

# 2012 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

(Consumer Confidence Report)

## WEST GREGG SUD

Phone 903-983-1816

### SPECIAL NOTICE

#### Required language for ALL

#### Community public water supplies:

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as *Cryptosporidium*, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly, or immune compromised 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 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.

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 at (800) 426-4791.

**Information on Detected Contaminants, The data presented in the report is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations.**

### 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:

- Microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- 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.
- 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 can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or 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 the system's business office.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the 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.



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Source(s) of Water Type(s) of water:  
**Groundwater.** Any commonly used name of the body(ies) of water: **Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer.** Locations of the body(ies) of water: **Gregg and Smith Counties.**

Drinking Water Hotline or at  
<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

### Source water Assessment Protection

The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that some of our 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 at our system, contact Rocky Stegman.

### 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. West Gregg SUD 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

### Abbreviations

**MFL:** million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

**mrem/year:** 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 (ug/l) or parts per billion or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

**ppm:** parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

**ppt:** parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/l)

**ppq:** parts per quadrillion, or pictograms per liter (pg/l)

### Definitions

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:** 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.

**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 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 microbial contaminants.



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### Definitions continued

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

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

**Average (Avg):** Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

**Action Level Goal (ALG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

### 2012 Regulated Contaminants Detected

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	8/11/2011	1.3	1.3	0.664	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	8/11/13	0	15	1.85	0	Ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloramines	2012	2.90	0.51-2.90	4.0	4.0	ppm	N	Disinfectant
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	6/24/2010	45.7	13.5-45.7	NA	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	6/24/2010	70.8	20.4-70.8	NA	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	3/30/2010	0.0237	0.0204-0.0237	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	3/30/2010	0.575	0-0.575	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2012	0.76	0.76-0.76	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.



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Thallium	3/30/2010	0.409	0-0.409	0.5	2	ppb	N	Discharge from electronics, glass, and Leaching from ore-processing sites; drug factories.
<b>Synthetic organic contaminants</b>	<b>Collection Date</b>	<b>Highest Level Detected</b>	<b>Range of Levels Detected</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	2/19/2009	1.63	1.56-1.63	0	6	ppb	N	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories.