

**Inside this issue:**

Cryptosporidium	2
Source Water Assessment Study	2
Turbidity	3
Non-Regulated Substances	3
Water Quality	3

## Meeting the Drinking Water Needs of the Region

**P**roviding safe and reliable drinking water is the highest priority of the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD). NTMWD provides a high-quality potable water supply meeting the daily needs of the 61 cities and communities served within its 1,600 square-mile service area. The District prides itself in producing and delivering water to your tap meeting the stringent state and federal standards. Ensuring water quality, NTMWD utilizes up-to-date technology and a five barrier treatment process in order to deliver tap water that is safe for use. The water treatment process removes or reduces particulates, impurities, and waterborne microorganisms. NTMWD routinely performs an array of water tests before, during, and after the treatment process to maintain a high-quality water supply delivered to its member and customer cities.

As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, as well as substances resulting from human or animal activity. Substances that may be present in untreated water include: biological impurities such as bacteria and viruses; inorganic impurities such as salts and metals; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemicals from industrial or petroleum use; and radioactive contaminants.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of impurities. The presence of impurities does not necessarily pose a health risk. The EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain impurities in water provided by public water systems.

*(Continued on page 2)*

### *Special Information For People With Weakened Immune Systems*

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## Conserve Our Natural Resource of Water

- ◆ Reduce loss and waste of water
- ◆ Improve efficiency in the use of water
- ◆ Implement proper irrigation practices
- ◆ Raise public awareness of water conservation



### CRYPTOSPORIDIUM

- ◆ North Texas Municipal Water District has tested the lake water and treated water for the presence of cryptosporidium for many years.
- ◆ Cryptosporidium has not been detected in any of the samples tested.
- ◆ Cryptosporidium is a protozoan, which is so small it can be seen only with a microscope. It affects the digestive tract of humans and animals.
- ◆ At this time, there is no specific drug therapy proven to be effective, but people with healthy immune systems will usually recover within two weeks.

The NTMWD continues to diligently test both source and treated water for the presence of cryptosporidium.

### SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT STUDY

The TCEQ has completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain constituents. The sampling requirements for your water system is based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these constituents will be found in the Consumer Confidence Report.

For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact NTMWD's public information office for an appointment.

*(Continued from page 1)*

**More information about contaminants and potential health effects may be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). Federal Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.**

#### *Definitions and Measurements:*

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health

**Treatment Technique** - a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Action Level** - The concentration of a contaminant which triggers a treatment or other requirement a water system must follow

**(ppm)** - Parts per million

**(ppb)** - Parts per billion

**(pCi/L)** - picoCuries per liter

**(mrem/yr)** - millirem/year

**NTU** - Nephelometric Turbidity Units (this is the unit used to measure water turbidity)

*This chart lists the contaminants detected in North Texas Municipal Water District drinking water supplied to Member cities, Customer cities, and individual customers. As noted, the water quality surpasses standards for each contaminant as required by law.  
\* 2002 analyses data from most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations*

Substance	Range	Highest Average Sample Point	Maximum Contaminant Level	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Possible Source
<b>Regulated at the Treatment Plant</b>					
Atrazine (ppb)	0.56 - 0.97	0.80	3	3	Herbicide runoff
Barium (ppm)*	0.030 - 0.032	0.032	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	0.7 - 0.8	0.80	4	4	Water additive
Nitrate (ppm)	0.36 - 0.37	0.37	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer
Simazine (ppb)	ND - <0.20	<0.20	4	4	Herbicide runoff
Arsenic (ppb)*	ND	ND	10	None	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	ND	ND	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta (mrem/yr)	<4	<4	4	0	Decay of natural & manmade deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	ND	ND	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Regulated at the Customer's Tap</b>					
Copper (ppm)*	0.016 – 0.062	0.062	Action Level=1.3	1.3	Corrosion of customer plumbing
Lead (ppm)*	ND	ND	Action Level=15	15	
<b>Unregulated Substances</b>					
Sodium (ppm)*	14.5 - 17.4	17.4	Not Regulated		Mineral
Sulfate (ppm)	82 - 84	84	250 proposed		Mineral
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	17.0 – 29.2	26.1	Not regulated		By-Product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (ppb)	14.0 – 37.3	29.1	Not regulated		By-Product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	11.2 – 20.8	19.0	Not regulated		By-Product of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform (ppb)	0 - 3	1.9	Not regulated		By-Product of drinking water disinfection
TOC (ppm)	3.64 - 4.61	4.21	Treatment Technique		Organic material runoff
<b>Regulated in the Distribution System</b>					
Total Coliform (%)	0 - 2.5	2.5	<5% of monthly sample	0	Human and animal waste
Total HAA (ppb)	18.5 – 32.7	26.1	60	N/A	By-Product of drinking water disinfection
Total THMs (ppb)	42.2 –86.3	76.1	80	N/A	By-Product of drinking water disinfection
		<b>Average</b>	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level</b>	<b>% samples meeting limit</b>	
Turbidity (NTU)	0.02 - 0.39	0.11	Treatment Technique	100%	Soil runoff
<b>Turbidity</b>			<b>Non-Regulated Substances</b>		
<p><b>Turbidity is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity has no health effect; however, high turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for bacterial growth.</b></p>			<p><b>Non-regulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrences in drinking water and whether future regulations are warranted.</b></p>		

## We Welcome Your Comments

**For questions or concerns  
call the NTMWD Administrative Office, 972/442-5405.  
NTMWD, created as a Special District of the State of Texas under  
Chapter 62, Acts of 1951, 52nd Legislature of Texas, holds regular Board  
of Director meetings normally on the fourth Thursday of each month,  
with occasional changes due to holidays.**

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### **North Texas Municipal Water District**

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*Providing Quality Water Service  
While Protecting Water Quality*