Quality First

Once again we are proud to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2010. As in years past, we are committed to delivering the best-quality drinking water possible. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of new regulations, source water protection, water conservation, and community outreach and education while continuing to serve the needs of all of our water users. Thank you for allowing us to continue providing you and your family with quality drinking water.

We encourage you to share your thoughts with us on the information contained in this report. Should you ever have any questions or concerns, we are always available to assist you. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Veronica Medrano at (956) 748-3633.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Depending on where you live in the East Rio Hondo Water Supply Corporation (ERHWSC) service area, you receive processed Rio Grande River water from one of three treatment facilities. For 27 years, ERHWSC has operated the 3.2-million-gallon-per-day (MGD) Nelson Road Treatment Plant south of FM 1561. In March of 2009, we put into production our new 8.0 MGD Martha Ann Simpson Treatment Plant. Water is pumped from the Rio Grande River and transferred to both plants by Cameron County Irrigation District Number Two (CCID2). These two plants can deliver water to all locations in our service area, depending upon system demands. Members of the Arroyo City area receive water produced from the 0.6 MGD Arroyo City Treatment Plant located west of Arroyo City off FM 2925 or from ERHWSC through an interconnect pipeline located on FM 1847. The Arroyo City plant is also supplied water by CCID2. Members of the west of Combes and North Harlingen areas may receive water from ERHWSC, North Cameron Regional Water Supply Corporation, or Harlingen Waterworks System (HWWS) via an interconnect pipeline with ERHWSC. Analyses for all four water sources are included in this report. Rio Grande water for the Rio Grande Valley is stored in both Amistad and Falcon reservoirs. These reservoirs fluctuate in level, depending on inflows from other states and from Mexico. Water quality varies depending on which area of the Rio Grande watershed the inflow originates.

Lead and Drinking Water

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. East Rio Hondo Water Supply Corporation 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.

Important Health Information

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly, or 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 U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

LT2 Rule

The U.S. EPA has created the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2) for the sole purpose of reducing illness linked with the contaminant *Cryptosporidium* and other disease-causing microorganisms in drinking water. The rule will bolster existing regulations and provide a higher level of protection of your drinking water supply.

Sampling of our water source has shown the following:

Cryptosporidium: 0-0 IFA Count

Giardia lamblia: 0-3 IFA Count

It is important to note that these results are from our raw water source only and not our treated drinking water supply. For more information, contact the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Source Water Assessment

The TCEQ (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality) has 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 consumer confidence report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts contact TCEQ Region 15 office at (956) 425-6010.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our public forum and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the second Monday of each month, beginning at 6:00 p.m., at the East Rio Hondo Water Supply Corporation (ERHWSC) Main Office, 206 Industrial Parkway, Rio Hondo, Texas.

Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations 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.

East Rio Hondo Water Supply Corporation
206 Industrial Parkway | PO Box 621
Rio Hondo, TX 78583

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (956) 748-3633.

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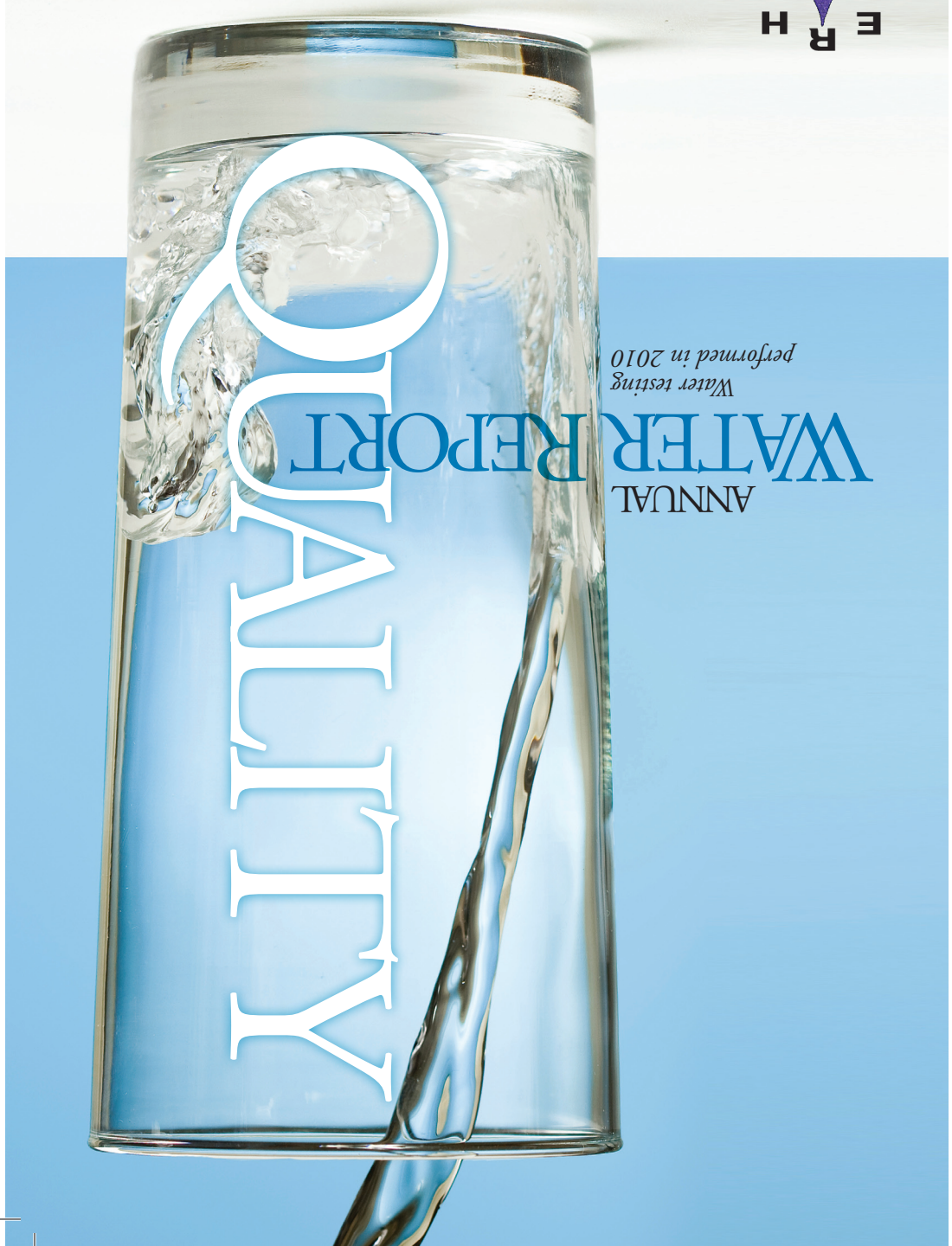

ANNUAL
WATER REPORT
Water testing performed in 2010
QUALITY

Sampling Results

During the past year, we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows only those contaminants that were detected in the water. Although all of the substances listed here are under Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), we feel it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water. The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

				East Rio Hondo Water Supply Corporation		Harlingen Water Works System		Arroyo Water Plant		North Cameron Regional Water Supply Corporation			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Antimony (ppb)	2010	6	6	0.695	0.695–0.695	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; Fire retardants; Ceramics; Electronics; Solder
Arsenic (ppb)	2010	10	NA	0.854	0.854–0.854	NA	NA	0.67	0.67–0.67	4.1	4.1–4.1	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Atrazine (ppb)	2010	3	3	ND	NA	NA	NA	0.1	0.1–0.1	NA	NA	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Barium (ppm)	2010	2	2	0.136	0.136–0.136	NA	NA	0.122	0.122–0.122	0.00315	0.00315–0.00315	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/Photon Emitters[1] (pCi/L)	2009	50	0	6.4	6.4–6.4	NA	NA	8.6[2]	8.6–8.6[2]	NA	NA	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Chloramines (ppm)	2010	[4]	[4]	2.97	1.92–3.55	NA	NA	2.14	1.23–2.97	2.1[3]	0.34–2.10[3]	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide (ppb)	2010	800	800	0.12	ND–0.12	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chlorite (ppm)	2010	1	0.8	0.85	0.1–0.85	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Fluoride (ppm)	2010	4	4	0.37	0.37–0.37	47	46–47	0.36	0.36–0.36	0.29	0.29–0.29	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAA] (ppb)	2010	60	NA	23	18.4–23.1	NA	NA	34.6	34.6–34.6	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2010	10	10	0.26	0.26–0.26	0.35	0.32–0.38	0.12	0.12–0.12	0.06	0.06–0.06	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	2010	50	50	0.518	0.518–0.518	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2010	80	NA	57	29.0–56.6	NA	NA	42.5	42.5–42.5	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	2010	TT	NA	2.13	0.70–2.13	NA	NA	1.59	1.47–1.59	NA	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity[4] (NTU)	2010	TT	NA	0.27	0.02–0.27	0.44	ND–0.44	0.28	0.03–0.28	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2010	TT=95% of samples<0.3	NA	100	NA	99.5	NA	100	NA	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff

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

				East Rio Hondo Water Supply Corporation		Arroyo Water Plant			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH%TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH%TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2010	1.3	1.3	0.088	0/30	0.083[5]	0/10[5]	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2010	15	0	0.98	0/30	2[5]	0/10[5]	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

				East Rio Hondo Water Supply Corporation		Harlingen Water Works System		Arroyo Water Plant			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	EXCEEDANCE	TYPICAL SOURCE
Aluminum (ppb)	2010	200	NA	52	52–52	NA	NA	47.8	47.8–47.8	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Residual from some surface water treatment processes
Chloride (ppm)	2010	300	NA	202	202–202	249	249–249	179	179–179	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Iron (ppb)	2010	300	NA	86.6	86.6–86.6	NA	NA	<51	<51–<51	No	Leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2010	50	NA	2.08	2.08–2.08	NA	NA	11.7	11.7–11.7	No	Leaching from natural deposits
pH (Units)	2010	6.5–8.5	NA	7.7	7.7–7.7	7.7	7.6–7.7	7.5	7.5–7.5	No	Naturally occurring
Sulfate[6] (ppm)	2010	300	NA	313	313–313	334	333–334	336	336–336	Yes	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids [TDS] (ppm)	2010	1,000	NA	887	887–887	982	973–990	850	850–850	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Zinc (ppm)	2010	5	NA	0.0151	0.0151–0.0151	NA	NA	0.0157	0.0157–0.0157	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes

OTHER SUBSTANCES

		East Rio Hondo Water Supply Corporation		Harlingen Water Works System		Arroyo Water Plant		
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2010	13.6	6.8–13.6	NA	NA	13.4	13.4–13.4	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform (ppb)	2010	21.1	8.4–21.1	NA	NA	8.2	8.2–8.2	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (ppb)	2010	6.3	2.8–6.8	NA	NA	8.1	8.1–8.1	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	2010	20.1	10.2–20.1	NA	NA	12.8	12.8–12.8	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Hardness (ppm)	2010	314	314–314	NA	NA	282	282–282	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts
Sodium (ppm)	2010	164	164–164	NA	NA	166	166–166	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Total Alkalinity (ppm)	2010	97	97–97	99	98–99	73	73–73	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts

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

[2] Sampled in 2006.

[3] Free chlorine was being used as a disinfectant from October 4, 2010, to October 25, 2010. Minimum Cl2 is 0.2 mg/L of Free Chlorine.

[4] Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

[5] Sampled in 2009.

[6] Sulfate was detected at a level exceeding the established state secondary MCL (SMCL), which was set to protect against unpleasant aesthetic effects such as color, taste, odor, and staining of plumbing fixtures (for example, tubs or sinks) or clothing during laundering. There are no adverse health effects expected with this exceedance.

[7] 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.

Definitions

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

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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. Secondary MCLs (SMCL) are set for the control of taste and odor.

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 a 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.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

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

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

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