

WATER QUALITY '06

City of Lockhart

EXCELLENCE IN WATER QUALITY

Lockhart Water Treatment Plant 512/398-3615



The City of Lockhart is pleased to provide you with this 2006 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 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 Lockhart 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 Raymond DeLeon at 512/398-3615 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 512/398-3461.

The Lockhart City Council meets every first and third Tuesday of the month at 7:30 p.m. in the Glosseman room at City Hall and all meetings are open to the public. Citizens are welcome to contribute ideas during the designated public comment period of each Council meeting.

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. 830/875-2469 para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español durante las horas regulares de oficina en (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.).

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).

Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

In March 2005, the City of Lockhart began receiving its water from two sources. Groundwater is pumped from the Wilcox Aquifer and blended with surface water from the San Marcos River treated at the Luling Water Treatment Plant, operated by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA).

The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system is based on this susceptibility and previous sample data.

Any detections of these contaminants will be found in this report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

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

The following tables list contaminants that have been found in your drinking water. USEPA requires water systems to test for more than 97 contaminants. 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 (ug/L).

MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfection Level.

TABLE I - Test results for the GBRA Luling Water Treatment Plant Source Water

The EPA Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2 Rule) requires that water treatment plants monitor the source water (water prior to treatment plant) for Cryptosporidium, turbidity and *E.coli*. Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen that may be found in water contaminated with feces. Monitoring results will be used to determine whether additional treatment is required and to refine the relationship established between *E.coli* and Cryptosporidium levels in the source water. Although treatment plant filters remove Cryptosporidium, filters cannot guarantee 100% removal nor can the analysis determine if the organisms are alive and capable of causing cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection causing nausea, vomiting, diarrhea and abdominal cramps that may occur after ingestion of contaminated water. Bimonthly sampling of the San Marcos River, the source water for the GBRA Luling Water Treatment Plant, began in October 2006 and will continue until September 2008. The following table summarizes the source water data collected in 2006.

Analysis of Source Water Prior to Treatment	No. of Analyses	Mean	Range of Analyses	Units
Cryptosporidium	6	0.03	<0.1 - 0.2	Oocyst per Liter
<i>E. coli</i>	6	42.4*	14 - 120	Most Probable Number
Turbidity	6	22	16 - 28	NTU

Total organic carbon (TOC) sampled from source water has no health effects. The disinfectant can combine with TOC to form disinfection byproducts. Disinfection is necessary to ensure that water does not have unacceptable levels of pathogens. Byproducts of disinfection include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs) which are reported elsewhere in this report.

Year	Constituent	Average Concentration	Minimum Concentration	Maximum Concentration	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2006	Total Organic Carbon	1.27	0.87	2.72	ppm	Naturally occurring, no health effects directly associated.

TABLE II - Test results for the GBRA water supply to Lockhart (Sampled in the Lockhart Distribution System)

Year	Detected Constituent	Measured Concentration	Number of Analyses Performed	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2003	Barium	0.0558	1	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; erosion of natural deposits.
2005	Fluoride	1.7	1	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong leach; runoff from fertilizer use.
2006	Nitrate	1.11	1	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; treated wastewater effluent; erosion of natural deposits.
2002	Chromium	0.0027	1	100	100	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits.

Inorganics

Required Additional Health Information

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.

All 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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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.

(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;

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

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 Lockhart Water Treatment Plant or its water quality and treatment process. Please contact us at 512/398-3528 or through our website at www.gbva.org. Water quality data for community water systems throughout the United States is available at www.waterdata.com.

Unregulated Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Average Concentration	Number of Analyses	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2005	Bromoform	4.6	1	ppb	Monitoring helps EPA to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether it needs to regulate those contaminants.
2005	Bromodichloromethane	3.8	1	ppb	Same as above.
2005	Dibromochloromethane	6.6	1	ppb	Same as above.

Lead and Copper (analyzed every 3 years)

Year	Contaminant	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2005	Lead	2.9	0	0.015	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2005	Copper	0.387	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.

Total Coliform NOT DETECTED

E. coli NOT DETECTED