2024 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

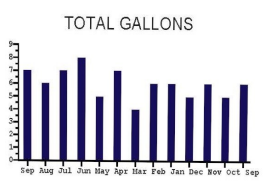
Harris County MUD 286

Public Water Supply ID 1012532

Our Drinking Water is Regulated

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 system's business office at 281-376-8802. This report, also referred to as a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is your water quality report for the results of the most current water testing from 2020 through 2024.

Track Your Water Usage



Your water bill contains helpful information on a 12-month chart. You can also compare your water usage to other residents in the District. In the middle column at the top of your bill is the average of Harris Count MUD 286's 266 households water usage for the month. Average monthly usage is 12,039 gallons.

Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

Harris County MUD 286 provides groundwater from two wells located within Harris County. The wells draw ground water from the Chicot and Evangeline Aquifers. The District purchases surface water from the North Harris County Regional Water Authority (NHCRWA) which purchases surface water from City of Houston Northeast Water Purification Plant. The District also has emergency interconnect valves with Harris County MUD 468 (PWS 1013369), Malcomson Road Utility District (PWS 1010495), and Lake Forest Utility District (1010494). The District utilized interconnect water from HCMUD 468, from January through August, and November of 2024, due to emergency well repairs. HCMUD 468 purchases surface water from NHCRWA. You can contact Inframark at 281-579-4500 for HCMUD 468's water quality information .

Source of Drinking Water

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 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.

Special Notice for the Elderly, Infants, Cancer Patients and People with Immune Problems

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 physician or health care providers. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Water Sample Results

TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water, and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system is based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants will be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts in our system contact Water District Management at (281) 376-8802.

Table Information

The tables below and on the following pages contain chemical constituents which have been detected in your drinking water. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) require water systems to test for up to 102 constituents. Only eight regulated constituents were detected in Harris County MUD 286's drinking water, none of which exceeded the MCL.

SUPERIOR PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM
THE STATE OF TEXAS

Harris County MUD 286, maintains recognition as a "Superior Public Water System" with the TCEQ. This recognition demonstrates that the District's water quality meets or exceeds all requirements set forth in the Rules and Regulations for Public Water Systems.

Inorganic Contaminants	**Collection Date**	**Average Level**	**Minimum Level**	**Maximum Level**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Unit of Measure**	**Violation**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Barium	2024	0.064	0.052	0.0781	2.0	2.0	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide	2023-2024	190	170	210	200	200	ppb	No*	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories.
*While the sample result of 210 ppb is above the MCL of 200 ppb, for compliance evaluation it is rounded down to 200 ppb and is not considered a violation. The sample result would have to be at a level of 250 ppb or higher, and rounded up to the 300 ppb level to be considered a violation.									
Nitrate	2024	0.588	0.2	0.86	10.0	10.0	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2024	0.13	0.11	0.15	4.0	4.0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides & herbicides	**Collection Date**	**Average Level**	**Minimum Level**	**Maximum Level**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Unit of Measure**	**Violation**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Atrazine	2024	1.255	0.21	2.3	3.0	3.0	ppb	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.
Simazine	2024	0.085	0.07	0.1	4	4	ppb	No	Herbicide runoff.
Disinfection By-Products	**Collection Date**	**Average Level**	**Minimum Level**	**Maximum Level**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Units of Measure**	**Violation**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2024	18.45	18.0	18.9	NA	60	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2024	25.6	24.7	26.5	NA	80	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Disinfectant Residual	**Year**	**Average Level**	**Minimum Level**	**Maximum Level**	**MRDL**	**MRDLG**	**Unit of Measure**	**Violation**	**Source in Drinking Water**
Free Chlorine	2024	3.09	0.67	3.7	4	4	mg/L	No	Water additive used to control microbes.

Additional Testing

Testing is done daily at the water plant and throughout the community at various locations to ensure that a safe level of disinfectant is in the system. Monthly samples are taken and analyzed by a third party laboratory.

Turbidity* for 2024		
Highest single measure of NTUs	1.22	Turbidity is a measure of how clear the water looks. This is measured at the surface water production plant in NTUs and is caused by soil runoff. 95% of samples tested each month must be less than or equal to the limit of 0.300 NTUs.
Lowest monthly % samples meeting NTU limits	98%	

En Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (281) 376-8802.

***Turbidity of Surface Water from Continuous Sampling at the Surface Water Plant**

Turbidity has no health effects but it is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the surface water plant filtration system. Turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a place for microbial growth. High turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites. Your water is also tested monthly for disease-causing bacteriological microbes.

Lead and Copper								
Lead and Copper	**Date Sampled**	**MCLG**	**Action Level (AL)**	**90th Percentile**	**# Sites Over AL**	**Units**	**Violation**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Copper	2022	1.3	1.3	0.0768	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2022	0	15	0.8	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Required Additional Health Information for Lead								
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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we 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.								

Lead Service Line Inventory

A lead service line inventory was conducted and no lead or galvanized requiring replacement service lines were identified. There were 53 service lines documented as unknown for lead or galvanized requiring replacement material types. The location of service lines with unknown material types can be found on the published Lead Service Line Inventory at https://hcmud286.com/documents/.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 (UCMR5)								
Sampling conducted through an EPA study for emerging contaminants of concern, including 29 per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and lithium. Listed below are sample results that were detected.								
Unregulated Contaminants	**Date Sampled**	**Average Level**	**Minimum Level**	**Maximum Level**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Unit of Measure**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Lithium	2024	23.8	13.7	33.9	NA	NA	ppb	Naturally occurring metal that may concentrate in brine waters; lithium salts are used as pharmaceuticals, used in electrochemical cells, batteries, and in organic syntheses.

Public Participation Opportunities

Harris County MUD 286 meets at 6:00 pm on the first Monday of each month at 13850 Cutten Road, Houston, TX 77069. For more information regarding the date, time, and location of the meeting call Water District Management at 281-376-8802.

https://wdmtexas.starnik.net/RP_default.aspx

Definitions and Abbreviations Used In This Report	
Action Level:	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Action Level Goal (ALG):	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.
Avg:	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.
Level 1 Assessment:	A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment:	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL:	The highest level of a 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 or 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.
MFL	million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
mrem:	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
na:	not applicable.
NTU	nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppb:	micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppm:	milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)
ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
Treatment Technique or TT:	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

HARRIS COUNTY MUD 286