



# 2020 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

If you would like additional information concerning this report  
about the quality of your drinking water, please contact  
Tyler Water Utilities at (903) 939-8716.

On September 18, 1998, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) adopted a rule requiring all water utilities to provide a detailed annual report informing its customers of the quality of their drinking water. Tyler Water Utilities is proud of our history of providing our customers with a safe and reliable supply of drinking water. In accordance with EPA requirements, the City of Tyler hereby provides this Annual Water Quality Report, which covers the period from January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2019.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

The public may participate in City Council meetings held every second and fourth Wednesday at 9 a.m. involving water quality matters.

## REQUIRED INFORMATION

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) requires that the following information be provided in this report:

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 at (800)426-4791.

En Espanol: Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (903) 531-1230.

## SOURCES OF DRINKING WATER

Tyler Water Utilities receives raw surface water from two major sources. Raw water from Lake Tyler and Lake Tyler East, located approximately eight miles southeast of Tyler, is pumped to Golden Road Water Treatment Plant. Raw water from Lake Palestine, located approximately ten miles southwest of Tyler, is pumped to Lake Palestine Water Treatment Plant. At the treatment plants, raw water is treated, filtered, and disinfected before distribution. Tyler's water distribution system is also supplemented by eleven deep wells tapping the Carrizo-Wilcox aquifer. Tyler's wells are currently categorized as inactive, but would be available in an emergency.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

To ensure tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA 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 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These problems are not necessarily cause for health concern. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact Tyler Water Utilities at (903) 939-8716. TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection of these contaminants will be found in this water quality report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, call (903) 939-8716.

## WATER QUALITY RESULTS

The following tables provide the water quality results of Tyler's drinking water. Please note that a list of definitions has been provided to help you understand the tables.

### DEFINITIONS

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

**Contaminant** - Any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substance or matter in water. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

**HRA Avg. (Highest Running Annual Average)** - The highest of four (4) values calculated by averaging each quarter's average result with the previous three (3) quarter's average results.

**LMPS (Lowest Monthly Percentage of Samples)** - The lowest of the monthly percentage of samples that meets the turbidity limit of <0.3 NTU.

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to 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.

**N/A** - Not Applicable

**ND** - Indicates that the parameter tested below the detection limit.

**NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Unit)** - A unit of turbidity determined by measuring the side scattering of light caused by particulate matter.

**Parameter** - a particular chemical, combination of chemicals or microbiological entity that can be assigned a value: commonly a concentration, but may also be a logical entity (present or absent)

**pCi/l (Picocuries per liter)** - A measure of radioactivity.

**ppb (Parts per Billion)** - In drinking water, one atom or molecule of a substance in one billion molecules of water. Example: One cent in 10 million dollars equals one ppb.

**ppm (Parts per Million)** - In drinking water, one atom or molecule of a substance in one million molecules of water. Example: One cent in 10 thousand dollars equals one ppm.

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

**umho/cm** - A unit of measurement for conductivity.

**< (less than sign)** - The sign indicating the value was 'less than' or not detected at the detection limit of the analytical method or 'less than' the regulatory limit.

## CITY OF TYLER DRINKING WATER QUALITY MONITORING ANALYSIS

January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020

### Regulated at the Customer's Tap

Parameters	Units	90th Percentile	MCL	MCLG	# of Sites Exceeding AL	Sources in Drinking Water
Copper	ppm	0.056	AL = 1.3	1.3	0	Corrosion of customer plumbing
Lead	ppm	ND	AL = 0.015	0	0	Corrosion of customer plumbing

The City of Tyler's last Lead and Copper Rule sampling was in 2020. The results for the 2020 lead and copper sampling indicated that our water system is below the action limit for lead and copper.

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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Regulated in the Distribution System						
Parameters	Units	HRA Average	Range of Individual Samples	MCL	MCLG	Source in Drinking Water
*Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	ppb	45.3	24.9 – 66.7	80	0	Chlorination byproduct
Total Haloacetic Acids	ppb	21.9	11.0 – 38.9	60	0	Chlorination byproduct
						* TTHMs – Some people who drink water containing TTHMs in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Chloramines	ppm	Average of 1.87	0.40 – 3.90	4	4	Disinfectant to control microbes
Total Coliform Bacteria		Less than 5% per month	0 - 10	5%	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal coliform / <i>E. coli</i>		Two Positive for 2020. All three repeats were Negative.		MCL = A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive.		

Fecal coliforms and *E. coli* are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems. Two samples collected in 2020 tested positive for *E. coli*. Both sites were resampled within 24 hours and tested negative, indicating a probable contamination of the sample itself and not the water.

In the month of October, the MCL for Total Coliform Bacteria was exceeded. Sampling sites that tested positive were repeated and negative samples were obtained at all locations. This indicated probable contamination of the samples themselves due to improper sampling techniques, and not the water. The MCL exceedance triggered a Level 1 Assessment by TCEQ. The City of Tyler performed the Assessment and presented its findings to TCEQ. TCEQ accepted the City of Tyler's Assessment and determined that no sanitary defects were identified in the City of Tyler's Public Water System.

Regulated at the Treatment Plant					
Parameter		Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detection	MCL/MCLG	Source
Turbidity	Highest Single Measurement	0.6 NTU	0.13 NTU	N/A	Soil runoff
	Lowest Monthly Percentage (%) Meeting Limit	0.3 NTU	100%		

Measuring turbidity is required by state and federal law, and aids the City in determining the effectiveness of the clarification and filtration processes in removing particulate matter from drinking water. The City met all turbidity requirements in 2020.

Regulated at Treatment Plant and Wells						
Parameter	Units	Max	Range	MCL	MCLG	Source
Barium	ppm	0.047	0.045 – 0.047	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	ppm	0.26	0.0494 – 0.26	4	4	Drinking water additive
Nitrate	ppm	0.0811	0.0791 – 0.0811	10	10	Fertilizer runoff; Erosion of natural deposits

#### Cryptosporidium

Cryptosporidium is a tiny intestinal parasite found naturally in the environment. It is spread by human and animal waste. If ingested, cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection (symptoms include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps). Some of the ways cryptosporidium can be spread include drinking contaminated water, eating contaminated food that is raw or undercooked, exposure to the feces of animals or infected individuals (i.e. changing diapers without washing hands afterward), or exposure to contaminated surfaces. Not everyone exposed to the organism becomes ill. Tyler has tested for cryptosporidium in both untreated and treated water. It has only been found in the untreated water supply, and has not been found in the Tyler treated drinking water. Tyler works to protect the watershed from contamination and optimizes the treatment process. Although Tyler's water treatment process removes cryptosporidium, immuno-compromised persons should consult their physician regarding appropriate precautions to avoid infection.

Unregulated Parameters					
Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of the unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Any unregulated contaminants detected are reported in the following table. For additional information and data visit <a href="https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fourth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule">https://www.epa.gov/dwucmr/fourth-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule</a> , or call the Safe Water Hotline at (800-426-4791).					
Constituent Parameter	Sampling Type	Units	Average	Range	MCL
HAA5	Distribution	ppb	22.5	11.0 – 38.9	N/A
Manganese	Distribution	ppm	0.004	<0.001 – 0.109	N/A

Secondary and Other Constituents					
Parameters	Units	Average	Range	Maximum Secondary Constituent Level	
Alkalinity, Total	ppm	29.02	17.5 – 45.2	N/A	
Alkalinity, Bicarb.	ppm	22.35	19.6 – 25.1	N/A	
Aluminum	ppm	0.04	0.022 – 0.058	0.20	
Conductivity	umho/cm	215	162 – 290	N/A	
Hardness, Total	ppm	44	25 – 54	N/A	
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	123	90 – 168	N/A	
Total Organic Carbon	ppm	2.54	2.02 – 3.21	N/A	
Calcium	ppm	13.5	6.7 – 16.2	N/A	
Chloride	ppm	17.9	9.84 – 32.9	N/A	
Magnesium	ppm	2.81	2.25 – 3.37	N/A	
Manganese	ppm	0.00424	<0.001 – 0.109	N/A	
Sodium	ppm	19.1	8.15 – 24.3	N/A	
Copper	ppm	0.0109	<0.05 – 0.221	N/A	
Iron	ppm	0.045	<0.05 – 1.06	N/A	
Nickel	ppm	0.00175	0.0015 – 0.002	N/A	
Zinc	ppm	<0.005	<0.005 – <0.005	5.0	
Monochloroacetic acid	ppb	1.01	<1.0 – 5.7	N/A	
Dichloroacetic acid	ppb	14.1	7.6 – 24.6	N/A	
Trichloroacetic acid	ppb	6.18	2.0 – 12.4	N/A	
Monobromoacetic acid	ppb	<1.0	<1.0 – <1.0	N/A	
Dibromoacetic acid	ppb	0.58	<1.0 – 1.6	N/A	
Bromochloroacetic acid	ppb	4.5	3.0 – 7.8	N/A	

Other Parameters					
Parameter	Units	Result	MCL	MCLG	
Antimony	ppm	<0.001	0.006	6	
Arsenic	ppm	<0.001	0.001	N/A	
Beryllium	ppm	<0.001	0.004	4	
Cadmium	ppm	<0.001	0.005	5	
Chromium	ppm	<0.001	0.10	100	
Mercury	ppm	<0.0002	0.002	2	
Selenium	ppm	<0.005	0.05	50	
Silver	ppm	<0.001	0.1	N/A	
Thallium	ppm	<0.001	0.002	0.5	

Radioactive Parameters					
Gross Alpha Emitters (2017)	pCi/l	<2.0	15		
Gross Beta Emitters (2017)	pCi/l	2.4	50		
Radium 228 (2017)	pCi/l	0.59	5		

Source: Decay of natural & manmade deposits

Water Loss Audit					
In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the time period of January through December 2020, our system lost an estimated 1,644,485,053 gallons of water. If you have any questions about the water loss audit please call 903-939-8716.					