

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Town of Georgetown Water Department

PWS # 0150005

May 2014

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. 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 treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source consists of two (2) wells pumping from the Forest Hill Sand Aquifer and two (2) wells, pumping from the Miocene Aquifer. We're pleased to report that our drinking water meets all federal and state requirements.

Our source water assessment is available for viewing at the Town Hall. The purpose of the source water assessment report is to notify public water systems and their customers regarding the relative susceptibility of their drinking water supplies to contamination. Our two (2) wells are in deep screened confined aquifers, which are protected from surface contamination. An assessment report was conducted on these two (2) wells and all were rated on a scale from higher, moderate or lower. The final assessment was classified as moderate for all two (2) wells. A source water assessment has not been completed on the new well that was constructed in 2004.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Alan Faler at 601-858-2463. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm at the Town Hall located at 1048 Poplar Street behind the library.

The Town of Georgetown routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

*Non-Detects (ND)* - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

*Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l)* - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

*Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter* - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

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

*Treatment Technique (TT)* - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

*Maximum Contaminant Level* - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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* - The "Goal"(MCLG) is 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.

TEST RESULTS								
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Date Collected	Level Detected	Range of Detects or # of Samples Exceeding MCL/ACL	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products</b>								
(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)								
Chlorine (asCl2) (ppm)	N	2013	0.80	0.42 – 1.12	ppm	4.0	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
7. Antimony	N	04/20/2011 *	0.0005	0	ppm	0.006	0.006	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
8. Arsenic	N	04/20/2011 *	0.0005	0	ppm	n/a	0.010	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
10. Barium	N	04/20/2011 *	0.017966	0	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
11. Beryllium	N	04/20/2011 *	0.0005	0	ppm	0.004	0.004	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
12. Cadmium	N	04/20/2011 *	0.0005	0	ppm	0.005	0.005	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
13. Chromium	N	04/20/2011 *	0.000788	0	ppm	0.1	0.1	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	N	2012 *	0.0	0	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
15. Cyanide	N	04/25/2011 *	0.015	0	ppm	0.2	0.2	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
16. Fluoride	N	04/20/2011 *	0.1	0	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	N	2012	0.013	0	ppm	0	AL=0.015	Corrosion of household

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		*							plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
18. Mercury (inorganic)	N	04/20/2011 *	0.0005	0	ppm	0.002		0.002	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
19. Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	01/23/2013	0.98	0	ppm	10		10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
20. Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	N	01/23/2013	0.02	0	ppm	1		1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
21. Selenium	N	04/20/2011 *	0.0025	0	ppm	0.05		0.05	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
22. Thallium	N	04/20/2011 *	0.0005	0	Ppm	0.5		0.002	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories

### Volatile Organic Contaminants

55. Benzene	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	0		5	Discharge from factories; leaching from gas storage tanks and landfills
56. Carbon tetrachloride	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	0		5	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities
57. Chlorobenzene	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	100		100	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
58. o-Dichlorobenzene	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	600		600	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
59. p-Dichlorobenzene	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	75		75	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
60. 1,2 – Dichloroethane	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	0		5	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
61. 1,1 – Dichloroethylene	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	7		7	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
62. cis-1,2-dichloroethylene	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	70		70	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
63. trans – 1,2 – Dichloroethylene	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	100		100	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
64. Dichloromethane	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	0		5	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories
65. 1,2-Dichloropropane	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	0		5	Discharge from industrial chemical factories

66. Ethylbenzene	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	700	700	Discharge from petroleum refineries
67. Styrene	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	100	100	Discharge from rubber and plastic factories; leaching from landfills
68. Tetrachloroethylene	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	0	5	Leaching from PVC pipes; discharge from factories and dry cleaners
69. 1,2,4 – Trichlorobenzene	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	70	70	Discharge from textile-finishing factories
70. 1,1,1 – Trichloroethane	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	200	200	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
71. 1,1,2 – Trichloroethane	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	3	5	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
72. Trichloroethylene	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	0	5	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
73. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	06/16/2011 *	7.20	0	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
74. Toluene	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	1000	1000	Discharge from petroleum factories
75. Vinyl Chloride	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	0	2	Leaching from PVC piping; discharge from plastics factories
76. Xylenes	N	07/11/2012 *	0.5	0	ppb	10000	10000	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories
77. Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	N	06/16/2011 *	3.0	0	ppb			By-product of drinking water chlorination
78. Combined Uranium	Y	2012 *	NA	0	ppb		30	
79. Radium-226	Y	2012 *	NA	0	PCI/L			
80. Radium-228	Y	2012 *	NA	0	PCI/L			
80. Gross Alpha Particle Activity	Y	2012 *	1.2	0	PCI/L		15	
81. Combined Radium (-226 & -228)	Y	2012 *	NA	0	PCI/L		5	Erosion of natural deposits

\* Not tested for in the year 2013

(14) Copper. Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

(17) Lead. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

(73) TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

The new well that was constructed in 2004 did clear up our area of THM's. The old wells are still in service and are set up to run if the new well cannot keep up with the demand, or if something would happen to the new well, one of the older wells will come on to keep the Town supplied with safe drinking water.

#### Additional 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. Georgetown Water Department 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>. The Mississippi State Department of Health Public Health laboratory offers lead testing for \$10 per sample. Please contact 601-576-7582 if you wish to have your water tested.

\*\*\*\*\*APRIL 1, 2013 MESSAGE FROM MSDH CONCERNING RADIOLOGICAL SAMPLING\*\*\*\*\*

In accordance with the Radionuclides Rule, all community public water supplies were required to sample quarterly for radionuclides beginning January 2007 – December 2007. Your public water supply completed sampling by the scheduled deadline; however, during an audit of the Mississippi State Department of Health Radiological Health Laboratory, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) suspended analyses and reporting of radiological compliance samples and results until further notice.

Although this was not the result of inaction by the public water supply, MSDH was required to issue a violation. This is to notify you that as of this date, your water system has completed the monitoring requirements and is now in compliance with the Radionuclides Rule. If you have any questions, please contact Karen Walters, Director of Compliance & Enforcement, Bureau of public Water Supply, at (601) 576-7818.

#### What does this mean?

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions.

We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

We, at the Town of Georgetown Water Department, work hard to provide the best quality of water to every customer.