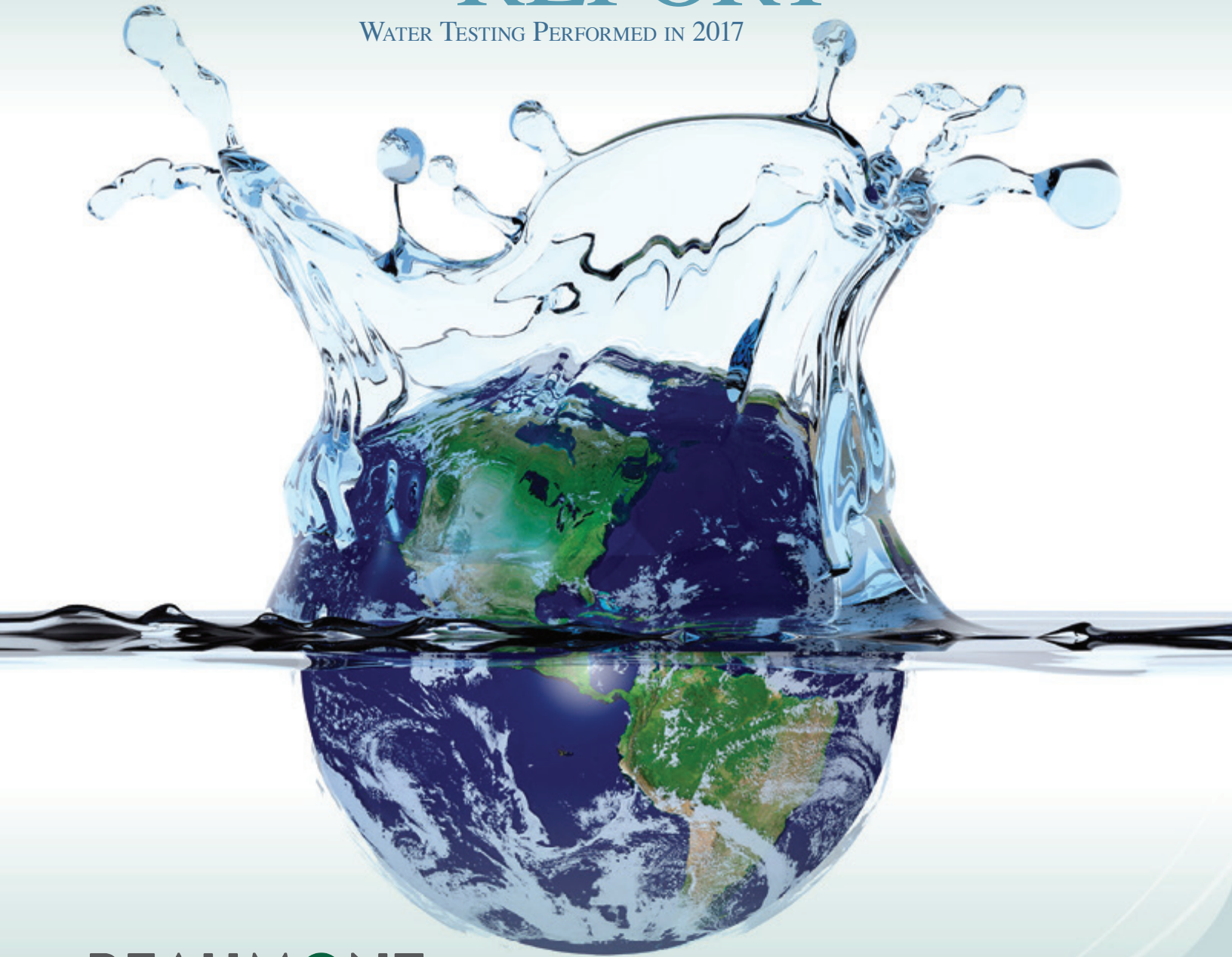


ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

WATER TESTING PERFORMED IN 2017



BEAUMONT
— TEXAS —

Presented By

City of Beaumont Water Utilities

Quality First

Once again, we are pleased to present our annual water quality report. As in years past, we are committed to delivering the best-quality drinking water possible. To that end, we remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of new regulations, source water protection, water conservation, and community outreach and education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve you and your family.

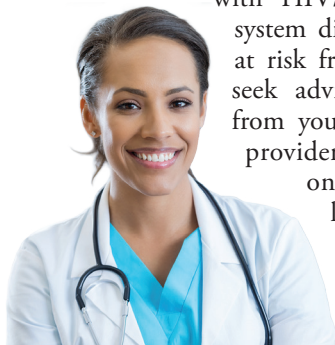
We encourage you to share your thoughts with us on the information contained in this report. After all, well-informed customers are our best allies.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Important Health Information

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 (800) 426-4791.



Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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 can acquire naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material; and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;

Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and which may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact our business office. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Public Meetings

The Water Utilities Department is part of the City Government and follows not only Federal and State regulations but also ordinances established by City Council. The City Council normally meets each Tuesday at City Hall, 801 Main Street, Beaumont, Texas 77704, at 1:30 p.m., or you may contact the Council Members at (409) 880-3770. You are invited to participate in our public forum and to voice your concerns about our drinking water.

Water Conservation

You can play a role in conserving water and saving yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

Water treatment is a complex, time-consuming process.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Beaumont has two sources of water: 1) Well water is pumped from the Chicot Aquifer at three different well sites located in Hardin County and 2) surface water from the Neches River, with three separate intakes located at various spots upriver from Beaumont. Well water is chlorinated before it is pumped to the City. Surface water receives a more complex treatment, including filtration and chlorination. The City of Beaumont inspects and analyzes both sources of water daily to ensure compliance with all federal and state requirements. The water plant is operated 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to give you the best-quality water possible.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. Sometimes the City has water line breaks. When they occur, the color comes from iron and mineral deposits inside the pipe that become dislodged. After the water line is repaired, the water will clear and you may run your faucet to clear the discolored water in your home's pipes. To report a water line break, please call 311.



Water Loss Audit

In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board during the year covered by this report, our system lost an estimated 1,614,659,242 gallons of water. If you have any questions about the water loss audit, please call Water Utilities at (409) 866-0026.



QUESTIONS?

For questions about the information in this report, please contact Mr. John Pippins III, Water Utilities Designer III, at (409) 785-4702.



Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule. The information in the data tables represents only those substances that were detected. The State recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the 3rd stage of the EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR3 benefits the environment and public health by providing the EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water, to determine if the EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Contact us for more information on this program.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Atrazine (ppb)	2017	3	3	0.10	0.10–0.10	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Barium (ppm)	2017	2	2	0.19	0.111–0.19	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2017	[4]	[4]	2.72	0.05–5.40	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chromium (ppb)	2017	100	100	39.2	<0.01–39.2	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2017	5	0	1.5	1.5–1.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	2017	200	200	30	<0.01–30	No	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
Fluoride (ppm)	2017	4	4	0.63	0.55–0.63	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAA] (ppb)	2017	60	NA	23.7	<6.0–34.0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2017	10	10	0.1	<0.01–0.1	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] ¹ (ppb)	2017	80	NA	38.7	14.0–83.0	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	2017	TT	NA	2.77	1.79–3.76	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity ² (NTU)	2017	TT	NA	0.91	0.00–0.91	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2017	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	99.81	NA	No	Soil runoff

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH%TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2015	1.3	1.3	0.18	0/51	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2015	15	0	1.52	0/51	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Aluminum (ppb)	2017	200	NA	3,185	2,880–3,490	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Residual from some surface water treatment processes
Copper (ppm)	2017	1.0	NA	6.11	0.117–12.1	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Manganese (ppb)	2017	50	NA	1,520	920–1,520	No	Leaching from natural deposits

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES³

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloromethane (ppb)	2017	3.4	<2.0–4.8	Disinfection by-product
Sodium (ppm)	2017	78.45	40.9–116	Erosion of natural deposits

