

# RICARDO WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

## ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

For the Period of January 1 to December 31, 2014

(Consumer Confidence Report – PWS ID Number: TX1370006)

### SPECIAL NOTICE

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; persons 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 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.

### Our Drinking Water is Regulated

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. 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's in your drinking water. For more information regarding this report contact Carola Serrato, General Manager, at (361)592-3952.

**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. 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 at (800)426-4791. Contaminants that may be present in source water before treatment include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also

come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA 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 which must provide the same protection for public health. 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 the RWSC business office at (361)592-3952.

### RWSC is a purchased surface water system. Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from surface water sources. In past years, the Corporation has used its own groundwater well. In 2008, that well was taken out of service for mechanical reasons. South Texas Water Authority provides the Corporation with treated water from the City of Corpus Christi whose surface water sources are Lake Corpus Christi, Choke Canyon Reservoir and Lake Texana. In addition, the City of Kingsville's groundwater wells can provide water by a pass through agreement as a backup. The TCEQ has completed a Source Water Assessment for all drinking water systems that own their sources. The report 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 system from which we purchase our water received the assessment report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact RWSC General Manager Carola Serrato at (361)592-3952. For more information about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at <http://gis3.tceq.state.tx.us/swav/Controller/index.jsp?wtrsrc>. Further details about sources and source water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW>.

**Water Loss:** In the most recent Water Loss Audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the period of January to December 2010, RWSC lost an estimated 14 million gallons of water.

### 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.

## Definitions & Abbreviations

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest permissible 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.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Avg** – Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

**na** – not applicable.

**NTU** – Nephelometric Turbidity Units (a measure of turbidity)

**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 contaminants.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** – 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 disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**pCi/L** – picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

**ppm** – parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L) – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

**ppb** – parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L) – or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

**ppt** – parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

**ppq** – parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)

### Ricardo Water Supply Corporation (RWSC) – Coliform Bacteria

MCLG	Total Coliform MCL	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli MCL	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contaminant
0	1 positive monthly sample.	2	0	0	Y	Naturally present in the environment.

### RWSC – Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids	2014	18	7.9 – 34.7	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes	2014	46	32.4 – 69.8	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

### RWSC – Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	6/23/2010	3.75	3.75 – 3.75	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	6/23/2010	0.0347	0.0347 – 0.0347	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	6/23/2010	8.49	8.49 – 8.49	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	6/28/2011	0.59	0.59 – 0.59	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2014	1	0.49 – 0.64	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrite (measured as Nitrogen)	2014	0.01	0 – 0.01	1	1	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	6/23/2010	8.22	8.22 – 8.22	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
Thallium	6/23/2010	0.104	0.104 – 0.104	0.5	2	ppb	N	Discharge from electronics, glass, and leaching from ore-processing sites; drug factories.

## RWSC – Radioactive Contaminants

Contaminant	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters	06/28/11	9.9	9.9 – 9.9	0	50	pCi/L*	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon & uranium	06/28/11	13.1	13.1 – 13.1	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

\*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

## RWSC – Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant Type	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2014	Chloramine Residual	1.62	0.5	4	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

## RWSC – Lead and Copper

Year	Contaminant	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	No. of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Lead	1.7	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2008	Copper	0.117	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>.

## Violations Table

### Lead and Copper Rule

The Lead and Copper Rule protects public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosivity. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation	Steps to Correct Violation
Follow-up or routine tap M/R (LCR)	10/01/2014	2014	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.	Lead and Copper testing will occur during the allowable testing period, June – September, 2015.

### Total Coliform

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation	Steps to Correct Violation
MCL (TCR), Monthly	10/01/2014	10/31/2014	Total coliform bacteria were found in our drinking water during the period indicated in enough samples to violate a standard.	Six (6) repeat samples were taken and all showed ABSENT for Coliform.

### City of Corpus Christi – Inorganic Contaminants

Contaminant	Collection Date	Mean	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
Barium	2014	0.11	na	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2014	0.14	na	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive.
Nitrate	2014	0.24	na	10	10	ppm	N	Petroleum/metal discharge, erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Beta Particle Activity	2011	5.4	na	50	0	pCi/L*	N	Decay of natural/man-made deposits.
Combined Radium 226/228	2011	1	1 – 1	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide (total)	2014	148	70 – 210	na	na	ppb	N	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories.

\*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

### City of Corpus Christi – Organic Contaminants

Contaminant	Collection Date	Average	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
Atrazine	2014	0.18	0.18 – 0.18	3	3	ppb	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.

### City of Corpus Christi – Turbidity

Year/Constituent	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest % of Samples Meeting Limits	Entry Point MCL	Violation	Single Measurement MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
2013 Plant 1 (NTU)	0.26	100	≤0.3	N	1.0	Soil runoff.
2013 Plant 2 (NTU)	0.26	100	≤0.3	N	1.0	Soil runoff.

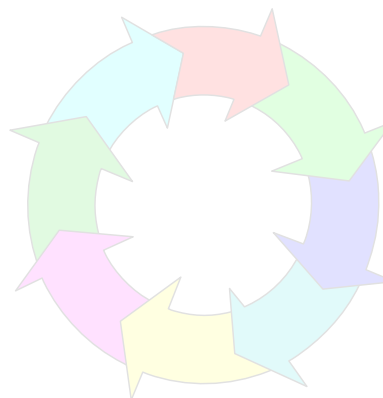
Turbidity has no health effects but can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

#### Public Participation Opportunity

**Date:** Monday - Friday  
**Time:** 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
**Location:** South Texas Water Authority  
**Office:** 2302 E. Sage Road, Kingsville, Texas  
**Phone No:** 361-592-3952

**En Español – Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telephone (361)592-3952.**

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