



**2014**  
**Consumer**  
**Confidence**  
**Report**

## **Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1, to December 31, 2014.**

**El Jardin Water Supply Corporation is pleased to present the 2014 Drinking Quality Report, also known as the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). We hope that the information you find in this report is useful so that you, the consumer, will make informed decisions regarding your drinking water.**

### **Sources of Drinking Water**

Our drinking water is obtain from *Surface Water* sources (Rio Grande River, City of Brownsville Terminal Reservoir, Resaca de la Palma) Purchased from Brownsville Public Utilities Board (BPUB). 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 EPA's 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 treatments 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.

**Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar.  
Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (956) 831-9981**

**SPECIAL NOTICE for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS,  
people with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems:**

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/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 at (800) 426-4791. **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 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>.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
REGARDING THIS REPORT CONTACT:**

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(956) 831-9981**

**PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY ID#TX0310022**

**Information about  
Secondary Contaminants**

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's are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

**Information about Source Water Assessments**

A source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(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 water protection strategies.

For more information about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/gis/swaview>

Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL: <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/>

The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

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

**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)

**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.

**ppt:** parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

**ppq:** parts per quadrillion, or pictograms per liter (pg/L)

## Lead and Copper

**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 requirements which a water system must follow.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	08/02/2013	1.3	1.3	0.149	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	08/02/2013	0	15	1.92	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

## Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	2014	12	0 – 28.3	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2014	29	0 – 53.7	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection..

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2014	0.19	0.05– 0.19	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrite [measured as Nitrogen]	2014	0.14	0.14- 0.14	1	1	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits..

### Disinfectant Residual Table

Disinfectant	Year	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloramines	2104	2.90	0.02	5.25	4	4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

### Violations Table

<b>Chlorine</b>			
Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort.			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Report (DLQOR).	07/01/2014	09/30/2014	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

<b>Consumer Confidence Rule</b>			
The Consumer Confidence Rule requires community water systems to prepare and provide to their customers annual consumer confidence reports on the quality of the water delivered by the systems.			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
CCR REPORT	07/01/2014	2014	We failed to provide to you, our drinking water customers, an annual report that informs you about the quality of our drinking water and characterizes the risks from exposure to contaminants detected in our drinking water.

<b>Lead and Copper Rule</b>			
The Lead and Copper Rule protects public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosively. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials.			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
LEAD CONSUMER NOTICE (LCR)	12/30/2013	11/07/2014	We failed to provide the results of lead tap water monitoring to the consumers at the location water was tested. These were supposed to be provided no later than 30 days after learning the results.

## BROWNSVILLE PUBLIC UTILITIES BOARD

### Constituents Detected in Your Water

#### MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

Constituent	Highest No. of positive	MCL	MCLG	Range	Likely Source of Contaminant
T. Coliform	None	Presence of bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	0%	0.0%	Naturally present in Environment
Fecal Coliform	None	A routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive and one is also fecal coliform or E. Coli	0%	0.0%	Human and animal fecal waste. Fecal Coliform (mostly E. Coli) is a portion of the Coliform bacteria group originating in the intestinal tract of warm-blooded animals that passes into the environment as feces.

#### RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS

Constituent	Highest Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Range	Likely Source of Contaminant
Gross Beta *	5.6 pci/L	50 pci/L	0 pci/L	5.5 – 5.6 pci/L	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

#### INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Constituent	Highest Level Detected	MCL	MCLG	Range	Likely Source of Contaminant
Arsenic	2.4 ppb	10 ppb	N/A	<2.0-2.4 ppb	Runoff from orchards, natural deposits; runoff from glass and electronics production waste
Copper	0.012 ppm	1.3 ppm	1.3 ppm	0.009-0.012 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Barium	0.124 ppm	2.0 ppm	2.0 ppm	0.098-0.124 ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate	0.75 ppm	10 ppm	10 ppm	0.15 – 0.75 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite	0.06 ppm	1.0 ppm	1.0 ppm	0.01 -0.06 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	0.55 ppm	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm	0.54 – 0.55 ppm	Water additive which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

#### TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON

Constituent	Lowest Percentage Removal	MCL	MCLG	Range Source (Upper) Treated (Lower)	Likely Source of Contaminant
Total Organic Carbon	22.7 %	TT	N/A	3.61-7.36 ppm 2.65-5.11 ppm	Naturally present in the environment

#### TURBIDITY (NTU)-STATE REGULATIONS: TURBIDITY MUST STAY BELOW 0.3 NTU 95% OF THE TIME

Constituent	Average	MCL	MCLG	Range	Likely Source of Contaminant
Turbidity	0.16 NTU	0.30 NTU	N/A	0.08-0.43 NTU	Soil Runoff

\*Radioactive monitoring performed 2011

## UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING REGULATION

### Second Cycle (UCMR2)

Unregulated contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulations are warranted. Any unregulated contaminants detected are reported in the following table. For additional information and data visit

<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ucmr/ucmr2/index.html>, or call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Constituent	Detect	MCL	MCLG	Range	Source of Contaminant
N-nitroso-di-n- popylamine (NDPA)*	0.0102 ppb	N/A	N/A	0.0041-0.0250 PPB	Nitrosamines can form as intermediates and by-products and chemical synthesis and manufacture of rubber, leather, and elastics; can form spontaneously by reaction of precursor amines with nitrosating agents(nitrate and related compounds), or by action of nitrate-reducing bacteria. Food such as bacon and malt beverages can contain nitrosamines; there is also evidence that they form in the upper GI tract.

\*Analysis performed in 2009

