

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report For 2004
Town of Denton
PWSID # 0050001

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. 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 water. Our water source is two (2) potable wells drilled at an average depth of 450 feet in the Piney Point Aquifer.

We have a water source protection plan available from our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination.

I'm pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets federal and state requirements.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Scott Getchell of the Department of Public Works at 410-479-5446**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Council meetings held on the first and third Mondays of each month at the Town Office.

The Water Treatment Division of the Department of Public Works routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, **2004**. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 - The "Goal"(MCLG) is 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.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants						
Beta/photon emitters Well 3 (2003) Well 5 (2003)	N N	10 7	pCi/1	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Alpha emitters Well 3 (2003) Well 5 (2003)	N N	12 2	pCi/1	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants						
Arsenic Well 3 (2003) Well 5 (2002)	N N	3 3	ppb	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Chromium Well 5 (2002)	N	20	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (distribution) (2002)	N	0.218	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Fluoride Well 3 (2003) Well 5 (2002)	N N	1.41 1.30	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead (distribution) (2002)	N	5	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides						
Oxamyl [Vydate] Well 5 (2002)	N	5.0	ppb	200	200	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on apples, potatoes and tomatoes
Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate Well 3 (2003)	N	0.8	ppb	0	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Pentachlorophenol Well 3 (2003)	N	0.01	ppb	0	1	Discharge from wood preserving factories
Volatile Organic Contaminants						
TTHM (distribution) [Total trihalomethanes]	N	23.69	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acids (distribution)	N	10.1	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Unregulated Contaminants						
Radon 222 Well 3 (2000)	N	290	pCi/L	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium Well 3 (2003) Well 5 (2002)	N N	201 196	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate Well 3 ((2003) Well 5 (2002)	N N	14.1 11.7	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloroform Well 3 (2003)	N	3.6	ppb	N/A	N/A	By-product of disinfection

Note: Tests were completed in year 2004 or as otherwise noted. Some testing is not required annually.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

We constantly monitor the water supply for various contaminants. We have detected radon in the finished water supply in 1 out of 1 samples tested. There is no federal regulation for radon levels in drinking water. Exposure to air transmitted radon over a long period of time may cause adverse health effects.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All 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 the 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.