

# 2009 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 2009 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).

Our drinking water is safe. 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. The source water assessment process will be completed in three years. If your water meets Federal Standards there may not be any health-based benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices.

### **Special Notice for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems:**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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 (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.

### **About The Following Information**

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

### **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.

### 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 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.

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.

#### **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.

### ABBREVIATIONS

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

#### **Inorganic Contaminants**

Year (Range)	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Barium	0.049	0.041	0.057	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2008	Chromium	6.2	5.8	6.7	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.
2008	Fluoride	0.16	0.15	0.17	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2009	Nitrate	1.93	0.71	2.52	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

#### **Organic Contaminants**

Year Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2009	Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	1.67	0	22	6	0	ppb	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories.
2008	Xylenes	2.92	2.68	3.16	10000	10000	ppb	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories
2008	Ethylbenzene	0.61	0.5	0.72	700	700	ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level**

Year	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2009	Chlorine Residual, Free	1.26	0.9	1.67	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control Microbes.

**Disinfection Byproducts**

Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Total Trihalomethanes	10.3	1.1	13.5	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

**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	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Chloroform	1.2	1.15	1.24	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2008	Bromoform	1.13	1.08	1.17	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2008	Bromodichloromethane	1.43	1.3	1.56	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2008	Dibromochloromethane	1.97	1.86	2.07	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

**Lead and Copper**

Year or Range	Contaminant	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Lead	5.2	0	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2007	Copper	0.145	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

“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	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Secondary Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Bicarbonate	198	186	207	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2008	Calcium	71	68.7	73.2	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008	Chloride	16	10	22	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity.
2008	Copper	0.008	0.002	0.015	1	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
2008	Hardness as Ca/Mg	231	227	239	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.
2008	Magnesium	13.9	13.6	14.2	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008	Manganese	0.0017	0	0.0035	.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008	Nickel	0.006	0.006	0.006	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
2008	pH	7.6	7.6	7.9	>7.0	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2008	Sodium	11	11	11	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2008	Sulfate	23	14	38	300	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2008	Total Alkalinity as CaCO3	198	186	207	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2008	Total Dissolved Solids	288	278	299	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2008	Zinc	0.022	0.007	0.036	5	ppm	Moderately abundant naturally occurring element; used in the metal industry.