

**BEAUMONT'S
DRINKING WATER
2023 Consumer Confidence Report for Wholesalers**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has mandated that all Public Water Systems issue annual reports on the quality of the Drinking Water supplied to consumers. This report covers calendar year 2023. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) inspects the City's water system annually for compliance with the EPA's safe drinking water regulations. Beaumont's water system has received the highest rating (superior) given by the state of Texas since 1937. **BEAUMONT IS WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK.**

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (409) 886-0026.

Where does the water come from? The City has two sources of water: 1) Well water is pumped from the Chicot Aquifer at three different well sites located in Hardin County and 2) Surface water from the Neches River, with one intake located upriver from Beaumont. Well water receives chloramination before it is pumped to the City. Surface water receives more complex treatment, including filtration and chloramination. The City of Beaumont checks and analyzes both sources of water daily to insure compliance with all Federal and State requirements. The Water Production Plant is manned 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to give you the best water possible. Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. Sometimes the City has water line breaks. When they occur, the color comes from iron and mineral deposits inside the pipe that become dislodged. When the water line has been repaired, the water will clear and you may run your faucet to clear the discolored water in your home's pipes. If you wish to report a water line break, please call 311. Drinking water, **including bottled water**, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. While the EPA establishes the regulations for public water systems, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) establishes the limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the 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.

Who can I call? If you have any questions concerning anything in this report or any other questions concerning your water, including taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact **Water Utilities Administration at (409) 866-0026**. The Water Utilities Department is part of the City government and follows not only Federal and State regulations, but also ordinances established by City Council. The City Council meets on the first and third Tuesday of the month at City Hall at 1:30 p.m. or you may contact them at (409) 880-3770.

Definitions Used in the Report:

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

Level 1 Assessment - A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria were found.

Level 2 Assessment - A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*) maximum contaminant level (MCL) violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria were found on multiple occasions.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - highest level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal (MRDLG) - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

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.

N/A - not applicable

NTU - nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)

ppm - parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb - parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

pCi/L - picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

Special Notice for the Elderly, Infants, Cancer Patients, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems: 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 (800) 426-4791. **No *Cryptosporidium* has been detected in Beaumont's drinking water. In addition, the EPA's Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule requires sampling the raw water for *Cryptosporidium*. The two-year sampling is complete and no further treatment is required.**

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 we cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize 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.

The TCEQ completed an assessment of our source water and the results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for our water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection of these contaminants will be found in the consumer confidence report shown above. Anyone wishing to review the study can call (409) 880-3785.

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 contaminants resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

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 might have 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2023	0.0446	0.0446 - 0.0446	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide	2023	130	110 - 130	200	200	ppb	N	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories.
Fluoride	2023	0.7	0.69 - 0.7	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.

Unregulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Average Level	Range	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Lithium	2023	15	8-17	ppb	No	Weathering of lithium-containing minerals in older bedrock or where groundwater interacts with saline water.

Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements.