

# 2010 DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

## YANCEY WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

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

We are pleased to present to you our 2010 Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. We are required by the Safe Drinking Water Act to prepare and deliver this report to you on an annual basis. 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 drinking water.

This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what is in your drinking water.

#### *En Espanol*

Este informe incluye informacion sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (830) 741-5264 – para hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol.

### **All drinking water may contain contaminants.**

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).

### **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 immunocompromised 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 to 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 and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

### **Public Participation Opportunities**

Our Board of Directors meet the second Tuesday of every month at 6:00 pm at the Yancey Water Supply Corporation Office located at 150 County Road 743, Yancey, Texas. Please contact our office listed above for more information. We also have a meeting of the Corporation's Membership each year in April.

### **Where Our Water Comes From**

As you may already be aware, Yancey WSC obtains its water from the Edwards Aquifer by means of 6 wells located throughout the system.

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water sources(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment allows us to focus source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information is available on Texas Drinking Water Watch at: <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/>.

For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has assessed our system and determined that our water is safe to drink. TCEQ will be reviewing all of Texas' drinking water sources. If your water meets Federal Standards there may not be any health-based benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices.

### **Sources of Drinking Water**

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include river, 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.

## Secondary Constituents

Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium, or iron) that 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.

### About The Following Pages

The pages that follow list all of 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.

#### 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 health risk. 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.

#### 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 which a water system must follow.

#### Definitions:

**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.

**Action level:** the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other

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

**ppb:** micrograms per liter or parts per billion – or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.

**na:** not applicable.

**avg:** Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

**ppm:** milligrams per liter or parts per million- or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

The level of drinking water disinfectant below which there is not known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

### ABBREVIATIONS

<b>NTU</b>	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
<b>MFL</b>	Million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
<b>mg/l</b>	mg/L means milligrams per liter
<b>PCi/L</b>	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
<b>ppm</b>	Parts per million, or milligrams per liter ( <b>mg/L</b> )
<b>ppb</b>	Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter ( <b>µg/L</b> )
<b>ppt</b>	Parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter
<b>ppq</b>	Parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

### Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2010	Chlorine Residual, Free	1.40	1.13	2.02	4	<4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control Microbes.

Year or Range	Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Highest single sample	Range of Levels Detected	Violation	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2010	Total Trihalomethanes (TThm)*	11.3	9.3 – 11.3	N	No goal for the total	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.
2010	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	3.3	2.5 – 3.3	N	No goal for the total	60	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination.

### Volatile Organic Contaminants

Collection Date	Contaminant	Highest single sample	Range of Levels Detected	Violation	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
4/30/2008	Xylenes	0.00316	0.00268-0.00316	N	10	10	ppm	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories
4/30/2008	Ethylbenzene	0.72	0.5 - 0.72	N	700	700	ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries.

**Inorganic Contaminants**

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Highest single sample	Range of Levels Detected	Violation	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2010	Arsenic	.0764	0.511-0.764	N	0	10	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards, Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
2010	Barium	0.0541	0.03 – 0.0541	N	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2010	Chromium	4.44	2.28 – 4.44	N	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
4/30/2008	Fluoride	0.17	0.15 – 0.17	N	4	4.0	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2010	Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2.5	0.72 – 2.5	N	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
2010	Selenium	0.838	0- 0.838	N	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
2010	Thallium	0.146	0.052 – 0.146	N	2	0.5	ppb	Discharge from electronics, glass, and Leaching from ore-processing sites; drug factories.

**Lead and Copper**

Year or Range	Contaminant	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
8/19/10	Lead	.0035 mg/L	0	.015 mg/L	0	mg/L	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
8/19/10	Copper	.17 mg/L	0	1.3 mg/L	1.3	mg/L	Erosion of natural deposits Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

*“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. This water supply 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>.”*

**Turbidity NOT REQUIRED**  
**Total Coliform REPORTED MONTHLY TEST FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA.**  
**Fecal Coliform REPORTED MONTHLY TEST FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.**

**VIOLATIONS**

Violation Type	Health Effects	Duration	Explanation	Steps to Correct
<b>ENTRY POINT 001: MCL VIOLATION-DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL)PHTHALATE</b>	Some people who drink water containing di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate in excess of the MCL over many years may have problems with their liver, or experience reproductive difficulties, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.	7/1/2009 To 9/30/2009	Operator error. Incorrect sampling location.	When samples were collected at the correct location, the sample results indicated no detectable levels of DEHP.
<b>ENTRY POINT 001: MCL VIOLATION-DI(2-ETHYLHEXYL)PHTHALATE</b>	Some people who drink water containing di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate in excess of the MCL over many years may have problems with their liver, or experience reproductive difficulties, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.	10/1/2009 To 12/31/2009	Operator error. Incorrect sampling location.	When samples were collected at the correct location, the sample results indicated no detectable levels of DEHP.

**Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated**  
(No associated adverse health effects)

Year or Range	Contaminant	Highest Single Sample	Range of Levels	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2010	Bicarbonate	207	186	No MCL for this Analyte	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2010	Calcium	74.4	71.4-74.4	No MCL for this Analyte	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2010	Chloride	22.4	9.76 - 22.4	22.4 MG/L	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity.
2010	Copper	0.00537	0.00414-0.00537	No MCL for this Analyte	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
2010	Hardness as Ca/Mg	246	245-246	No MCL for this Analyte	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.
2010	Magnesium	0.00292	0.000281-0.00292	.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2010	Manganese	14.7	14.7-16.3	No MCL for this Analyte	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2010	Nickel	0.00255	0.00255	0.1	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
2010	pH	7.91	7.91	8.5	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2010	Sodium	11.7	6.96-11.7	No MCL for this Analyte	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2010	Sulfate	38	13.8-38	250	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2010	Total Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	207	186-207	No MCL for this Analyte	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2010	Zinc	0.0658	0.04-0.0658	5	ppm	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element; used in the metal industry.

**Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection By products** WAIVED OR NOT YET SAMPLED

**Unregulated Contaminants**

Bromoform, Chloroform, dichlorobromemethane, and dibromochloromethane are disinfection byproducts. There is not maximum contaminate level for these chemicals at the entry point to distribution.

Year or Range	Contaminant	Highest single sample	Range of Levels Detected	Maximum Level	Current Maximum Contaminant Level Allowed(MCL)	Source of Contaminant
2008	Chloroform	1.2	1.15-1.2	1.24	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2010	Bromoform	2.0	1.7-2.0	100	ppm	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2010	Bromodichloromethane	3.1	2.5-3.1	100	ppm	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2010	Dibromochloromethane	3.6	3.5-3.6	100	ppm	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.