City of San Marcos
Water/Wastewater Utilities
630 E. Hopkins Street
San Marcos, TX 78666

2008 Drinking Water Quality Report

(CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT)

KINGSWOOD SYSTEM WATER CUSTOMERS

CITY OF SAN MARCOS

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el aqua potable. Si tiene preguntas o dudas sobre este reporte en español, favor de llamar al tel. 512.393.8010 para hablar con una persona bilingue en español.

Requested in home by July 1st.

NOTICE TO AT-RISK POPULATIONS

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 EPA/Centers 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1.800.26.4791).

KINDS OF WATER SOURCES

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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.

CONTACT US

Account Information/
Billing questions:
393-8383

Water quality inquiries/
complaints:
393-8038

Report water leaks/
sewer problems:
393-8010

If you have internet capability, Water/Wastewater Utilities has a very informative web page at the City's website: sanmarcostx.gov/water

You may also contact us by e-mail at: WWW_Info@sanmarcostx.gov

The spreadsheet inside lists all of the federally regulated or monitored substances which have been found in your drinking water. The US EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 substances.

Conserve Water San Marcos!

Water is a precious resource. It provides tourism, recreation, habitat for endangered species, and drinking water. Unfortunately, it is also a limited resource that is being stretched to accommodate the growing number of users that rely on it. Conserving our water by using it efficiently is the simplest and most cost-effective way to stretch our water supplies.

The City of San Marcos Water Department offers a variety of programs that can help you conserve water. Visit our website at sanmarcostx.gov/water or call 393-8310 for details. We encourage you to take advantage of these programs and do your part to ***Conserve Water San Marcos!***

Summer Water Conservation Tips:

- Water your lawn in the evening or early morning hours. **City ordinance prohibits watering with sprinklers between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 8 p.m.**
- Water your lawn no more than once per week to encourage deep roots and make your lawn more resistant to drought and disease. A thorough watering is about 1 inch of water, or enough to dampen the soil down to 6 inches.
- Turn off your sprinklers when it's windy or raining. Rain shutoff devices are inexpensive and can be used with any sprinkler or sprinkler system.
- If you have an automatic sprinkler system, make it a monthly ritual to check for leaks and malfunctioning sprinkler heads.
- Use drip irrigation instead of sprinklers for trees, shrubs, flower beds and narrow strips of lawn.
- Use several inches of good-quality mulch on landscape beds.
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean sidewalks and driveways.
- If you have a swimming pool, keep it covered while not in use to reduce evaporation.
- Take your car to a carwash that recycles water instead of washing it at home. If you do wash your car at home make sure to use a hose with an auto shut-off device. And don't forget that **charity carwashes are prohibited in San Marcos**.
- Take advantage of our City programs that can help you to be water smart! Call 393-8310 for more information.

KNOW THE FACTS ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

The City of San Marcos Water/Wastewater Utilities' goal and responsibility is to provide you safe and reliable drinking water. **Our drinking water meets or exceeds all federal (EPA) drinking water requirements.** This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide 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.

Some of the information contained in this report may seem complex. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water. Please feel free to contact our Water Quality Supervisor at #512-393-8038 if you have any questions or would like to request a meeting regarding your drinking water.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from ground water and surface water sources. Our ground water comes from the Edwards Aquifer and our surface water comes from Canyon Lake via the Guadalupe River. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and will 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 contained in the assessment will allow us to focus our source water protection strategies. For more information on source water assessment and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

Can ALL drinking water 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 the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

What are secondary constituents?

Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium or iron) that 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 concerns. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document, but may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

What Quality is our Source Water?

Kingswood System
TCEQ ID#1050087

REGULATED AT THE SOURCE

Substance	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Sources of Substance
Barium 2005 (in ppm)	0.033	0.033	0.033	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge of drilling wastes.
Fluoride 2006 (in ppm)	0.12	0.12	0.12	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive to promote strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate 2008 (in ppm)	0.96	0.96	0.96	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from fertilizer, septic tanks, sewage, animal waste.

How Well Did We Treat the Water?

REGULATED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Substance	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Sources of Substance
Chlorine Residuals 2008 (in ppm)	1.25	0.29	2.02	4.0	<4.0	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

Substance	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Sources of Substance
Total Coliform Bacteria 2007	Highest Monthly Number of Positive Samples 0			*	Presence	Naturally present in the environment. Human and animal fecal waste.

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

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.

Fecal coliform bacteria and, in particluar, E. coli, are members of the coliform bacteria group originating in the intestinal tract of warm-blooded animals and are passed into the environment through feces. The presence of fecal coliform bacteria (E. coli) in drinking water may indicate recent contamination of the drinking water with fecal material. The preceding table indicates whether total coliform or fecal coliform bacteria were found in the monthly drinking water samples submitted for testing by your water supplier last year.

UNREGULATED AT THE ENTRY POINT TO DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Substance	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Sources of Substance
Dibromochloromethane 2008	0.8	0.8	0.8	ppb	Dibromochloromethane is a disinfection byproduct. There is no MCL for this chemical at the entry point to the distribution system.

LEAD AND COPPER TEST RESULTS

REGULATED AT THE CUSTOMER'S TAP

Substance	90th Percentile Values	Sites Exceeding Action Level	AL	Unit of Measure	Sources of Substance
Lead 2002	2.7	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper 2002	0.22	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

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. This water supply 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 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/index.html.

SECONDARY & OTHER CONSTITUENTS NOT REGULATED

Substance	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Secondary Limit	Unit of Measure	Sources of Substance
Bicarbonate 2006	328	328	328	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
Calcium 2005	83	83	83	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring elemnt.
Chloride 2006	10	10	10	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity.
Copper 2005	0.029	0.029	0.029	1	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Lead 2005	0	0	0	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.
Magnesium 2005	14	14	14	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
Nickel 2005	0	0	0	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
pH 2006	7.1	7.1	7.1	>7.0	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
Sodium 2005	6.0	6.0	6.0	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
Sulfate 2006	22.0	22.0	22.0	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
Total Alkalinity as CaC03 2006	269	269	269	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
Total Dissolved Solids 2006	324	324	324	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
Total Hardness as CaCO3	266	266	266	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.
Zinc 2005	0.022	0.022	0.022	5	ppm	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element; used in the metal industry.

KEY TERMS - ABBREVIATIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) The highest level of a contaminant 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.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contamination.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known of expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.
Parts per million (ppm) is equivalent to milligrams per liter. One ppm is comparable to one penny of $10 thousand.
Parts per billion (ppb) is comparable to one penny of $10 million.
mpn - Most Probable Number
NTU - Nepholometric Turbidity Units are used to measure water turbidity.
Action Level (AL) The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.