the TCSUD organization, or have suggestions for ways that we can improve, please contact the TCSUD General Manager at # 409-429-3994. Thank you.**

**Tyler County Special Utility District  
P.O. Drawer 138      Spurger, Texas 77660**

## 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                              | 1 positive monthly sample.               | 1                       |   | 0   | N         | Naturally present in the environment. |

## Lead and Copper

## Definitions:

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.

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

| Lead and Copper | Date Sampled | MCLG | Action Level (AL) | 90th Percentile | # Sites Over AL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination  |
|-----------------|--------------|------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------|-----------|---|
| Copper          | 2016         | 1.3  | 1.3               | 0.2             | 0               | ppm   | N         | Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems. |
| Lead            | 2016         | 0    | 15                | 1.2             | 0               | ppb   | N         | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.                                   |

## Water Quality Test Results

## Definitions:

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

## Avg:

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

## Maximum Contaminant Level or 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.

## 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.

## Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or 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.



## Regulated Contaminants

| Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG                  | MCL | Units  | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination   |
|--|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----|--------|-----------|--|
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)                    | 2016            | 4                      | 4 - 4                    | No goal for the total | 60  | ppb    | N         | By-product of drinking water disinfection.   |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)               | 2016            | 16                     | 16.2 - 16.2              | No goal for the total | 80  | ppb    | N         | By-product of drinking water disinfection.   |
| Inorganic Contaminants                     | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG                  | MCL | Units  | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination   |
| Barium                                     | 2016            | 0.0168                 | 0.0168 - 0.0168          | 2                     | 2   | ppm    | N         | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.                                |
| Fluoride                                   | 03/31/2014      | 0.26                   | 0 - 0.26                 | 4                     | 4.0 | ppm    | N         | Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. |
| Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]             | 2016            | 1                      | 0 - 1.3                  | 10                    | 10  | ppm    | N         | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.                               |
| Radioactive Contaminants                   | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG                  | MCL | Units  | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination   |
| Beta/photon emitters                       | 2016            | 6.1                    | 0 - 6.1                  | 0                     | 50  | pCi/L* | N         | Decay of natural and man-made deposits.  |

\*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

| Combined Radium 226/228                 | 03/31/2014      | 2.65                   | 2.65 - 2.65              | 0    | 5   | pCi/L | N         | Erosion of natural deposits.   |
|---|-----------------|------------------------|--------------------------|------|-----|-------|-----------|--|
| Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium | 2016            | 3.9                    | 0 - 3.9                  | 0    | 15  | pCi/L | N         | Erosion of natural deposits.   |
| Volatile Organic Contaminants           | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination   |
| Xylenes                                 | 2016            | 0.0022                 | 0 - 0.0022               | 10   | 10  | ppm   | N         | Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories. |