

# WATER QUALITY '03

## City of Luling

### EXCELLENCE IN WATER QUALITY

Dear Customer:

The City of Luling is pleased to provide you with this 2003 Water Quality Report. We take all possible precautions to safeguard your water supply and hope you will be encouraged to learn about the high quality of water provided to you.

The federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires water utilities to issue an annual report to customers, in addition to other notices that may be required by law. This report explains where your drinking water comes from, what it contains, and the health risks our water testing and treatment are designed to prevent.

We are committed to providing you with information about your water supply, because informed consumers are our best allies in supporting improvements needed to maintain the highest drinking water standards.

**We are proud to report that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has assessed our system and determined that your drinking water, provided by the City of Luling through the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority's surface water treatment plant, meets or exceeds all federal and state established water quality standards.**

The tables in this report list all substances that were detected in our treated water, and the highest level at which they were detected. The tables also reflect the highest levels allowed by federal regulatory agencies. Please read this information carefully and if you have questions, call the numbers listed in this report.

### Customer Views Welcome

The City of Luling strongly supports the national primary drinking water regulation compliance process. If you are interested in learning more about the water department, water quality, or participating in the decision-making process, there are a number of opportunities available.

Questions about water quality can be answered by calling 830/875-2469 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Inquiries about public participation and policy decisions should be directed to the City Manager's office at 830/875-2481.

The Luling City Council meets every 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at City Hall and all meetings are open to the public.

### Special Notice for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, people with HIV/AIDS OR OTHER IMMUNE PROBLEMS:

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

United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Luling Water Department 830/875-2469

GBRA Water Treatment Plant 830/875-2132

### En Español

Este reporte incluye la informacion importante sobre su agua de beber. Para obtener una copia de esta informacion o traducir en Espanol, favor de llamar 830/875-2469 durante las horas regulares de oficina (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.).



The City of Luling receives most of its water from the San Marcos River, shown here at the old Zedlar Mill and Dam in Luling.



### Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

The City of Luling receives its water from surface water diverted from the San Marcos River and treated at the Luling Water Treatment Plant, operated by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA). Wells provide a supplemental supply.

The TCEQ has completed a Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s). This report 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 this assessment will allow us to focus our source water protection activities.

Trained operators monitor and test the water, including the addition of fluoride and chlorine, to ensure that our water meets or exceeds all state and federal drinking water standards. The treated water is delivered to the City's water towers and delivered through its distribution system to you.



What We Found

This table contains all of the chemical constituents that have been found in your drinking water. USEPA requires water systems to test for more than 97 constituents. The column marked "Highest Level at Any Sampling Point" shows the highest test results during the year. The "Source of Constituent" column shows where this substance usually originates.

**DEFINITIONS:**

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

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

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

**NTU** = Nephelometric Turbidity Units.

**ppm** = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L).

**ppb** = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L).

**Inorganics (Source Water)**

Year	Detected Constituent	Highest Level at Any Sampling Point	Number of Analyses Performed	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2002	Barium	0.031	1	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; erosion of natural deposits.
2003	Fluoride	0.80	1	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; runoff from fertilizer use.
2003	Nitrate	1.04	1	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; treated wastewater effluent; erosion of natural deposits.
2002	Chromium	1.41	1	100	100	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits.

**Disinfection By-Products**

Year	Constituent	Average of All Sampling Points	Number of Analyses Performed	Unit of Measure	Reason for Monitoring
2003	Chloroform	13.0	1	ppb	Monitoring contaminants helps USEPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.
2003	Bromoform	6.0	1	ppb	Same as above.
2003	Bromodichloromethane	19.0	1	ppb	Same as above.
2003	Dibromochloromethane	22.0	1	ppb	Same as above.

**Turbidity**

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. These organisms include bacteria, viruses and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches. Turbidity is measured 4 times per day through grab samples and continuously through automatic on-line individual filter turbidity monitors.

Year	Detected Constituent	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2003	Turbidity	0.16	100	0.3	NTU	Soil runoff.

**Lead and Copper at Household Tap (analyzed every 3 years)**

Year	Detected Constituent	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2001	Lead	4.1	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2001	Copper	0.2420	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

**Total Coliform** NOT DETECTED

**E. coli** NOT DETECTED

Required Additional Health Information	
<p>In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA 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 that must provide the same protection for public health.</p> <p>All drinking water, <b>(including bottled water)</b>, 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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).</p> <p>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 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 include:</p>	<p>(A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;</p> <p>(B) Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;</p> <p>(C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses;</p> <p>(D) Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organics, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems;</p> <p>(E) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.</p>

*National Primary Drinking Water Regulation Compliance*

*This report was prepared with technical assistance from the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority. GBRA will be happy to answer any questions about the Luling Water Treatment Plant or its water quality and treatment process. Please contact us at 830/875-2132 or through our website at [www.gbra.org](http://www.gbra.org). Water quality data for community water systems throughout the United States is available at [www.waterdata.com](http://www.waterdata.com).*