



CITY OF NATALIA

2013 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)



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PWS Name: City of Natalia

PWS ID: TX1630009

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 01 to December 31, 2013.

This City of Natalia presents this report which reflects all testing completed in the time period stated above. 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. We strive to provide drinking water that meets all state and federal drinking water standards. Your City Council adopts new and better methods of delivering the best quality drinking water to the residents and commercial business within the City of Natalia city limits. We encourage all to attend City Council meetings where decisions on the Water System are made. The City is committed to keeping up with all of the changes in regulations and drinking water standards to serve the needs of all our users.

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al teléfono (830) 663-2926.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that our sources have a low susceptibility to contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact Art Smith, Utilities Director at (830) 663-2926.

The source of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes 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.

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 City of Natalia's business office.

Drinking Water Source

The City of Natalia water source is the Edwards Aquifer, which is one of the world's most unique groundwater resources. The Edwards Aquifer has supported civilization for more than 12,000 years and is the primary source of water for more than 2 million people. The aquifer is about 180 miles long and 5 to 40 miles wide at different points. It reaches from Brackettville in the west to Kyle in the east. The aquifer covers over a 3,000 square mile area. The primary geologic component of the Edwards Aquifer is Edwards Limestone. It occurs in three distinct segments: the drainage area, the recharge zone and the artesian zone. Each area is equally important to the health and viability of the Edwards Aquifer as a whole.

Notice for High Health Risk Groups

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.

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>.

Information about Secondary Contaminants.

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

Information about Source Water Assessments.

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information 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 information contained in the assessment allows us to focus source water protection strategies.

For more information about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: <http://gis3.tceq.state.tx.us/swav/Controller/index.jsp?wtsrc=>

General Information.

All water sources (both tap water and bottled water) contain impurities. As water flows 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 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 runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil or 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may also, come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Additional Information – Definitions and Abbreviations

The following list contains scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

Maximum Contaminant Level (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 (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 (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 (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.

Avg: Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples

MFL: Million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

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

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

ppq: parts per quadrillion, or pictograms per liter (pg/L)

2013 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	10/01/2013	4.6	4.6 – 4.6	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	01/13/2009	0.169	0.169 – 0.169	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	06/19/2012	0.67	0.67 – 0.67	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	10/01/2013	1.14	1.14 – 1.14	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	01/13/2009	1.3	1.3 – 1.3	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha Compliance	01/13/2009	7.1	7.1 – 7.1	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits