



# 2014 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

(Consumer Confidence Report)

NUECES COUNTY WATER CONTROL  
AND IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #3  
(361) 387-4549

**PWS ID#:** TX1780005

**PWS NAME:** NUECES COUNTY WCID#3

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2014.

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:

James Schwarz, PE (361) 387-4549.

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (361) 387-4549.

## *SOURCES OF DRINKING WATER (cont.) :*

- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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

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 the system's business office.

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, persons 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 you physician or health care providers. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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. We 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>.

The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that some of your sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact James Schwarz, PE at (361) 387-4549.

## *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.

*The source of drinking water used by Nueces County WCID#3 is Surface Water.*

### *Information about Source Water Assessments*

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source (s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment allows us to focus source water protection strategies.

For more information about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: <http://gis3.tceq.state.tx.us/swav/Controller/index.jsp?wtrsrc=>

Further details about sources and source water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL: <http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/>

Source Water Names: Nueces River, Robstown Main Canal, Robstown Reservoir

Type of Source Water: Surface Water

### *Water Quality Test Results*

**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 level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal or (MRDLG):** 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.

**MFL:** million fibers per liter per year (a measure of asbestos)

**na:** not applicable.

**NTU:** nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)

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

**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

### **Turbidity**

Information Statement: Turbidity is a measurement of cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration.

	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest single measurement	1 NTU	0.32 NTU	N	Soil runoff.
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	0.3 NTU	100%	N	Soil runoff.

### **Total Organic Carbon**

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the Violations section.

## 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)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	09/10/2013	1.3	1.3	0.186	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	09/10/2013	0	15	2.63	1	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

## Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorite	2014	0.44	0.14-0.44	0.8	1	ppm	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Halo acetic Acids (HAA5)*	2014	25	15.2-35.5	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TThm)*	2014	35	13.5-56.7	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

## Inorganic Contaminants

	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	2014	3	3-3	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	2014	0.132	0.132 - 0.132	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2014	0.8	0.79-0.79	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.

**Inorganic Contaminants**

	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2014	0.04	0.04 - 0.04	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrite (measured as Nitrogen)	08/06/2013	0.02	0.02-0.02	1	1	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	2014	10	5.6-5.6	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.

**Radioactive Contaminants**

	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters	03/03/2011	10.9	10.9-10.9	0	50	pCi/L	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	03/03/2011	4	4-4	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

**Synthetic Organic Contaminants**

	Collection Date	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Atrazine	2014	0.15	0-0.15	3	3	ppb	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.
Simazine	2014	0.12	0-0.12	4	4	ppb	N	Herbicide runoff.

**Coliform Bacteria**

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest Number of Positive Samples	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	1 positive monthly sample.	4	0	0	Y	Naturally present in the environment.

**Violations Table**

**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.

<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Violation Begin</u>	<u>Violation End</u>	<u>Violation Explanation</u>
Lead Consumer Notice (LCR)	12/30/2013	2014	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.

**Total Coliform**

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

<u>Violation Type</u>	<u>Violation Begin</u>	<u>Violation End</u>	<u>Violation Explanation</u>
MCL (TCR) Monthly	05/01/2014	05/31/2014	Total coliform bacteria were found in our drinking water during the period indicated in enough samples to violate a standard.

NCWCID#3  
 501 E. Main  
 Robstown, TX 7380



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