

HICKORY CREEK SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT

2013 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report



Sources of Drinking Water

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.

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

EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Contaminants 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, and

wildlife.

- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses.

- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Annual Water Quality Report

January 1 to December 31, 2013

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

For more information regarding this report contact:

Mike Wemhoener, General Manager 903.568.4760

Public Participation Opportunities

Date: 3rd Monday of the Month

Time: 7:00 pm

Location: Hickory Creek SUD Office

Phone No: 903.568.4760

To learn about future public meetings (concerning your drinking water), or to request to schedule one, please call us.

2014 Board of Directors

Jimmy Beach
214.325.9730

Frances Caplinger
903.408.9958

Tammy Cross
903.454.2131

Frank Giles
903.461.5373

Brandon Lamm
903.450.3187

James "Bo" Walker
903.408.9808

Brad White
903.408.7272

Office Hours

Monday—Friday
8:00am —3:00 pm

Office Phone
903.568.4760

Fax
903.568.4867

Emergency No.s
903.456.0916
903.217.7902

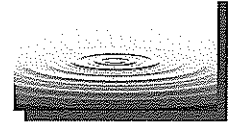
En Español

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre éste informe en español, favor de llamar al tel. 903.568.4103 - para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

Finding Leaks & Water Heater Maintenance

You may have a water leak of which you are unaware. It's easy to check, follow these instructions:

Service Line: (A leak between the water meter and the house.)



- 1.) Find the water meter
- 2.) Turn off all running water and water-using appliances, and do not flush the toilet
- 3.) Read the dial on the water meter and record the reading. After 15 to 20 minutes, re-check the reading.
- 4.) If no water has been used and the reading has changed, a leak is occurring. The rate (gallon per minute) of the leak can be determined by dividing the number of gallons by the elapsed time.
- 5.) If the leak cannot be found and fixed, a plumber should be called. Before calling, check all toilets for silent leaks by following the instructions below.

When a toilet leaks, water escapes from the tank into the bowl. Toilets are notorious for hidden or silent leaks, because leaks are seldom noticed unless the toilet "runs" after each flush (which can waste 4-5 gallons a minute). To determine if the toilet is leaking do the following:

Look at the toilet bowl after the tank has stopped filling. If water is still running into the bowl or if water can be heard running, the toilet is leaking.

Often times, however, the toilet may have a "silent leak". To test for silent leak, mix a few drops of food coloring or place a dye capsule (available free of charge at our office) into the water in the toilet storage tank after the water has stopped running and the tank is full. **DO NOT FLUSH THE TOILET.** Wait for about 10 minutes, if the dye or food coloring appears in the bowl. Leaks of this type are usually caused by a defective flush valve (flapper) ball or a corroded or scaled valve seat. Replacement balls and valves, which can be installed in less than 30 minutes, are available from most hardware and plumbing stores.

Faucet Leaks:

Faucet leaks are obvious. The cause of faucet leaks is frequently a worn washer that can be replaced with two or three hand tools. Replacement washers can be purchased from most hardware and variety stores for only a few cents.

Water Heater Maintenance:

Water heaters, gas or electric, have become more complex and expensive. They also do not seem to last as long as they once did. This is one modern appliance that we could not live without, but is "out of sight, out of mind" until we have problems.

Hot Water Heater Flushing:

Maintenance books recommend that the hot water heater be drained (flushed) every six months, but few homeowners bother to do this. Often, it is put in an area that is not as accessible as other appliances. It may or may not be easy to drain, even though all heaters have a hose connection and faucet control at the bottom. This task is not only inconvenient, but often the washer and/or washer seat on the faucet must be replaced after draining. Sometimes the entire faucet assembly will have to be replaced. If it is not done correctly, the unit may leak at the faucet. Furthermore the unit can be damaged while draining. Unless you are fully familiar with servicing these units, one should consult their service representatives at the gas or electric utility before undertaking this task.

Odors:

A heater which is recycled off/on or left off for a period of non-heating may develop offensive odors from sulfur bacteria. The odor, hydrogen sulfide - "rotten egg odor", may be drawn back through cold water faucets as well as the hot water faucet.

Temperature Settings:

The heater thermostat should be set at a reasonable temperature. Scalding of infants and the elderly can be a real hazard, even when the temperature setting is within proper limits. Again, the user should consult with their energy supplier to have the unit set at a safe temperature.

White Plastic Particles:

It is not unusual for the white plastic (PVC) filler tube inside the heater to disintegrate and discharge small white particles to the faucet aerator screens. These particles can come through not only the hot water lines but the cold water lines as well. These particles may appear to be soft and crumbly, but a good test is to heat this material with a match. PVC will melt; minerals, such as calcium will not.

2013 Regulated Contaminants Detected

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) | 90 th Percentile | # Sites Over AL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|-----------------|--------------|------|-------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------|-------|-----------|---|
| Copper | 2013 | 1.3 | 1.3 | .204 | 0 | ppm | N | Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems. |
| Lead | 2013 | 0 | 15 | 1.85 | 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.

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.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:

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.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG:

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.

MFL:

Million Fibers per Liter (a measure of asbestos)

na:

not applicable.

NTU:

Nephelometric Turbidity Units (a measure of turbidity)

pCi/L:

Picocuries per Liter (a measure of radioactivity)

Water Quality Test Results

ppb:

micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

ppm:

milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

Ppt:

parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

Ppq:

parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)

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) | * 2013 | 17.7 | 0 - 17.7 | No goal for the total | 60 | ppb | N | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) | 2013 | 26.1 | 7.04 - 26.1 | 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 |
| Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen] | 2013 | 0.073 | 0.0275 - 0.073 | 10 | 10 | ppm | N | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
| Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate | 2013 | 1 | 0.536-0.536 | 0 | 6 | ppb | N | Discharge from rubber and chemical factories. |

Violations Table Chlorine

Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.

| Violation Type | Violation Begin | Violation End | Violation Explanation |
|--|-----------------|---------------|---|
| Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR). | 01/01/2013 | 03/31/2013 | We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated. |
| Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR). | 04/01/2013 | 06/30/2013 | We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated. |
| Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR). | 07/01/2013 | 09/30/2013 | We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated. |
| Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR). | 10/01/2013 | 12/31/2013 | We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated. |

Lead and Copper Rule

The Lead and Copper Rule protects public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosivity. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials.

| Violation Type | Violation Begin | Violation End | Violation Explanation |
|----------------------------|-----------------|---------------|---|
| LEAD CONSUMER NOTICE (LCR) | 12/30/2013 | 2013 | We failed to provide the results of lead tap water monitoring to the consumers at the location water was tested. These were supposed to be provided no later than 30 days after learning the results. |



Hickory Creek Special Utility District

102 N. Highway 69
P.O. Box 540
Celeste, Texas 75423
903.568.4760

June 24, 2014

Hickory Creek Special Utility District PWS ID 1160062 has violated the monitoring and reporting requirements set by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in Title 30, Texas Administrative Code (30 TAC), Section 290, Subchapter F. Public water systems are required to properly disinfect water before distribution, maintain acceptable disinfection residuals within the distribution systems, monitor the disinfectant residual at various locations throughout the distribution systems, and report the results of that monitoring to the TCEQ on a quarterly basis.

Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether drinking water is safe from microbial contamination. During quarter(s) 1, 2, 3, &4, 2013, monitoring and/or reporting for disinfectant residual was not complete, and therefore TCEQ cannot assess the safety of the drinking water during that time.

The Following Actions are being taken to address this issue:

Hickory Creek Special Utility District completed first quarter report on the date of 4/8/2013, second quarter report on date of 06/08/13, Third quarter report 10/7/13 and the fourth quarter report was completed on the date of 01/08/14. The reports in questions were sent via regular mail but were not received by TCEQ on a timely basis therefore this resulted in a violation. Please rest assured that this is a reporting issue not a monitoring issue. All 2013 Quarterly reports were sent to TCEQ via Email, Fax and Certified mailing on the above date for the correction of this violation along with the First quarter for 2014. All future reports will be sent to TCEQ via Certified mailing to ensure delivery.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

If you have questions regarding this matter, you may contact Hickory Creek Special Utility District office at 903-568-4760

Thank You

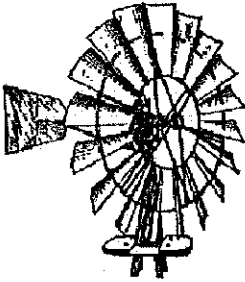
Mike Wemhoener
General Manager
Hickory Creek Special Utility District

Posted/Delivered On: July 1, 2014

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Hickory Creek Special Utility District
P.O. Box 540
Celeste, Texas 75423-0540

2013 ANNUAL DRINKING
WATER QUALITY REPORT



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