



## Montgomery County Municipal Utility District 6

### **2009 Drinking Water Quality Report**

**Dear Customer.** This report has been prepared to inform our customers of the quality of their drinking water.

Your drinking water complied with all Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Texas drinking water health standards for the latest sampling period.

This assessment was made by using the data in the tables included in this report.

While our water complies with all drinking water standards, some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Our drinking water is ground water. Wells pump ground water from the Evangeline and Jasper Aquifers. 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 our source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information will be available later this year on Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWWW/>. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please call 281-367-1271 ext. 4.

Ground water (also called well water) is protected from many of the sources of contamination described below, such as microbes like *cryptosporidium*. In general, the sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water), may 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. Source water can also be contaminated by substances resulting from animal or human activity.

Contaminants include anything found in water. They are generally not harmful at low levels. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive and in nearly all cases would not provide greater protection of health. Examples of contaminants that may be present in source water in general include: 1) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife. 2) 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. 3) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses. 4) 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. 5) Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Again, our drinking water is delivered by wells from underground aquifer(s) that are protected from many of the sources of contamination described above.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The contaminants in our drinking water are primarily geological materials that dissolved while still in the aquifer. 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Public input concerning the Montgomery County MUD No. 6 water system may be made at regularly scheduled meetings, held at 1:30 PM on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2455 Lake Robbins Drive. You may also contact the Customer Service Division, at (281) 367-1271 ext. 4 with any concerns or questions you may have.

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.



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### Definitions & Abbreviations:

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** The level of contaminants in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**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 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 contamination.

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

**Parts per million (ppm):** The equivalent of milligrams per liter (mg/l) is analogous to 1 minute in 2 years.

**Parts per billion (ppb):** The equivalent of micrograms per liter (ug/l) is analogous to 1 second in 32 years.

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** A measure of radioactivity. **N/A:** Not applicable.

**NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units.

| <i>Substance (units)</i>               | <i>Sample Date</i> | <i>MCL</i> | <i>Level Detected</i> | <i>Range Detected</i> | <i>MCLG</i> | <i>In Compliance</i> | <i>Typical Sources</i>                     |
|--|--------------------|------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------|----------------------|--|
| <b><u>Unregulated Contaminants</u></b> |                    |            |                       |                       |             |                      |  |
| <i>Dibromochloromethane (ppb)</i>      | 12/31/2005         | N/A        | 2.1                   | 2.1 - 2.1             | N/A         | <b>Yes</b>           | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
| <i>Bromoform (ppb)</i>                 | 12/31/2005         | N/A        | 2.4                   | 2.4 - 2.4             | N/A         | <b>Yes</b>           | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
| <i>Bromodichloromethane (ppb)</i>      | 12/31/2005         | N/A        | 0.7                   | 0.7 - 0.7             | N/A         | <b>Yes</b>           | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

### **Inorganic Contaminants (Regulated at the Water Plant)**

|                       |            |    |      |   |    |            |  |
|-----------------------|------------|----|------|---|----|------------|--|
| <i>Nitrate (ppm)</i>  | 01/31/2005 | 10 | 0.01 | - | 10 | <b>Yes</b> | Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion from natural deposits.                                     |
| <i>Fluoride (ppm)</i> | 01/31/2005 | 4  | 0.6  | - | 4  | <b>Yes</b> | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. |
| <i>Barium (ppm)</i>   | 01/31/2005 | 2  | 0.1  | - | 2  | <b>Yes</b> | Discharge of drilling wastes and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.  |

### **Disinfectant Byproducts**

|                                      |            |    |     |           |     |            |  |
|--------------------------------------|------------|----|-----|-----------|-----|------------|--|
| <i>Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)</i> | 12/31/2005 | 60 | 1.1 | 1.1 - 1.1 | N/A | <b>Yes</b> | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
| <i>Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)</i>   | 12/31/2005 | 80 | 4.6 | 4.6 - 4.6 | N/A | <b>Yes</b> | By-product of drinking water chlorination. |

| <i>Substance (units)</i>                          | <i>Sample Date</i> | <i>MRDL</i> | <i>Level Detected</i> | <i>Range Detected</i> | <i>MRDLG</i> | <i>In Compliance</i> | <i>Typical Sources</i>                 |
|---|--------------------|-------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|----------------------|--|
| <b><u>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level</u></b> |                    |             |                       |                       |              |                      |  |
| <i>Chlorine Residual, Free (ppm)</i>              | 2009               | 4           | 1.12                  | 0.59 - 2              | 4            | <b>Yes</b>           | Disinfectant used to control microbes. |

| <i>Substance (units)</i>                                   | <i>Sample Date</i> | <i>90th Percentile Value</i> | <i>EPA Action Level</i> | <i>Number of Results above Action Level</i> | <i>MCLG</i> | <i>In Compliance</i> | <i>Typical Sources</i>  |
|--|--------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|---|-------------|----------------------|---|
| <b><u>Lead and Copper (Regulated at Customers Tap)</u></b> |                    |                              |                         |   |             |                      |   |
| <i>Lead (mg/L)</i>   | 01/01/2007         | 0.0027                       | 0.015                   | 0   | 0           | <b>Yes</b>           | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.                                   |
| <i>Copper (ppm)</i>  | 01/01/2007         | 0.161                        | 1.3                     | 0   | 1.3         | <b>Yes</b>           | Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives. |

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. 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

**\* All levels detected were below the MCLs.**