

# 2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

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## CITY OF ROCKDALE

Public Water System ID Number: TX1660002  
Phone Number: (512) 446-2511

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### **SPECIAL NOTICE**

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.

### **Public Participation Opportunities**

**Date:** Monday, July 11, 2022

**Time:** 5:30 PM

**Location:** 505 W Cameron, Rockdale, TX

**Phone Number:** (512) 446-2511

To learn about future public meetings (concerning your drinking water), or to request to schedule one, please call us.

### **Our Drinking Water is Regulated**

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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that 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 that 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.

### **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. Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (a) microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; (b) 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; (c) pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; (d) 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; and (e) radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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**En Español** Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al teléfono (512) 446-2511.

## **Where do we get our drinking water?**

The source of drinking water used by the City of Rockdale is GROUND water. The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate 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 detections 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 City Hall at (512) 446-2511.

## ***ALL drinking water may contain contaminants.***

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).

## **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 <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## **DEFINITIONS**

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

**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 health risk. 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.

## Coliform Bacteria

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	1 positive monthly sample.	1		0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

## Lead and Copper

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	04/14/2020	1.3	1.3	0.047	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	04/14/2020	0	15	3	2	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

## 2021 Water Quality Test Results

Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) *	2021	1	1.1 – 1.1	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) **	2021	7	7.4 – 7.4	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

\* The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all HAA5 sample results collected at a location over a year.

\*\*The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all TTHM sample results collected at a location over a year.

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	04/23/2020	0.143	0.0899 – 0.143	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	04/23/2020	0.1	0 – 0.1	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]	2021	1	0 – 0.71	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 Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters	05/13/2019	7.2	6.7 – 7.2	0	50	pCi/L*	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Combined Radium 226/228	05/13/2019	3.14	3.01 – 3.14	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

\* EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

## Disinfectant Residual

Disinfectant Residual	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source in Drinking Water
Chlorine	2021	1.78	0.4 – 3.3	4	4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

## Violations

\* Both violations were the result of sampling errors. Both were resolved and all water produced met or exceeded TCEQ and EPA standards.

### E. coli

Fecal coliforms and E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal waste. Microbes in these waters can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITOR GWR TRIGGERED/ADDITIONAL, MAJOR	05/20/2021	04/05/2022	We failed to collect follow-up samples within 24 hours of learning of the total coliform-positive sample. These needed to be tested for fecal indicators from all sources that were being used at the time the positive sample was collected.

### 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
WATER QUALITY PARAMETER M/R (LCR)	01/01/2021	06/30/2021	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.

Source Water Name	Well Location	Type of Water	Location
10 – TEXAS ST	TEXAS ST	GW	Carrizo – Wilcox (outcrop)
7 – OLD AIRPORT WELL	AIRPORT	GW	Carrizo – Wilcox (outcrop)
8 – RUNWAY	RUNWAY	GW	Carrizo – Wilcox (outcrop)
9 – TRACY ADDN	TRACY ADDN	GW	Carrizo – Wilcox (outcrop)
11 – 1372 S FM 908 (AIRPORT)	WELL 11 – 1372 S FM 908, ROCKDALE	GW	Carrizo – Wilcox (outcrop)
E GW I/C WITH SOUTHWEST MILAM WSC	SOUTHWEST MILAM WSC	CC	Carrizo – Wilcox (outcrop)

GW = Ground Water

CC = Consecutive Connection

**NOTE:** Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.