

# WATER QUALITY '06

## Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority Lomas Water - Comal Trace EXCELLENCE IN WATER QUALITY

GBRA Main Office 830/379-5822

### 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. 830/379-5822 para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español durante las horas regulares de oficina (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.).

Dear Customer:

The Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) 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, provided by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority 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 Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority 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 GBRA 830/379-5822 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Inquiries about public participation and policy decisions should be directed to the Western Canyon Division Manager's office at 830/885-2639.

The GBRA Board of Directors meets every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 10:00 a.m. at the GBRA River Annex located at 905 Nolan St., Seguin, Texas 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).



Comal Trace receives its water from a water well located in the Trinity aquifer and from Canyon Lake via the Western Canyon WTP.

### Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

Lomas Water/Comal Trace receives its water from a water well which pumps from the Trinity aquifer and from Canyon Lake via the GBRA Western Canyon Water Treatment Plant. The water system is operated by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA).

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being conducted by the TCEQ and should be provided to us this year. The report will describe 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 in this assessment will allow us to focus our source water protection strategies. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants will be found in this Consumer Confidence Report.

Trained operators monitor and test the water, including the addition of chlorine, to ensure that our water meets or exceeds all state and federal drinking water standards. The treated water is delivered to the Lomas Water/Comal Trace storage tanks 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. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs 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. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**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.

**pCi/L** = Picocuries per liter, a measure of radioactivity.

**NA** = MCL not applicable or not regulated.

### Inorganics Contaminants (source water)

Year	Detected Constituent	Concentration Detected	Number of Analyses Performed	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2006	Barium	0.026	1	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2006	Combined Radium	0.7	1	5	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
2006	Gross beta emitters	2.7	1	50	0	pCi/L	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
2006	Gross alpha	3.7	1	15	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
2006	Fluoride	0.3	1	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2006	Nitrate	1.19	1	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; treated wastewater effluent; erosion of natural deposits.

### Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Constituent	Average	Range of Detects (Low - High)	MRDL	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2006	Chlorine	1.44	0.82 - 3.1	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

### Unregulated Contaminants

Year	Contaminant	Concentration Detected	Number of Analyses Performed	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2006	Dibromochloromethane	0.5	1	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

### Disinfection ByProducts

Year	Constituent	Average Concentration	Number of Analyses Performed	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2004	Total Trihalomethanes	2.1	1	80	ppb	By-product of drinking waer disinfection.

**Total Coliform** NOT DETECTED    **E. coli** NOT DETECTED

### Secondary and Other Not Regulated Constituents

(No associated adverse health effects)

Year	Constituent Detected	Measured Concentration	Number of Analyses	Secondary Limit	Units of Measure	Source of Constituent
2006	Bicarbonate	345	1	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2006	Calcium	91.2	1	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2006	Chloride	19	1	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element. Used in water purification; by-product of oil field activity.
2006	Magnesium	16.3	1	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2006	pH	7.0	1	7	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2006	Sodium	7.0	1	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits. Byproduct of oil field activity.
2006	Sulfate	16	1	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2006	Total Alkalinity as CaCO3	283	1	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2006	Total Dissolved Solids	337	1	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2006	Total Hardness as CaCO3	294	1	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.
2006	Iron	0.076	1	0.3	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
2006	Nickel	0.002	1	NA	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits.
2006	Zinc	0.318	1	5	ppm	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element; used in the metal industry.
2006	Copper	0.005	1	1	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservative.
2006	Manganese	0.0019	1	0.05	ppb	Abundant naturally occurring element.

### 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 every 15 minutes.

Year	Detected Constituent	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2006	Turbidity	0.15	100	0.3	NTU	Soil runoff.

### Cryptosporidium

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment Rule (LT2 Rule) requires that the 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. Cryptosporidium was not detected in any samples collected in 2006. 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 Canyon Reservoir, the source water for the Western Canyon 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	<0.1	0	Oocysts per liter
<i>E. coli</i>	6	18*	8.0-52.0	Most Probable Number
Turbidity	6	47	18.1-82.0	NTU

\*geometric mean

## 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 Lomas water system or its water quality and treatment process. Please contact us at 830/379-5822 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).*