

# 2019 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

Harris County MUD No. 281

Public Water Supply ID 1013178

## Our Drinking Water is Regulated

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. 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. This report, also referred to as a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) is your water quality report for the results of the most current water testing from 2015 through 2019.

## Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

Harris County MUD No. 281 obtains groundwater from two wells located in Harris County. These wells are jointly owned with HCMUD No. 280 and HCMUD No. 282 and draw groundwater from the Evangeline and Jasper Aquifers.

## 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. 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 EPAs Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. 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.

## Special Notice for the Elderly, Infants, Cancer Patients and People with Immune 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; persons 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 providers. Additional guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

En Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (281) 376-8802.



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**SUPERIOR  
PUBLIC WATER  
SYSTEM**

THE STATE OF TEXAS

Harris County MUD No. 281, maintains recognitions as a "Superior Public Water System" with the TCEQ. This recognition demonstrates that the District's water quality meets or exceeds all requirements set forth in the Rules and Regulations for Public Water Systems.

## Water Sample Results

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 is based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants will be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts in our system contact Water District Management at (281) 376-8802.

### Table Information

The tables below and on the following pages contain chemical constituents which have been detected in your drinking water. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) require water systems to test for up to 97 constituents. Only seven regulated constituents were detected in Harris County MUD No. 281's drinking water, none of which exceeded the MCL or MCLG.

Regulated Contaminants									
Inorganic Contaminants*	Collection Date	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	2017-2019	1.4	0	2.8	0.0	10.0	ppb	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Barium	2017-2019	0.189	0.144	0.233	2.0	2.0	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride**	2017-2019	1.425	0.99	1.86	4.0	4.0	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	2017-2019	6.3	0	12.6	100.0	100.0	ppb	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	2017-2019	4.3	0	8.6	50.0	50.0	ppb	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
**Fluoride Information: The above reported level of fluoride is from one sample collected by the TCEQ in 2019. HCMUD No. 280 samples fluoride weekly. For 2019, the average fluoride level was 1.3 ppm. This level is within acceptable limits set by both TCEQ and EPA. We encourage you to share this information with your dentist before treatment.									
Disinfection By-Products*	Collection Date	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2019	13.2	13.2	13.2	na	80.0	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2019	1.5	1.5	1.5	na	60.0	ppb	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
*The value in the highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all TTHM and HAA5 sample results collected at a location over a year.									
Disinfectant Residual	Year	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source in Drinking Water
Free Chlorine	2019	2.39	1.5	3.2	4	4	mg/L	No	Water additive used to control microbes.
Unregulated Contaminants									
There is no maximum contaminant level for these chemicals at the entry point to distribution. When there is only one sample, the average, minimum and maximum will be the same number. Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of these contaminants and whether future regulation is warranted.									
Unregulated Contaminants*	Collection Date	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCLG	MCL	Units	Likely Source of Contamination	
Bromodichloro-methane	2019	0.9	0	1.8	na	na	ppb	The unregulated contaminants are a by-product of the drinking water disinfection.	
Bromoform	2019	2.9	1.7	4.1	na	na	ppb		
Dibromochloro-methane	2019	2.7	1.5	3.9	na	na	ppb		
Sodium	2019	149	149	149	na	na	mg/L	Erosion of natural deposits.	

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

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2019	1.3	1.3	0.0928	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2019	0	15	0	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

#### 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. We are 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>.

#### Public Participation Opportunities

Harris County MUD No. 281 meets at 11:00 am on the first Monday of each month at 1300 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1400, Houston, Texas. Any last minute cancellations will be posted at the clubhouse located at 12650 Northpointe Terrace. Call Water District Management at (281) 734-6820 for directions.

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#### Definitions and Abbreviations Used In This Report

Action Level:	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
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.
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.
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 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 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 of microbial contaminants.
Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or 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 contaminants.
MFL	million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
mrem:	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 or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppm:	milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)
ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
Treatment Technique or TT:	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.