

Your Drinking Water

City of Plano - Water Quality Report - 2008

Our Water Source

The City of Plano contracts with the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) for the water supplied to our community. The primary concern and responsibility of the NTMWD has been the conservation and preservation of clean, high quality drinking water. The NTMWD obtains surface water from Lavon Lake, Lake Texoma, Jim Chapman Lake, Lake Tawakoni and Lake Bonham. Additionally, water is supplied by the East Fork Raw Water Supply Project, commonly known as the "Wetland."

Your Drinking Water Is Safe

The NTMWD utilizes a five-barrier water treatment process to ensure water quality meets or exceeds all Safe Drinking Water Standards as established by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The treatment process eliminates or reduces particulates, impurities and waterborne microorganisms in the water supply. The NTMWD routinely performs a range of water quality tests prior to, during and after the water treatment process takes place to ensure we deliver high quality water.

How do impurities get into the water supply? The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 which may be present in source water before treatment include: microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants and organic chemical compounds.

Secondary constituents (such as calcium, sodium or iron) which are found in drinking water can cause taste, color or odor problems.

Constituents are regulated by the State of Texas, not the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). They are not cause for health concerns. Therefore they are not required to be included in this report but they may affect the taste and appearance of your water.

The EPA has issued drinking water standards, or Maximum Contaminant Levels, for more than 80 contaminants. These standards establish limits on the amount of various substances in drinking water that can, at certain levels, adversely affect human health.

Periodically, these standards are reviewed and refined based on scientific and technological advancements. Public water utilities are required to implement a regular program of sample collection and laboratory analysis, meeting the federal and state standards.

Plano's "SUPERIOR" water supply meets and exceeds all federal and state regulations for drinking water. In addition to daily monitoring by NTMWD of both the raw water in Lake Lavon and treated water, Plano's Utility Operations team takes over 150 water samples from across the city each month to ensure your water is reaching you in good condition. The samples are analyzed in the NTMWD laboratory, with quality reports submitted to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ).

More information about contaminants and potential health side effects may be obtained by calling toll-free the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800)426-4791.

Cryptosporidium

The NTMWD continues to diligently analyze both source water and treated water for the presence of Cryptosporidium. It has not been detected in any of the samples treated. Cryptosporidium is a protozoan that is so small it can only be seen through a microscope. It affects the digestive tracts of both humans and animals. At this time, drug therapy

has not proven to be effective in treating cryptosporidiosis, but those with healthy immune systems usually recover within two weeks.

Lead/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>.

Bottled Water

Since Plano's drinking water consistently meets or exceeds federal and state standards, there may be no health-based benefit in purchasing bottled water. As with tap water, the quality of bottled water depends upon the source of water, its protection, treatment process and monitoring procedures. Because bottled water is not required to be date stamped, its quality can deteriorate over time and any bacteria present in the water at the time of bottling can continue to grow. Bottled water labels must include the manufacturer's name, address and the source of water. For more information, call the International Bottled Water Association Hotline at (800)928-3711.

Important Health Information

If you have a weakened immune system, you may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Immuno-compromised persons who can be particularly at risk from infections include the following:

- Are undergoing chemotherapy for cancer.
- Have undergone organ transplants.
- Are undergoing treatment with steroids.
- Have HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders.
- Infants and some elderly persons.

If you feel you are at risk, 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.

Participate!

Utility Operations, responsible for your water distribution and infrastructure system maintenance, is part of the City government. The Plano City Council normally meets the second and fourth Mondays of each month with Executive Session beginning at 5 p.m., immediately followed by Preliminary Open Meeting, and the Regular Meeting at 7 p.m. in the Plano Municipal Center, Council Chamber, 1520 K Ave., Plano 75074.

CITY OF PLANO WATER QUALITY (YEAR 2008)

This chart lists the contaminants detected in the North Texas Municipal Water District drinking water supplied to the City of Plano. As noted, the water quality surpasses standards for each contaminant, as required by law. *Data is from most recent testing done in accordance with federal regulations.

Substance	Highest Measurement	Lowest Monthly Percentage of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Possible Source
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Turbidity (NTU) 0.20 99.0 0.30 Soil Runoff

Turbidity has no health effects, however, it can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Substance	Range Point	Highest Avg. Sample Level	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Maximum Contaminant	Possible Source
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REGULATED AT THE TREATMENT PLANT

Atrazine (ppb)	0.10 - 0.12	0.12	3	3	Herbicide runoff
Barium (ppm)*	0.04 - 0.04	0.04	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	0.45 - 0.47	0.47	4	4	Water Additive
Nitrate (ppm)	0.42 - 0.45	0.45	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits
Simazine (ppb)	ND	ND	4	4	Herbicide runoff
Arsenic (ppb)*	ND	ND	10	NONE	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Emitters (mrem/yr)	<4	<4	50	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	1.2 - 1.2	1.2	100	100	Discharge from industrial activities

REGULATED AT CUSTOMER'S TAP

Lead (ppb)*	90th %	1	Action Level=15	15	Corrosion of customer plumbing
Copper (ppm)*	90th %	0.743	Action Level=1.3	1.3	Corrosion of customer plumbing
Chloramine (ppm)	High = 2.6 Low = 1.0	Avg. 2.2	4	4	Microbial Disinfectant

REGULATED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Total Coliform (%)	0 - 1.89	1.89	<5% of monthly samples	0	Human and animal waste
Total HAA (ppb)	13.9 - 49.5	46.80	60	N/A	Disinfection by-product
Total THMs (ppb)	32.4 - 61.6	57.28	80	N/A	Disinfection by-product

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

Sodium (ppm)*	35.2 - 40.4	94.5	Not Regulated		Mineral
Sulfate (ppm)	62.4 - 80.4	40.40	250 proposed		Mineral
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	12.9 - 21.3	20.18	Not Regulated		Disinfection by-product
Chloroform (ppb)	12.7 - 31.9	29.28	Not Regulated		Disinfection by-product
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	6.8 - 8.4	8.08	Not Regulated		Disinfection by-product
Bromoform (ppb)	0.0 - 1.10	1.03	Not Regulated		Disinfection by-product
TOC (ppm)	2.58 - 4.23	3.29	Not Regulated		Treatment Technique

OTHER

Gross Alpha particle Activity (2008 Data)(ppm)	ND	ND			
Radium (pCi/L)	ND	ND			
Acetone (ppb)	5.28-8.14	8.14			Cleaner
Dalapon (ppb)	ND	ND			Pesticide
Chloride Dioxide (ppm)	0.00-0.56	0.04			MCL is .08 mg/L (ppm)
Chloride (ppm)	0.01 - 0.65	0.49			Arithmetic Average of 3 Dist sample points must be less than MCL of 1.0 ppm. Three samples are collected monthly in the distribution system and sent for analysis by ion chromatography
Chloride Residuals (Chloramides) (ppm)	1.18 - 2.8	2.42			

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.

Action Level – the concentration of a contaminant which triggers a treatment or other requirement.

ppm – parts per million.

ppb – parts per billion.

pCi/L – picocuries per liter, a measurement of radioactivity in water.

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of water clarity.

For more information, visit www.livegreeninplano.com. Para más información, visita www.livegreeninplano.com.