

## 2017 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

### Spring Valley WSC

#### **OUR DRINKING WATER MEETS OR EXCEEDS ALL FEDERAL (EPA) DRINKING WATER REQUIREMENTS**

This report is a summary of the quality of the water that we provide to our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what is in your drinking water.

**Where Do We Get Our Water?** - Our drinking water is obtained from the Trinity Aquifer and surface water sources (Lake Belton) through the Bluebonnet WSC. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water sources 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 our source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information will be available later this year on Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWWW/>. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

**Water Sources** - 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. Contaminants that may be present in source water before treatment include: microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

**All drinking water may contain contaminants.** When drinking water meets federal standards there may not be any health based benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices. 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1.800.426.4791.

**Secondary Constituents** - Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium, or iron) which are often found in drinking water can cause taste, color, and odor problems. The taste and odor constituents are called secondary constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not the EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concern. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document, but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

**SPECIAL NOTICE - Required language for ALL community public water supplies:** 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; those 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 your physician or health care provider. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1.800.426.4791.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES** - If you would like to talk to an Aqua Texas representative about your Water Quality Report, please call us at 1.877.987.2782, write us, or visit our website at [AquaAmerica.com](http://AquaAmerica.com). For more information from the EPA, you may call the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1.800.426.4791.

**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. 1.254.776.1999 para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.

DEFINITIONS	
<p><b>Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)</b> The highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as possible to MCLGs as feasible using the best available technology.</p> <p><b>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)</b> - The level contaminant in drinking water below which there is no or expected health risk. MCLGs allow a margin of safety.</p> <p><b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)</b> - The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.</p> <p><b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)</b> - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of a disinfectant to control microbial contamination.</p>	<p><b>Treatment Technique (TT)</b> A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.</p> <p><b>Action Level (AL)</b> - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.</p> <p><b>ppm</b> - parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)</p> <p><b>ppb</b> - parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)</p> <p><b>ppt</b> - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter</p> <p><b>ppq</b> - parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter</p> <p><b>NTU</b> - Nephelometric Turbidity Units</p> <p><b>MFL</b> - million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)</p> <p><b>pCi/L</b> - picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)</p>

**About the following pages** - The pages that follow list all of the federally regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants.

#### Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level- Spring Valley Distribution

Year (Range)	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2017	Chloramine Residual	2.02	0.60	2.9	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes

#### Disinfection Byproducts- Spring Valley Distribution System

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2017	Total Haloacetic Acids	16	11.3	19.8	60	NA	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
2017	Total Trihalomethanes	16.7	12.9	19.7	80	NA	ppb	

#### Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts-

WAIVED OR NOT YET SAMPLED

#### Lead and Copper- Spring Valley Distribution

Year (Range)	Contaminant	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	MCLG	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2017	Lead	1.3	0	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing
2017	Copper	0.12	0	1.3	1.3	ppm	

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. Aqua is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but 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 cold water 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>.

**Inorganic Contaminants-Spring Valley**

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2015	Barium	0.051	0.05	0.052	2	2	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
2017	Cyanide	10	Not Detected	20	200	200	ppb	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; steel/metal factories
2015	Fluoride	0.30	0.27	0.32	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
2017	Nitrate	0.34	0.11	0.57	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
2015	Combined Radium 226 & 228	1.5	1.5	1.5	5	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
2015	Beta/photon emitters	5	5	5	50	0	pCi/L Mrem/yr*	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

\*Values reported for beta/photon emitters are in pCi/L. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles. The MCL for beta particles is 4 millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).

**Inorganic Contaminants-Bluebonnet Surface Water**

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2017	Barium	0.0548	0.0548	0.0548	2	2	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
2017	Fluoride	0.21	0.21	0.21	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth
2017	Nitrate	0.17	0.17	0.17	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
2017	Combined Radium 226 & 228	1.5	1.5	1.5	5	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
2017	Beta/photon emitters	4.7	4.7	4.7	50	0	pCi/L Mrem/yr*	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

\*Values reported for beta/photon emitters are in pCi/L. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles. The MCL for beta particles is 4 millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body).

**Organic Contaminants- Spring Valley**

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2017	Atrazine	0.14	0.13	0.15	3	3	ppb	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops

**Organic Contaminants- Bluebonnet Surface Water**

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2017	Atrazine	0.34	0.34	0.34	3	3	ppb	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops

**Turbidity-Bluebonnet Water Plant**

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2017	Turbidity	0.17	100%	0.3	NTU	Soil Runoff

**Total Organic Carbon (TOC)** - 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.