



3812 Eck Lane • Austin, Texas 78734

Presented by  
Travis County Water Control and  
Improvement District No. 17  
PWS ID#: TX 2270027  
Reporting Year 2023

# Annual WATER QUALITY REPORT

## Source Water Assessment

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), the state water regulatory agency, completed a source water assessment (SWA) for Lake Travis. The SWA is a report on the susceptibility of public drinking water systems to 227 drinking water contaminants. The results include a high, medium, or low rating for each contaminant, as well as a list of potential sources of contamination. Our report lists low susceptibility for asbestos and disinfection by-products, medium for radio chemicals, minerals, microbes and cyanide, and high for metals and volatile and synthetic organic chemicals. The sampling requirements for our water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. If there were any detection of these contaminants they will be noted in this Consumer Confidence Report. Additional copies of this report are available at the District office at 3812 Eck Lane. You can access more information at [www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/SWAP](http://www.tceq.texas.gov/drinkingwater/SWAP) and [www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations](http://www.epa.gov/dwstandardsregulations).

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

TRAVIS COUNTY WCID No. 17 has violated the monitoring and reporting requirements set by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in Chapter 30, Section 290, Subchapter F. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During April – June 2023 we did not complete all monitoring or testing for Water Quality Parameters (WQP) and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how often we are supposed to sample for Water Quality Parameters, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which the follow-up samples were taken.

Contaminant: WQP System entry point to the Distribution System
Required sampling frequency: 4
Number of samples taken: 2
Samples should have been taken: Jan – Jun 2023
When samples were taken: 2 on 2/28/23 & 2 on 7/12/2023

## What is being done?

We are working to correct the problem. For more information, please contact Joseph Kunz at 512-266-1111.

Two entry point samples were missed for January-June 2023 and were taken on 7/12/2023. The remaining required samples for 2023 were collected correctly. We have updated our standard operating procedures to ensure these samples are taken correctly from now on. There is no impact to water quality

Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses).

**This notice is being sent to you by:**  
**Travis County WCID No. 17**  
**Public Water System Number: TX 2270027**  
**Date Distributed: 6/15/2024**

ESTA REPORTE INCLUYE INFORMACION  
IMPORTANTE SOBRE EL AGUA PARA TOMAR. PARA  
ASISTENCIA EN ESPANOL, FAVOR DE LLAMAR AL  
TELEFONO (512)266-1111

Travis County Water Control and Improvement District No. 17 is a nonprofit public utility located on the southern shore of Lake Travis. The Board of Directors and Staff are committed to supplying the best possible drinking water to our customers. We live and work here, we are your neighbors, we proudly drink the water and our families do as well. As the charts on these pages demonstrate, the District was in full compliance with the State of Texas and the EPA national primary drinking water regulations during the 12-month period covered by this report, and we continue to meet all standards.

**Where Does Our Water Come From?** Water District 17 customers are fortunate because we enjoy an exceptionally clean surface water supply from Lake Travis, located in Austin/Travis County TX. The Colorado River watershed that feeds Lake Travis reaches many miles upstream, passing through agricultural fields as well as urban areas. The raw water is processed at the Eck Lane Water Treatment Plant and the Mansfield Water Treatment Plant, where it is filtered through state-of-the-art microfiltration membranes. This process of microfiltration rejects particles larger than 0.1 microns and can filter out Giardia cysts, Cryptosporidium, bacteria and about 68% of viruses. The water is then treated with chlorine and ammonia to disinfect while removing any residual harmful contaminants. A small amount of fluoride is then added to prevent tooth decay. District water quality is monitored continuously to ensure it is within standards for low turbidity and proper disinfection levels.

## Important Health Information

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 if you fall within one of these categories. 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.

## Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration 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 these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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 can acquire naturally occurring minerals, in some cases, radioactive material; and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Substances 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, or wildlife; **Inorganic Contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses; **Organic Chemical Contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and which may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; **Radioactive Contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities; **Secondary Contaminants**, which 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 our business office. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

### Sampling Results

During the past year, we have taken hundreds of water samples in order to determine the presence of any biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. The table below shows ONLY THOSE CONTAMINANTS THAT WERE DETECTED in the water samples. The state requires us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

#### INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS DETECTED

\*District 17 is only required to test for gross beta particle activity every 3 years.

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Barium Total (ppm)	2023	2.0	2.0	0.0697	0.0684-0.0697	NO	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2023	1.3	1.3	0.174	0.0069-.0848	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide (ppb)	2023	200	200	40	0-40	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories.
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	4	4	0.445	0.25-0.64	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from aluminum and fertilizer factories
Nickel (ppm)	2023	0.1	NA	0.0012	0.0012-0.0012	NO	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	2023	10	10	0.0018	0.05-0.26	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; and erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/l)	2023	30	0	1	1	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrite (ppm)	2023	1	1	0.0771	<0.01 - 2.3	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; and erosion of natural deposits.
Zinc (ppm)	2023	5.0	NA	0.005	0.005-0.005	NO	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity (Pci/L)*	2023	50	NA	4.7	4.7-4.7	NO	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits
Arsenic (mg/L)	2023	0.01	0	0.002	0.002-.002	NO	Erosion of natural deposits

#### LEAD AND COPPER

\*District No. 17 is only required to test for lead and copper every 3 years

District No. 17 tested water in 60 locations throughout the District, mostly homes built prior to 1990 when lead in plumbing was banned. As shown in this report, District No. 17 water does not have lead in excess of established EPA maximum allowable levels. The public should be aware that 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. District 17 is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in residential 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>.

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH%TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Lead (ppb)*	2023	15	0	3.36	0/121	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)*	2023	1.3	1.3	.434	0/121	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

#### TURBIDITY

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water, it has no intrinsic health effects, however, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Low turbidity is a good indicator of an effective filtration system.

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL	MCLG	AVERAGE AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Turbidity (NTU)	2023	TT req'd if >1 NTU	NA	0.64	0.01-0.2	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2023	1.3 TT req'd if <95% meet limit of 0.3 NTU	NA	All Samples below the limit of 0.3 NTU	NA	No	Soil runoff

#### TOTAL COLIFORM

Total coliform bacteria are used as indicators of microbial contamination of drinking water because testing for them is rapid and easy. While not disease-causing organisms themselves, coliforms are often found in association with other microbes that are capable of causing disease. Absence of coliforms in water is a good indication that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption. 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 were found. 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 Escherichia coli (E coli) maximum contaminant level (MCL) violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria were found on multiple occasions.

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	ASSESSMENT/VIOLATION	SOURCE
Total Coliform Bacteria	2023	More than 2 positive samples per month	0	3 of 711	No / No	Naturally present in the environment

#### DISINFECTANTS

Disinfectant residuals are required to keep the water free from harmful microbial contaminants. Levels below the Maximum Disinfectant Level. have no known or expected health risks.

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MRDL	MRDLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloramines (ppm)	2023	4	4	3.375	2.40-3.85	No	Water additive used to control microbes

#### DISINFECTANT BY-PRODUCTS

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL	MCLG	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	RANGE OF LEVELS	HIGHEST LRAA	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
TTHMs [Total Trihalo-methanes] (ppb)	2023	80	NA	36	9.5-39.5	31	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids [HHA] (ppb)	2023	60	NA	15	5.6-12.1	13	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection

#### SECONDARY AND OTHER CONTAMINANTS - NOT REGULATED

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	AVERAGE AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	SOURCE
Alkalinity (ppm)	2023	NA	154.66	150-168	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts
Bicarbonate (ppm)	2023	NA	200	199-201	Corrosion of limestone
Calcium (ppm)	2023	NA	35.2	34-36.52	Naturally occurring element
Chloride (ppm)	2023	250	54.33	50.1-59.7	Runoff / Leaching of natural deposits
Hardness <sup>1</sup> (ppm)	2023	NA	200.669	153.9-222.3	Measure of calcium and magnesium
Magnesium (ppm)	2023	NA	23.7	21.5-25.8	Naturally occurring element
pH (units)	2023	6.5 - 8.5	8.197	7.45-8.88	A 0 - 14 scale measure of acidity or alkalinity of water. 1 = very acidic; 14 = very alkaline; 7 = neutral
Potassium (ppm)	2023	NA	4.85	4.80-4.89	Naturally occurring element
Sodium (ppm)	2023	NA	31.26	26.9-36.8	Erosion of natural deposits, byproduct of oil field activities
Sulfate	2023	250	28.36	26.5-30.3	Runoff from fertilizer use, leaching from septic tanks, sewage, erosion of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2023	500	280.97	240-322	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water
Perfluoropentanoic Acid (PFPeA) (ug/l) <sup>2</sup>	2023	0.003	0.0032	NA	

<sup>1</sup> District 17 water is considered moderately hard to hard. The range of 153.9 - 222.3 ppm converts to 9.0 to 13.0 grains per gallon with an average of 11.4 grains per gallon.

<sup>2</sup> All UCMR 5 data is available at [www.epa.gov](http://www.epa.gov)

#### WATER LOSS

As reported in the water loss audit to the Texas Water Development Board during the period January 1 - December 31, 2023, District No. 17 system lost an estimated 260,608,506 gallons of water or an average of 9.09 percent.

#### DEFINITIONS

**AL (Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average):** The highest running average detected at any specific location.

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

**MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goals):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is not known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**MFL (Million Fibers per Liter):** A measure of asbestos.

**MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that additions of a disinfectant are necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** 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.

**NA:** Not applicable.

**NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**PCi/L (Picocuries per Liter):** A measure of radioactivity.

**ppb (parts per billion):** One-part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter.)

**ppm (parts per million):** One-part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter.)

**ppt (parts per trillion):** One-part substance per trillion parts water (or nanograms per liter, ng/L.)

**ppq (parts per quadrillion):** One-part substance per quadrillion parts water (or pictograms per liter, pg/L.)

**SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level):** Nonmandatory water quality standards established by the EPA (Environmental Protection Agency) as guidelines to assist public water systems in managing their drinking water for aesthetic considerations, such as taste, color, and odor.

**TT (Treatment Technique):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Community Participation & Questions?** We want our customers to be informed about their water utility and their water quality. You are encouraged to attend regular Board of Directors meetings on the third Thursday of each month, beginning at 6 p.m. at the District Office at 3812 Eck Lane. This report is available in paper by request. For information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please contact Joe Kunz, Operations Manager at (512) 266-1111 X 128, or [jkunz@wcid17.org](mailto:jkunz@wcid17.org)