



# 2015 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

(Consumer Confidence Report)

City of Sachse PWS TX0570057

972.495.7600



## Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds All Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Requirements

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. We hope the information helps you become more knowledgeable about your drinking water.

**Water Sources:** The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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, pesticides, herbicides, inorganic contaminants, organic chemical contaminants and radioactive contaminants.

**Water Taste and Odor:** An occurrence that may also affect the taste and odor of our water results from extended hot weather periods that cause lake algae to reproduce or "bloom", emitting an oily, organic substance. Oily taste and odor in the water are aesthetic and do not present health-related concerns. In an attempt to reduce the organic residue, the NTMWD will take additional steps in the treatment process. Although water may, on occasion, have an unpleasant taste or odor, it is still perfectly safe to drink.

**Public Participation:** Currently, there are no public meetings scheduled that concern our drinking water. City Council meets the first and third Mondays of the month. To request an item regarding our drinking water be placed on a future agenda for public participation, please call 972.495.7600.

**Information Included in this Report:** The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants. The following pages list all of the regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in our drinking water.

## Where Does Sachse Get Its Drinking Water?

Our drinking water is obtained from LAKE LAVON, a surface water source, through North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD). Sachse purchases the water from NTMWD and pipes it to our residents. The TCEQ has completed a Source Water Assessment for all drinking water systems. This report describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with the drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. NTMWD received the following assessment report from TCEQ. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) or the City of Sachse. In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the time period of Jan.-Dec.2015, our system lost an estimated 127,703,000 gallons of water. If you have any questions about the water loss audit, please call 972-495-7600.

## 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 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: 800.426.4791.

## Secondary Constituents

Many constituents, such as calcium, sodium, or iron, which are often found in drinking water, can cause taste, color, and odor problems. The taste and odor constituents are called secondary constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not the EPA, and are not cause for health concerns. Although we do report secondary constituents in this report, it is not required. Unless otherwise noted, all samples were collected and tested in 2015.

## Health Information for Special Populations

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer, those who have undergone organ transplants, those who are undergoing treatment with steroids, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk to infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their 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.

**Additional Health Information For Lead** - 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. The City of Sachse 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>.

## En Español

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en Español, favor de llamar al tel. 972.495.7600 – para hablar con una persona bilingue en Español.

Inorganic Contaminants							
Contaminants	Units	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	ppb	0.70	0.00 - 0.70	0	10	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production waste
Antimony	ppb	0.2	0-0.2	6	6	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder; and test addition.
Barium	ppm	0.055	0.039 - 0.055	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	ppb	0.92	0.53-0.92	100	100	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	ppm	0.86	0.25 - 0.86	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	ppm	1.79	0.05 - 1.79	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	ppb	2	0-2	50	50	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion from natural deposits, discharge from mines.

**Nitrate Advisory:** Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Organic Contaminants							
Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides	Units	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Atrazine	ppb	0.19	0.13 - 0.19	3	3	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	ppb	0.7	0.0- 0.7	0	6	No	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories.

Radioactive Contaminants								
Radioactive contaminants	Units	Collection Date	Highest Levels Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters	pCi/L	4/29/10	4.4	4.4 - 4.4	0	50	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

Disinfection By-products							
Disinfectants and disinfection by-products	Units	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ppb	39.4	9.7 - 39.4	No goal for the total	60	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHm)	ppb	65.5	25.0 - 65.5	No goal for the total	80	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Unregulated Contaminants				
Contaminants	Units	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloroform	ppb	23.7	7.21- 23.7	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform	ppb	5.7	<1.0 - 5.7	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromodichloromethane	ppb	39.5	9.73-39.5	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane	ppb	12.8	5.25-12.8	By-product of drinking water disinfection

**NOTE:** Bromoform, chloroform, dichlorobromomethane, and dibromochloromethane are disinfectant by-products. There are no maximum containment levels for these chemicals at the entry point to distribution. Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of monitoring unregulated contaminants is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Lead and Copper						
Contaminants	Units	Collection Date	90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead	ppb	2013	2.51	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	ppm	2013	0.313	0	1.3	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservative; corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Total Coliform				
Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Unit of Measure	Highest Number of Positive	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Two or more coliform positive samples in any single month	Presence	0	No	Naturally present in the environment

**NOTE:** Reported monthly tests found no fecal coliform bacteria. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present.

Turbidity				
	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest single measurement	1 NTU	0.65 NTU	No	Soil runoff
Lowest monthly percentage	0.3 NTU	99.0%	No	Soil runoff

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level							
Disinfectant Type	Units	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine Residual (Chloramines)	ppm	2.43	0.70	4.80	4.0	<4.0	Disinfectant used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide	ppm	0	0	0.03	0.8	0.8	Disinfectant
Chlorite	ppm	0.03	0	0.33	1.0	N/A	Disinfectant

Total Organic Carbon				
	Units	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Likely Source of Contaminants
Source Water	ppm	7.60	3.82 - 7.60	Naturally present in the environment
Drinking Water	ppm	6.32	1.45 - 6.32	Naturally present in the environment
Removal Ratio	% removal*	62.0%	21.9 - 62.0	N/A

**NOTE:** TOC has no health effects. The disinfectant can combine with TOC to form disinfectant by-products. Disinfection is necessary to ensure that water does not have unacceptable levels of pathogens. By-products of disinfection include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs) which are elsewhere in this report.

\* Removal ratio is the percentage of TOC removed by the treatment process divided by the percentage of TOC required by TCEQ to be removed.

Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated				
Contaminants	Units	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Likely Source of Contaminants
Calcium	ppm	113	45.3 - 113	Abundant naturally occurring element
Chloride	ppm	142	16.1 - 142	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; by-product of oil field activity
Hardness at Ca/Mg	ppm	190	106 - 190	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium
Iron	ppm	<0.02	0 - <0.02	Erosion of natural deposits; iron or steel water delivery equipment or facilities
Magnesium	ppm	9.36	3.22-9.36	Abundant naturally occurring element
Manganese	ppm	0.011	0.0014 - 0.011	Abundant naturally occurring element
Nickel	ppm	0.0065	0.0028-0.0065	Erosion of natural deposits
pH	units	9.88	6.75-9.88	Measure of corrosivity of water
Sodium	ppm	76.7	53.2-76.7	Erosion of natural deposits; by-product of oil field activity
Sulfate	ppm	117	110 - 117	Naturally occurring; common industrial by-product; by-product of oil field activity
Total Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	ppm	154	38 - 154	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	620	158 - 620	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water
Total Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	ppm	300	100 - 300	Naturally occurring calcium
Zinc	ppm	0.004	0.00 - 0.004	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element used in the metal industry

#### Table Definitions

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

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (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 Contaminant Level (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.

N/A Not Applicable; ND Not Detected

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units) - A unit used when measuring turbidity, a measure of the cloudiness of the water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (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 contamination.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (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.

pCi/L (picocuries per Liter) - A measure of radioactivity in the water.

ppb (parts/ billion) - A unit of measurement roughly = to 1 drop in 100,000 gallons.

ppm (parts/ million) - A unit of measurement roughly = to 1 drop in 100 gallons.

## Take the guesswork out of watering your lawn

With science-based advice from [www.watermyyard.org](http://www.watermyyard.org), you can feel confident that you are providing enough water on your lawn without wasting any. Sachse has invested in a weather station that gives the most accurate and localized information on watering needs, based on rain, wind, temperature and soils. Turn off the automatic controller on your system and use Water My Yard as a reliable guide. No more guessing and no more wasting water or money.



## There's a flag on the play!

Not exactly a violation of football rules, but a broken sprinkler head can certainly penalize you and your pocketbook. Broken or misdirected sprinkler heads represent the biggest water wasters in most homes. But they are often out of the homeowner's line of sight. That's why Sachse field personnel will place a flag on those heads that need your attention. Forego the penalty and fix the problem.

## Foundations benefit from soaking

Soaker hoses can help homeowners stabilize their home's foundation if used properly. Place the soaker hose around the perimeter of the house 8 to 18 inches away from the foundation. Before attaching the soaker hose to the faucet, make sure you have a backflow preventer on the faucet. Soaker hoses run best with low pressure. You do not need to turn the faucet on full blast. Turn on the faucet so water slowly comes out of the soaker hose. Run the soaker hose for several hours.



The City of Sachse contracts with North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) for water supplied to its citizens. The primary concern and responsibility of the NTMWD is the conservation and preservation of safe, clean, high-quality drinking water, a concern shared by the City of Sachse. If you would like more information about the quality of water, contaminants in drinking water, and/or potential health effects, please contact Sachse Public Works at 972.495.7600, the NTMWD's Public Information Office at 972.442.5405, or the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791.

**Sachse Public Works Department, 6420 Sachse Road, Sachse, Texas, 75048; [www.cityofsachse.com](http://www.cityofsachse.com)**