

# HARRIS COUNTY MUD 531

## PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM ID 1013531

### 2015 WATER QUALITY REPORT

The Board of Directors of Harris County MUD 531 ("the District") is pleased to give you this report about our drinking water based on 2015 test results. This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers and was created by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the following pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water. **The Board believes that the most important information contained in the report is that the District's water supply was found to meet the requirements set by the state and federal governments for drinking water.**

Please call the District's operator, Environmental Development Partners ("EDP"), at **832-467-1599** if you have any questions regarding this report.

#### En Español

*Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar a Northwest Harris County MUD 10 al telefono 832-467-1599.*

#### Public Participation Opportunities

The Board meets regularly each month at 1 pm. on the second Monday of the month at 3200 Southwest Freeway, Suite 2600, Houston, Texas. For additional information regarding the meeting call **832-467-1599** or send your comments to:

Harris County MUD 531  
P.O. Box 690928  
Houston, Texas 77269-0928

Data contained in this report were collected in 2015 except where noted. The State of Texas allows us to monitor for some substances less than once per year because the concentration of these substances does not change frequently. Although the Water District samples your water for up to 97 substances we are listing only those substances that were detected in your water. For additional information about your water quality please contact our District's operator at **832-467-1599**.

#### Where do we get our drinking water?

The district's water treatment facilities obtained their water from a groundwater source that draws water from the Evangeline Aquifer. An aquifer is a porous underground formation (such as sand and gravel) that is saturated with water. A Source Water Assessment for our drinking water source is currently being conducted by the TCEQ and should be provided to us this year. The report will describe the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with our drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information in this assessment will allow us to focus our source water protection strategies. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please call our District's operator at **832-467-1599**.

#### Interconnected Water Supplies

While the water for the district is predominantly supplied by wells owned by the District, the District can receive water by interconnect from adjoining water districts during emergency situations and maintenance periods. The water source for these districts is from ground water wells drawing water from the same aquifer as Harris County MUD 531. If water was provided through the interconnect, water quality information for the supplying district is included in this report. For additional information about the water quality for any of these systems please call **832-467-1599** or toll free at **1-866-467-1599**.

#### Protecting the Water You Drink

The USEPA is an agency of the federal government of the United States charged to protect human health and the environment, by writing and enforcing regulations. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink USEPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Federal Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health as public water systems.

#### 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. They are regulated by the State of Texas, not the USEPA. Since secondary constituents are not causes for health concerns they are not required to be reported in this document. However, they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water. For additional information about the water quality for this system please call **832-467-1599** or toll free at **1-866-467-1599**.

#### 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 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. 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.

#### Water Sources

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, (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 before treatment 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.

#### All Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants

When drinking water meets federal standards there may not be any health-based benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices. 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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

# Harris County MUD 531 Public Water System ID 1013531 2015 Water Quality Report

## Regulated Contaminants

Year	Contaminant (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level Found	Range Min. / Max.	Violation	Typical Source
2015	Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	4.4	4.4 / 4.4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
2015	Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.175	0.175 / 0.175	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
2015	Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.92	0.92 / 0.92	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2015	Nitrate(measured in nitrogen) (ppm)	10	10	0.02	0.02 / 0.02	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.

## Disinfectant Residuals

Year	Disinfectant (Units)	MRDLG	MRDL	Annual Average	Range of Detections Min. / Max.	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2015	Chlorine Residual, Free (ppm)	4	4	1.54	0.69 / 3	No	Disinfection used to control microbes.

## Disinfection By-Products

Year	Contaminant (Units)	MCL	MCLG	Range Min. / Max.	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2015	Total Trihalomethanes (ppm)	80	0	6.6 / 172	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
2015	Total Haloacetic Acids (ppm)	60	0	0 / 5.9	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

## Definitions and Abbreviations

<b>AL</b>	<u>Action Level</u> : The concentration of contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.	<b>NTU</b>	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
<b>ALG</b>	<u>Action Level Goal</u> : 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	<b>na</b>	not applicable
<b>MCL</b>	<u>Maximum Contaminant Level</u> : 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.	<b>MFL</b>	million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
<b>MCLG</b>	<u>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal</u> : The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.	<b>pCi/L</b>	picocuries per liter, (a measure of radioactivity)
<b>MRDL</b>	<u>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level</u> : 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.	<b>ppm</b>	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/l)
<b>MRDLG</b>	<u>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal</u> : The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.	<b>ppb</b>	parts per billion or micrograms per liter
<b>TT</b>	<u>Treatment Technique</u> : A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.	<b>ppt</b>	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liters
<b>Avg</b>	<u>Average</u> : Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running average of monthly samples.	<b>ppq</b>	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter
<b>Definitions</b>	The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.		
<b>ppm</b>	<u>parts per million</u> : milligrams per liter or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water		
<b>ppb</b>	<u>parts per billion</u> : micrograms per liter or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water		