

*2019 Annual  
Drinking Water Quality Report*

(Consumer Confidence Report)

This is your water quality report for January to December 31, 2019

THE OAKS WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION  
PWS ID 0150399

210-698-8449  
James Lincoln

**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.

**en Español**

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (210) 698-8449.

**Our Drinking Water  
Meets or Exceeds All Federal (EPA)  
Drinking Water Requirements**

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by your water system to provide safe drinking water.

The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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 materials 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.

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

Our drinking water is obtained from two sources. One source is the Trinity Aquifer, which we access directly from our wells. Also, in 2019 28.5% of our water was purchased from San Antonio Water System (SAWS). The SAWS water is a varying blend of ground and surface water. The SAWS water is further blended with our well water and both are subjected to all required testing. 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 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 Ms. Blanca Menchaca at 210-698-8449.

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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA 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 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## **Secondary Contaminants**

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, and 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.

## **About the Following Pages**

The pages that follow list all the federally regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. The U. S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants. The analyses were made using the most recent data from testing required by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and are presented in the attached pages.

## **DEFINITIONS**

### **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):**

The highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

### **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (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 Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The highest level of 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 (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 contamination.

**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 a water system must follow.

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

**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.

### ABBREVIATIONS

**NTU** – Nephelometric Turbidity Units (a measure of clarity of water)

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

**pCi/L** - picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

**mrem** – millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

**ppm** – parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppb** – parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

### **Inorganic Contaminants**

Collection Date	Contaminant	Highest Level	Range of Detected	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2019	Barium	0.0346	0.0346 - 0.0346	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2018	Fluoride	0.56	0.35 - 0.56	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories.
2019	Nitrate (Measured as Nitrogen)	3.0	1.39 - 2.82	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
2019	Selenium	34.8	3.8 – 3.8	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
7/01/15	Gross Alpha (excl. radon/uranium)	3	0 - 3	15	0	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
7/01/15	Combined Radium 226, 228	0.86	0.86 - 0.86	5	0	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
7/01/15	Uranium	2.2	0 - 2.2	30	0	ug/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

### Volatile Organic Contaminates

Collection Date	Contaminant	Highest Level	Range of Detected	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2019	Ethylbenzene	0.6	0 – 0.6	700	700	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum Refineries.
2019	Xylenes	0.0046	0 – 0.0046	10	10	ppm	N	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories.

### Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Disinfectant
2019	Chlorine Residual, Free	1.39	0.42	2.86	4	4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

### Disinfection Byproducts

Collection Date	Contaminant	Range of Levels	Highest Sample	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source
2019	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	4.7 – 4.76	5	60	none	ppb	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2019	Total Trihalo-methanes (TTHM)	22.7 – 22.7	23	80	none	ppb	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

### Coliform Testing (Note: No Coliform bacteria of any type found in 2019)

Total Coliform M.C.L.	Max. Contaminant Level Goal	Highest No. of Positives	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
No positive Monthly sample	0	0	none	0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

## Lead and Copper Testing

Date Sampled	Contaminate	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	MCLG	# Sites over AL	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
7/24/2018	Lead	2	0	0	15	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
7/24/2018	Copper	.218	1.3	0	1.3	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

### 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. The Oaks Water Supply Corporation is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we 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>.

### About our Water Supply Corporation and its Staff

The Oaks Water Supply Corporation is a non-profit co-op which is owned by its members. Any permanent property owner receiving water service is entitled to membership. The structure and operations are presented on our website ([www.theoakswsc.org](http://www.theoakswsc.org)). The office manager is Ms. Blanca Menchaca, who is available between the hours of 9:00 AM and 1:00 PM, Monday through Friday at (210) 698-8449. Any business you want to conduct with the Corporation may be accomplished during these hours.

However, if you need to report leaks or other emergency water situations, please call at any time!

#### Public Participation Opportunities

Date: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday each month. Time: 07:30 p. m.

Location: TOWSC Building

Phone Number: 210-698-8449

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

### About Water Losses

Water is lost from our system through actual leaks and un-metered usage such as hydrant flow or other testing. Apparent losses may also occur via incorrect or inoperative meters, mismatches between SAWS' delivery data and TOWSC's usage meters, and other measurement errors. In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the period of Jan-Dec 2019, our system lost an estimated 1,397,766 gallons of water. These losses are typical of those seen in small water systems with multiple sources. If you have any questions about the water loss audit, please call our office.