

HMW SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT
2016 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

Mink Branch Valley

PWS ID 1700150

Mink Branch Valley

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. Our drinking water meets or exceeds all federal EPA drinking water requirements.

The source of drinking water used by Mink Branch Valley is Ground Water from the Chicote Aquifer.

Public Participation Opportunities

If you would like to talk to a HMW Special Utility District representative about your Water Quality Report, please call us at 281-356-5060, write us, or visit our website at www.hmwsud.com. The HMW Board of Directors meets once a month on the third Wednesday at 6:00 PM. Meetings are held at the HMW Offices located at 26726 Decker Prairie Rosehill Road, Magnolia TX 77355. Meetings are open to the public.

For more information from the EPA, you may call the US Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline, (800) 426-4791

En Español – Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua que usted bebe. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Information on Sources of 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 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.

Information on Sources of Water (continued)

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.

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 concern. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking waters, please contact the HMW office, (281)356-5060.

SPECIAL Notices for the Elderly, Infants, Cancer Patients, people with HIV/AIDS or other 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, persons undergoing treatment with steroids; and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. You should seek advice about drinking water from their 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).

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Secondary Constituents

Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium or iron) which are often found in drinking water can cause taste, color or 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, secondary's are not required to be reported in this document but they greatly affect appearance and taste of your water.

Information about Source Water Assessments

The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicated that some of your sources are susceptible to certain 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:
 Lori Gorski: 281-356-5060 lgorski@hmw-sud.com

For more information about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following:
<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 the following URL:
<http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW>

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 material 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>.

DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.
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 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.
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.
na	not applicable
Avg	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running average of monthly samples.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
MFL	Million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
ppm	Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter
ppt	Parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
ppq	Parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

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Disinfection data

<i>Year</i>	<i>Disinfectant</i>	<i>Average Level</i>	<i>Minimum Level</i>	<i>Maximum Level</i>	<i>MRDL</i>	<i>MRDLG</i>	<i>Unit of Measure</i>	<i>Source of Chemical</i>
2016	Sodium Hypochlorite	0.94	0.50	1.10	4.0	<4.0	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes

Lead and Copper								
Action Level Goal (ALG) – The level of contaminant in drinking water below which is no known or expected risk to health. ALG’s allow for a margin of safety.								
Action Level – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.								
Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2016	1.3	1.3	0.13	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2016	0	15	1.4	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Regulated Contaminants

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2016	0.267	0.267 – 0.267	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2016	0.15	0.15 – 0.15	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]	2016	0.14	0.14 – 0.14	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

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Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	2012	2.7	2.7 – 2.7	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium	2015	1.7	1.7 – 1.7	0	30	ug/l	N	Erosion of natural deposits

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
FOLLOW-UP or ROUTINE TAP M/R (LCR)	10/01/2015	09/26/2016	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

Nitrate Advisory – Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Total Coliform Reported monthly tests found no coliform bacteria
Fecal Coliform Reported monthly tests found no fecal bacteria