A close-up photograph of a glass of water with a lemon slice and ice cubes next to a running faucet. The water is clear and flowing from the faucet. The background is blurred, showing a kitchen sink area.

Presented By
Fort Bliss Water Services, Inc.

ANNUAL
**WATER
QUALITY
REPORT**

WATER TESTING PERFORMED IN 2016

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al teléfono (915)564-1332.

PWS ID#: TX0710020, TX0710078, TX0710187

There When You Need Us

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality report. Included are details about your water source, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water quality and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and to providing you with this information, because informed customers are our best allies.

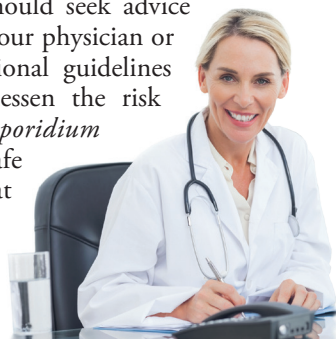
Source Water Assessment

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 in our system, contact us at (915)564-1332.

Important Health Information

While your drinking water meets U.S. EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. U.S. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. U.S. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory 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; 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.



Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. 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 presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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 can acquire naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material; and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances 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, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may 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 which may also come from gas stations, urban storm-water runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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 our business office. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

About Our Violations

Lead Consumer Notice 12/30/2015 - 02/09/2016

Because our system purchases water from El Paso Water (EPW), we are required to provide a copy of their notifications, as follows: EPW failed to provide the results of lead tap water monitoring to the consumers at the location where water was tested. (These are locations that are not within Fort Bliss). The notifications were supposed to be provided no later than 30 days after learning the results.

Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR)

Monitoring, Routine, Minor 05/01/2016 - 05/31/2016

EPW failed to collect some of the required routine samples for the period indicated. Because of this failure, EPW has stated that it cannot be sure of the drinking water quality for the period indicated.

Monitoring, Routine, Minor 09/01/2016 - 09/31/2016

EPW failed to collect some of the required routine samples for the period indicated. Because of this failure, EPW has stated that it cannot be sure of the drinking water quality for the period indicated.

Monitoring, Routine, Minor 012/01/2016 - 12/31/2016

EPW failed to collect some of the required routine samples for the period indicated. Because of this failure, EPW has stated that it cannot be sure of the drinking water quality for the period indicated.

Water Conservation

You can play a role in conserving water and saving yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and by looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.



When Turning on Your Tap, Consider the Source

Our drinking water is obtained from ground water sources. The Hueco and Mesilla Bolson Aquifers are located east and west of the Franklin mountains in far west Texas and are recognized as major aquifers in Texas.

Fort Bliss Water Services Company (FBWSC) currently owns and operates three community-based Public Water Systems (PWS) within Fort Bliss.

The water distribution systems for Main Post Fort Bliss (TX0710020) and Biggs Army Airfield (TX0710078) are self-sustaining systems, operating independently of one another. The primary water supply for these systems derives from wells located within the Fort Bliss Army Base property. Zero percent of this water is purchased from El Paso Water Utilities (EPWU).

East Biggs Water System (TX0710187) is supplied by water that is purchased from EPWU.

In the event that the FBWSC water systems are incapable of providing sufficient supply, EPWU water can be accessed via emergency interconnections to the FBWSC water distribution system.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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.

QUESTIONS?

For more information about your water quality or to find out about upcoming opportunities to participate in public meetings, please contact Gilbert Mesa, Utility Manager, at (915) 564-1332.

Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of contaminants on a very strict sampling schedule. The information below represents only those substances that were detected; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels. The State recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES											
				Fort Bliss Main Post		Biggs Army Airfield		East Biggs			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	2014	15	0	7.4	0–7.4	5.2 ¹	3.0–5.2 ¹	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Antimony (ppb)	2016	6	6	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; Fire retardants; Ceramics; Electronics; Solder
Arsenic (ppb)	2014	10	NA	2.7	0–2.7	5.5	5.5–5.5	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2014	2	2	0.11	0.048–0.11	0.046	0.046–0.046	NA	NA	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/Photon Emitters ³ (pCi/L)	2014	50	0	8.5	8.5–8.5	12.2 ¹	12.2–12.2 ¹	NA	NA	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Bromate (ppb)	2016	10	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorite (ppm)	2016	1	0.8	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chromium (ppb)	2014	100	100	9.5	5–9.5	9.8	9.8–9.8	NA	NA	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2015	5	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Di(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate (ppb)	2016	6	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Fluoride (ppm)	2014	4	4	1.04	0.954–1.04	1.03	1.03–1.03	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAA] (ppb)	2016	60	NA	2.7	0–2.7	NA	NA	21	1.0–25	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2016	10	10	4.95	2.6–4.95	2	1.99–1.99	NA	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	2014	50	50	7	4.4–7	4	4–4	NA	NA	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2016	80	NA	23.3	0–23.3	NA	NA	26.3	24.1–95.5	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)	2016	TT	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU)	2016	TT	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2016	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Soil runoff
Uranium (ppb)	2014	30	0	6.5	6.5–6.5	3.7 ¹	3.7–3.7 ¹	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

				El Paso Water			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	2014	15	0	3.3 ²	0–3.3 ²	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Antimony (ppb)	2016	6	6	0.3	0–0.3	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; Fire retardants; Ceramics; Electronics; Solder
Arsenic (ppb)	2014	10	NA	9 ¹	0–10.7 ¹	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2014	2	2	0.18 ¹	0.04–0.18 ¹	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/Photon Emitters ³ (pCi/L)	2014	50	0	6 ²	6–6 ²	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Bromate (ppb)	2016	10	0	3	0–8.4	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorite (ppm)	2016	1	0.8	0.132	0–0.132	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chromium (ppb)	2014	100	100	6.6 ¹	0.75–6.6 ¹	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2015	5	0	1.5	1.5–1.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Di(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate (ppb)	2016	6	0	1	0–1.5	No	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Fluoride (ppm)	2014	4	4	0.794 ¹	0.708–0.794 ¹	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAA] (ppb)	2016	60	NA	8	0–28.6	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2016	10	10	2	0–2.46	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	2014	50	50	5 ¹	0–5 ¹	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2016	80	NA	25	0–66.5	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)	2016	TT	NA	1	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity (NTU)	2016	TT	NA	0.28 ⁴	0–0.28 ⁴	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2016	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	100	NA	No	Soil runoff
Uranium (ppb)	2014	30	0	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Tap Water Samples Collected for Lead and Copper Analyses from Sample Sites throughout the Community

				Fort Bliss Main Post		Biggs Army Airfield		East Biggs		El Paso Water			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH% TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH% TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH% TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH% TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2016	1.3	1.3	0.15	0/30	0.11 ⁵	0/20 ⁵	0.5 ⁶	0/30 ⁶	0.12	0/100	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	2016	15	0	0	0/30	0 ⁶	0/20 ⁶	1.1 ⁶	0/30 ⁶	1.3	0/100	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES⁷

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	Fort Bliss Main Post		East Biggs		El Paso Water		TYPICAL SOURCE
		AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2016	4	0–4	31	13–31	15	0–15	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform (ppb)	2016	9	0–9	17	1–17	8	0–8	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloroform (ppb)	2016	2	2–2	22	4–22	18	0–18	By-product of drinking water disinfection

¹ Sampled in 2016.

² Sampled in 2015.

³ The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. U.S. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

⁴ Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.

⁵ Sampled in 2013.

⁶ Sampled in 2014.

⁷ 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.

Definitions

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

LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters. Amount Detected values for TTHMs and HAAs are reported as LRAAs.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

NA: Not applicable.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

TT (Treatment Technique): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.