

# Harris-Fort Bend Counties Municipal Utility District No. 3

## Public Water System ID 1013365

### 2015 Water Quality Report

The Board of Directors of Harris-Fort Bend Counties Municipal Utility District No. 3 is pleased to give you this report about our drinking water based on 2015 test results. The District is required by the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act to send the report each year. The content of this report is specified by the State of Texas. **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.**

#### En Español

***Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar a Harris-Fort Bend Counties Municipal Utility District No. 3 al telefono 832-467-1599.***

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

Our drinking water meets or exceeds all federal drinking water requirements. This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers, was created by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("USEPA") required tests and is presented on the following page. We hope the information helps you become more knowledgeable about what is in your drinking water.

#### Public Participation Opportunities

The Board meets regularly at 11:00 a.m. on the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 1300 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 1400, Houston Texas. For information regarding the date, time and location of the meeting calling the District operator at **832-467-1599** or send your comments to:

Harris Fort Bend Counties MUD No. 3  
P.O. Box 690928  
Houston, Texas 77269-0928

In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the time period of Jan-Dec 2015, our system lost an estimated 13,199,426 gallons of water. Overall, our system accounted for approximately 91% of the water produced during that period. If you have any questions about the water loss audit please call the District operator at **832-467-1599**.

#### Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

Harris-Fort Bend Counties MUD No. 3 obtained its water from a groundwater well that draws water from the Gulf Coast Aquifer. The well is located within the boundaries of the District. An aquifer is a porous underground formation (such as sand and gravel) that is saturated with water. The well is approximately 1000 feet in depth and is protected from surface contamination by geologic barriers. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that some of your sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in the Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWWW/>. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts please call our District operator's office at **832-467-1599** Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

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

#### 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

#### Interconnected Water Supplies

While the water for the District is supplied by a groundwater well owned by Harris-Fort Bend Counties MUD No. 3, the District can receive water from an adjoining water district, Cimarron MUD, on an emergency basis. The water source for Cimarron MUD is from a ground water well drawing water from the same aquifer as Harris-Fort Bend Counties MUD No. 3. For additional information about the water quality for this system, please call the District operator at **832-467-1599**.

#### Water Sources

The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 dissolve naturally-occurring minerals and radioactive material, and pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or 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.

#### 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 1-800-426-4791.

#### Protecting the Water You Drink

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.

# Harris-Fort Bend Counties Municipal Utility District No. 3

## Public Water Supply ID 1013365

### 2015 Water Quality Report

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 Harris-Fort Bend Counties MUD No. 3 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 the District operator at **832-467-1599**.

Inorganic Substances							
Year	Contaminant (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level	Range of Detections Min. / Max.	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2014	Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	2.6	2.6 / 2.6	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass & electronics production wastes.
2014	Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.166	0.166 / 0.166	No	Discharge of drilling wastes & from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
2014	Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	0.17	0.17 / 0.17	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories.

Radioactive Contaminants							
Year	Contaminant (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Highest Level	Range of Detections Min. / Max.	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2011	Combined Radium (pCi/l)	0	5	1.3	1.3 / 1.3	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
2011	Beta/photon Emitters (pCi/L)	0	50*	4.5	4.5 / 4.5	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
2011	Gross Alpha Compliance (pCi/l)	0	15	4	4 / 4	No	Erosion of natural deposits.

\* The EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)							
Year	Disinfectant (Units)	MRDLG	MRDL	Annual Average	Range of Detections Min. / Max.	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2015	Chlorine Residual, Free (ppm)	4.0	4.0	1.48	0.87 / 1.99	No	Water additive used to control microbes.

Lead and Copper						
Contaminant (Units)	Contaminant (Units)	Action Level	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2013	Lead (ppb)	15	2	0		Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2013	Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.0455	0		Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

#### Required Additional Health Information for Lead

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 the 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>.

#### Definitions and Abbreviations

<b>AL</b>	<b>Action Level:</b> The concentration of contaminant which, when exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
<b>ALG</b>	<b>Action Level Goal:</b> 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>MCL</b>	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level:</b> 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>MCLG</b>	<b>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal:</b> 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>MRDL</b>	<b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level:</b> 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>MRDLG</b>	<b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal:</b> 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>Avg</b>	<b>Average:</b> Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running average of monthly samples.

#### Definitions

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

<b>ppm</b>	<b>parts per million:</b> milligrams per liter or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water
<b>ppb</b>	<b>parts per billion:</b> micrograms per liter or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water
<b>NTU</b>	Nephelometric Turbidity Units
<b>na</b>	not applicable
<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
<b>ppt</b>	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liters
<b>ppq</b>	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter