

# Montgomery County MUD No. 67

## 2010 Drinking Water Quality Report

### DEAR CUSTOMER:

This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. Your drinking water did not comply with all EPA and Texas drinking water health standards for the latest sampling period. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

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; those 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 provider. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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 contact Customer Service Division at (281) 367-1271 ext. 4.

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. Contaminants that may be present in source water before treatment include: microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

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 stormwater

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.

When drinking water meets federal standards there may not be any health based benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices. 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 (1-800-426-4791).

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 district's operator, Severn Trent Services.

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. 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.

Public input concerning the water system may be made at regularly scheduled meetings, generally held 3:00 PM on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 2455 Lake Robbins Drive. You may also contact Customer Service Division, at (281) 367-1271 ext. 4 with any concerns or questions you may have.



### **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.

Substance	Unit of Measure	Year	MCL	Average Level Detected	Minimum - Maximum Level Detected	MCLG	In Compliance	Typical Sources
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**Volatile Organic Contaminants**

Toluene	ppm	2006	1	0.00013	-	1	Yes	Discharge from petroleum factories.
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**Unregulated Contaminants**

Dibromochloromethane	ppb	2010	N/A	1.1	-	N/A	Yes	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
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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)**

Nitrate	ppm	2009	10	0.02	-	10	Yes	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion from natural deposits.
Fluoride	ppm	2007	4	0.48	0.48 - 0.54	4	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.

**Disinfectant Byproducts**

Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	2010	80	1.1	1.1 - 1.1	N/A	Yes	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
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Substance	Unit of Measure	Year	MRDL	Average Level Detected	Minimum - Maximum Level Detected	MRDLG	In Compliance	Typical Sources
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**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level**

Chlorine Residual, Free	ppm	2009	4	1.1	-	4	Yes	Disinfectant used to control microbes.
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Substance	Unit of Measure	Year	90th Percentile Value	EPA Action Level	Number of Results above Action Level	MCLG	In Compliance	Typical Sources
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**Lead and Copper (Regulated at Customers Tap)**

Lead	mg/L	2009	0.0024	0.015	0	0	Yes	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	ppm	2009	0.137	1.3	0	1.3	Yes	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).

Substance	Year	Highest Monthly Number of Positive Samples	MCL	In Compliance	Typical Sources
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**Microbiological Contaminants**

Total Coliform Bacteria	2010	1	*	No	Naturally present in the environment
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Health Effects: Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present.

\* Total coliform bacteria are used as indicators of microbial contamination of drinking water because testing for them is easy. While not disease-causing organisms themselves, they are often found in association with other microbes that are capable of causing disease. Coliform bacteria are more hardy than many disease-causing organisms; therefore, their absence from water is a good indication that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption.

\* All levels detected were below the MCLs.