

**This is your annual report
on**



**Drinking Water Quality
For 2008**

En Español: Este reporte le avisa que el departamento de agua de la ciudad de Mansfield continua a proveer agua sona y segura. Para solicitar un copia en español, por favor llame al 817-473-8411.

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**City of Mansfield
Municipal Water System
1200 East Broad Street
Mansfield, TX 76063-1896**

2008 Drinking Water Quality Report

City of Mansfield Municipal Water System

Water Quality Questions: (817) 477-2248

Billing Information: (817) 276-4200

En Español: Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para obtener una copia de esta informacion traducida al Espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (817) 473-8411.

Dear Customer:

We, the water utility employees of the City of Mansfield, are dedicated to providing a safe and reliable supply of drinking water to all customers and consumers of the municipal water system. We take great pride in being recognized as a "Superior Drinking Water System" by the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission. In 1997 Mansfield's water system was awarded a certificate of "Outstanding Performance" for no violations of the "Total Coliform Rule" relating to bacteriological quality control for the five-year period from 1992 through 1996.

Our City employs state certified personnel to operate and maintain the municipal water system. Each plant operator and distribution system technician is required to become state certified. The certification process involves gaining knowledge and experience while on-the-job, the completion of specific state approved training courses, and a passing grade on a state issued exam. The training and certification programs help to insure that the City of Mansfield Municipal Water System provides Safe Drinking Water to all consumers.

The information provided in this pamphlet relates to tests conducted in 2008. It is important to the City of Mansfield that consumers of the municipal water system receive this information. We want you to have confidence in our water supply and the people that provide drinking water service to your home and/or business. On the following pages you'll find several lists of what's in the water and at what level it has been detected. There are also explanations of where, why, and how your water is monitored. Please take time to review this pamphlet and contact us at the above number should you have comments or questions.

Sincerely,
Your Water Utility Employees

Your Questions Or Concerns Are Important To Us.

It's just not possible to answer every question about water quality in a report like this.

So, if you have questions or would like to request a speaker for your group or organization, contact us at (817) 477-2248.

To learn more about drinking water quality and treatment check out "[Plain Talk About Drinking Water](#)" at the Mansfield Public Library.

Public Participation Opportunities

The City of Mansfield Municipal Water System is a part of the city government. The City Council meets at 7:00 p.m. on the second and fourth Monday of each month in the City Council Chambers of the Mansfield Municipal Complex, 1200 East Broad Street.

YOU SHOULD KNOW.

All Drinking Water, including bottled water may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects may be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at:

1-(800) 426-4791.

All Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants. 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

ABOUT THE FOLLOWING PAGES

The tables that follow list all of the federally regulated or monitored constituents, which have been found in your drinking water. U.S. EPA requires water systems to test up to 97 constituents.

HOW TO READ THE TABLES

The following list of terms provides a general definition on what each term means. The tables are setup in columns and rows. The shaded box at the top gives the heading for each column. The boxes that are not shaded reflect the information for each constituent.

Definitions:

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units	This is used to measure water turbidity (clarity).
MCL – Maximum Contaminant Level	The highest permissible level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's 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 health risk. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
AL - ACTION LEVEL	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
ppm – Parts Per Million. (Equivalent to milligrams per liter)	A good comparison of one part per million is one packet of artificial sweetener placed in 250 gallons of iced tea.
ppb – Parts Per Billion. (Equivalent to micrograms per liter)	An example of a part per billion is that same packet of sweetener placed in an Olympic-size swimming pool of iced tea.
ppt – Parts Per Trillion	Nanograms per liter.
ppq – Parts per quadrillion	picograms per liter.
pCi/L – Picocuries Per Liter	This is a measure of radioactivity in water. One picocurie is the amount of radioactive material that produces 2.22 nuclear transformations per minute.
TT - Treatment Technique -	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
MFL – Million fibers per liter	A measure of asbestos.

These tables do not represent any violation of state or federal rules and regulations regarding water quality. They are a list of constituent levels detected. Similar levels are found in drinking water throughout the Metroplex.

➤ **Inorganic Contaminants**

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2004	Barium	0.043	0.43	0.043	2.0	2.0	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
2005	Gross beta emitters	3.60	3.60	3.60	50	0	pCi/L	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
2008	Nitrate	0.3	0.3	0.3	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; erosion of natural deposits.
2008	Fluoride	0.75	0.75	0.75	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; Runoff from fertilizer use.

➤ **Organic Contaminants TESTING WAIVED, NOT REPORTED, NONE DETECTED**

➤ **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level**

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	RMDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Chloramines	2.7	0.8	3.6	4.0	<4.0	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

➤ **Disinfection Byproducts**

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Total Haloacetic Acids	14.9	9.7	24.0	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2008	Total Trihalomethanes	28.5	13.7	40.5	80	ppb	Byproduct from drinking water disinfection.

➤ **Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts: Waived**

➤ **Unregulated Contaminants**

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Chloroform	5.82	5.82	5.82	ppb	Byproduct from drinking water disinfection.
2008	Bromodichloromethane	7.56	7.56	7.56	ppb	Byproduct from drinking water disinfection.
2008	Dibromochloromethane	6.43	6.43	6.43	ppb	Byproduct from drinking water disinfection.

➤ **Lead and Copper**

Year	Contaminant	The 90 th Percentile	Number of sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Lead	1.8	1	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposit.
2007	Copper	0.701	0	1.3	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposit; leaching from wood preservatives.

Secondary Constituents

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 EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concerns. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Secondary Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2004	Aluminum	0.043	0.043	0.043	.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008	Bicarbonate	48	48	48	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2004	Calcium	33	33	33	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008	Chloride	12	12	12	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification:
2008	Hardness as Ca/Mg	59	59	59	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.
2004	Magnesium	3.2	3.2	3.2	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2004	Manganese	0.0032	0.0032	0.0032	.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element
2004	Nickel	0.001	0.001	0.001	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
2008	pH	7.8	7.8	7.8	>7.0	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2004	Sodium	26	26	26	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2008	Sulfate	35	35	35	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity
2008	Total Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	48	48	48	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2008	Total Dissolved Solids	139	139	139	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2004	Total Hardness AS CaCO ₃	96	96	96	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium

➤ Turbidity

Turbidity has no health effects. However, Turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

Year	Contaminant	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Turbidity	0.50	98.00 %	0.3	NTU	Soil runoff.

➤ **Total Organic Carbon**

Total Organic Carbon (TOC) has no health effects. The disinfectant can combine with TOC to form disinfection byproducts. Disinfection is necessary to ensure that water does not have unacceptable levels of pathogens. Byproducts of disinfection include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAA) which are reported elsewhere in this report.

Year	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Source Water	8.36	7.10	9.26	ppm	Naturally present in the environment.
2008	Drinking Water	3.94	2.63	4.89	ppm	Naturally present in the environment.
2008	Removal	1.33	1.04	1.79	% Removal	NA

What are Coliforms? Total coliform bacteria are used as indicators of microbial contamination of drinking water because they are easily detected in water samples and they are found in the digestive tract of warm-blooded animals. While coliforms are not disease producers, they are often found in association with other microbes that are capable of causing disease. Coliform bacteria are hardier than many disease-causing organisms; therefore their absence from water is a good indication that the water is bacteriologically safe for human consumption.

Fecal coliform bacteria, in particular E-Coli, is a portion of the coliform bacteria group originating in the intestinal tract of warm-blooded animals and are passed into the environment through feces. The presence of fecal coliform in drinking water may indicate recent contamination of the drinking water supply with fecal material. The following table indicates whether total coliform or fecal coliform bacteria were found in the monthly drinking water samples submitted for testing by your water supplier last year.

➤ **Total Coliform** REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA.

➤ **Fecal Coliform** REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA

➤ Availability of Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule Data (UCMR)

We participated in gathering data under the UCMR in order to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of possible drinking water contaminants. If any unregulated contaminants were detected, they are shown in the table elsewhere in this report. This data may also be found on EPA's web site at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/data/ncod.html>, or you can call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Cryptosporidium is a microscopic parasite affecting the digestive tracts of humans and animals. It is shed in the feces and when ingested, may result in diarrhea, cramps, fever and other gastrointestinal symptoms.

No specific drug therapy has proven to be effective, but people with healthy immune systems usually recover within two weeks. Individuals with weak immune systems, however, may be unable to clear the parasite and suffer chronic debilitating illness.

Cryptosporidium is being tested for in the City of Mansfield's raw water supply and has not been detected. The City of Mansfield uses a multiple barrier water treatment technique to reduce the possibility of contamination of the drinking water supply.

This is a Special Notice for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, and people with HIV/AIDS or other problems that weaken the immune system:

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/ Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the **Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-(800) 426-4791**.

OUR WATER COMES FROM LAKES/RESERVOIRS

The City of Mansfield uses surface water. Surface water comes from lakes and reservoirs. The City is a member of Tarrant Regional Water District (TRWD). This water district supplies untreated (raw) water from several different lakes and reservoirs to customer cities like Mansfield, Arlington, Fort Worth and the Trinity River Authority. The sources for Mansfield's water are Cedar Creek Lake and Richland Chambers Reservoir. Each is located approximately 70 miles southeast of the Metroplex. The water is transported through two large diameter pipelines. The City of Mansfield has a water tap on each of these pipelines that provides raw water to the City's water treatment plant. TRWD recently constructed a pump station and pipeline extension to Benbrook Lake, which is located in southwest Fort Worth. Mansfield is now able to receive raw water from Benbrook Lake. TRWD determines which source water Mansfield receives by considering pumping costs, pipeline loading, and reservoir conditions.

Lakes and reservoirs are collectors of rainfall runoff. The area that drains into a lake or reservoir is called a drainage basin. The drainage basins usually include creeks and rivers that run into the lake. The lake, as well as, the creeks and rivers are impacted by the runoff from the land use in the drainage basin.

WHAT'S IN THE WATER

When the rainfall/runoff travels over the surface of the land it picks up contaminants and dissolves naturally occurring minerals and salts. In some cases the runoff may carry substances from animal or human activity within the drainage basin. Contaminants that may be found in untreated water include; microbes, such as viruses, bacteria and protozoa; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals; organic contaminants, such as herbicides and pesticides (used on farm crops or lawns); chemical contaminants from industrial processes; petroleum contaminants from roads and highways; and radioactive contaminants from natural or unidentified sources.

CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS TIMED TO KEEP PACE WITH RAPID POPULATION GROWTH

The water distribution and collection system is rapidly expanding as the population continues to grow. Pipeline extensions and replacements are under way to assure an adequate quantity of water is available to the growing population. In 2008, the Water Treatment Plant Expansion Project began. The project will add additional water treatment capacity (15 million gallons per day) to the existing capacity (30 million gallons per day).

The expansion will include the installation of state of the art microfiltration technology, treatment equipment for taste and odor control, and disinfection processes.

Plans are under way to forecast water quality in the water distribution system based on the quality leaving the water treatment plant. Improvements in dissemination of monitoring and quality information are already being planned by Tarrant Regional Water District that will allow the customer cities to predict and prepare for changing water quality before it leaves the lake.

CONSERVATION MAKES SENSE AND CAN SAVE DOLLARS

New rules that include no daytime watering are now in effect. On May 27, 2008, the Mansfield City Council voted to amend the city's Water Conservation Plan. The new plan works with the state's water conservation goal of 140 gallons per citizen per day. The new regulations are easy to follow and include measures that promote effective water-use this summer.

The city's new water-use rules include:

- No watering between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., the hottest part of the day when evaporation levels are high. The use of soaker hoses, watering cans, and hand-held hoses with positive shut-off nozzles is permitted all day.
- Repair broken or misaligned sprinkler heads, cracked pipes, and other defects that waste water. Also, sprinkler heads must not spray directly onto the roads or sidewalks.
- Do not water during ANY form of precipitation or when the temperature may reach 32 degrees Fahrenheit.
- All new irrigation systems must be equipped with operational rain and freeze sensors and manual shut-off valves with a lock-out capability. All commercial irrigation systems must be equipped with rain and freeze sensors, regardless of the installation date.

For other water saving tips, visit www.mansfield-tx.gov, www.savetarrantwater.com, or www.txsmartscape.com.