

Total Coliform

Total Coliform bacteria are used as indicators of microbial contamination of drinking water because testing for them is easy. While not disease-causing organisms themselves, they are often found in association with other microbes that are capable of causing disease. Coliform bacteria are more hardy than many disease-causing organisms; therefore, their absence from water is a good indication that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption.

Year	Constituent	Highest Monthly Number of Positive Samples	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2009	Total Coliform	2	*	Presence/Absence	Naturally present in the environment.
2009	<i>E.coli</i>	0	*	Presence/Absence	

* Two or more coliform found samples in any single month.

Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated
No associated adverse health effects.

Year	Constituent	Measured Concentration	Number of Analyses	Secondary Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2009	Bicarbonate	229	1	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2009	Chloride	96	1	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element, used in water purification, byproduct of oil field activity.
2008	Hardness as Ca/Mg	217	1	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.
2009	pH	7.3	1	7	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2009	Sodium	70.4				
2009	Sulfate	113	1	300	ppm	Naturally occurring common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2009	Total Alkalinity as CaCO3	188	1	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2009	Total Dissolved Solids	556	1	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.

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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;
- (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;
- (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff, and residential uses;
- (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 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 Port Lavaca Water Treatment Plant or its water quality and treatment process. Please contact us at 361-552-9751 or through our website at www.gbra.org. Water quality data for community water systems throughout the United States is available at www.waterdata.com.

WATER QUALITY '09

City of Port Lavaca
EXCELLENCE IN WATER QUALITY



Port Lavaca Water Department 361-552-9793 Ext.239

GBRA Water Treatment Plant 361-552-9751

Dear Customer:

The City of Port Lavaca is pleased to provide you with this 2009 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 customers 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 Port Lavaca 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 Port Lavaca 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 361-552-9793 Ext. 239 from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Inquiries about public participation and policy decisions should be directed to the City Secretary's office at 361-552-9793 Ext. 225.

The Port Lavaca City Council meets every 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall and all meetings are open to the public. Our website is www.portlavaca.org.

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. 361-552-9793 Ext. 239 para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español durante las horas regulares de oficina (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.

The 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).



