

# 1999 Drinking Water

This report is being furnished as your first annual Drinking Water Report from your water supplier, **Upper Leon River Municipal Water District**. Each year hereafter, there will be a Consumer Confidence Report published and provided detailing information about your drinking water so that you can be informed and have confidence in the product we deliver. The District and its employees take pride in producing and delivering water to your tap that meets and exceeds federal and state standards. Information provided is for the appropriate reporting year as required by federal and state guidelines. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the General Office of the Water District from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday.



## YOUR DRINKING WATER IS SAFE

The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) has assessed our system and determined that our water is safe to drink. The analysis was made by using the data in the attached tables. If your 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## SPECIAL INFORMATION FOR PEOPLE WITH WEAKENED IMMUNE SYSTEMS

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 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe

**What's in the Water?**.....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.

Contaminants that may be present in untreated water include microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria; inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum use; and radioactive contaminants.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. A bottled water source has possibilities for contaminant exposure and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide

the same protection for public health.

**Where do we get our water?**..... Customers of Upper Leon River Municipal Water District receive treated water supplied from Lake Proctor which is a surface water source.

Lake Proctor is operated as a flood control reservoir by the U. S. Corps of Engineers as part of the Little River Chain. The District purchases water rights in Lake Proctor from the Brazos River Authority. The source water, or untreated water, is diverted immediately downstream of Lake Proctor Dam and is pumped approximately 3/4 of a mile to the District's Proctor Water Treatment Plant. At the treatment plant, the water receives full treatment as prescribed by federal and state regulatory agencies. Chemicals are added to encourage suspended particles in the water to clump together so they become heavy enough to settle to the bottom of the treatment basins. It is filtered through coal, sand, and gravel and disinfected prior to delivery to the District's distribution system which brings water to your tap. The entire process is monitored continually for compliance and quality

**En Español: Este reporte incluye la información importante sobre su agua beber. A obtener una copia de esta información o traducir en Español, llamar (254) 879-2258.**

**More about our source water**.....The Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC) will be reviewing all of Texas' drinking water sources. These source water assessments will be completed in three years and information relevant to Lake Proctor will be provided in the Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for the appropriate reporting year.

### **Your comments are welcome**

There are many opportunities available to learn more about water quality, water treatment, and the Upper Leon River Municipal Water District.

For questions or concerns about water quality, to request a speaker for a group, or to book a tour of the facility, call the Proctor Water Treatment Plant @ (254) 879-2258.

The Board of Directors' regularly scheduled meeting is the fourth Monday of each month and the **October 25<sup>th</sup>, 1999** meeting will have time allotted for **Public Participation** with regard to this published Consumer Confidence Report. Call the General Office at the above number for further details or other opportunities.

### **About The Attached Table(s)**

The attached tables contain all of the chemical constituents which were detected in your drinking water during the reporting period indicated in the tables. **The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test up to ninety seven (97) constituents in your drinking water and of those tested only five (5) constituents were detected. It's important to understand that a "detect" indicates that a measurable quantity could be measured above the minimal detectable values but a detect does not necessarily indicate that the "detected level" poses a health threat or is a health concern.** The Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) is available for additional information.

**FYI.....*Cryptosporidium***, a microscopic parasite, and the disease in humans cryptosporidiosis, has received much attention since the "1993 Milwaukee outbreak." The parasite affects the digestive tracts of humans and animals. It is shed in feces and when ingested, spread by person-to-person contact or other exposure routes, may result in acute diarrhea, abdominal pain, vomiting, and fever that lasts 1 to 2 weeks in healthy adults, but may be chronic or fatal in immunocompromised people. Drinking water, recreational water in lakes, rivers, streams and ponds, or an unsuspecting ice cube may all be common forms of water thru which the parasite may be ingested. Although cryptosporidium has been detected in several Texas water sources, there have been no reported detections in our source water.

### **DEFINITIONS: - *Understanding the Tables***

**NTU** - Nephelometric Turbidity Units. This is the unit used to measure water turbidity.

**Turbidity** - a measure of the cloudiness of water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

**Treatment Technique** - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - Maximum permissible level of a contaminant in water which is delivered to any user of a public water system

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (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.

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

**ppm** - Parts per million. Equivalent to milligrams per liter (mg/l).

**ppb** - Parts per billion. Equivalent to micrograms per liter (µg/l).

**pCi/L** - Picocuries per liter. Unit of measurement for radioactive substances. Equivalent to two atoms disintegrating per minute per liter

**TASTE & ODOR ( T & O )**.....Regardless of the source, water can be very safe to drink and still have an unpleasant taste and odor. Taste and odor are aesthetic qualities – not health-related concerns – and microscopic organisms such as algae that can create these taste and/or odor problems are typically more abundant during the hot summer months. However, episode events may occur such as a change in temperature or excessive rainfall and flooding or any number of other reasons that may cause noticeable changes. A distribution system conveying the water to a service or the localized plumbing including hot water heaters may also cause T & O concerns. Whatever the cause of these tastes and odors, be assured that Upper Leon River Municipal Water District continually studies the best ways to treat our water and provide a safe reliable supply to your tap.

**INORGANICS**

Year	Constituent	Highest Level at Any Sample Point	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Possible Source of Constituent
1998	Barium	0.083	0.0830 - 0.0830	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
1998	Fluoride	0.2	0.2000 - 0.2000	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
1998	Nitrate	0.22	0.2200 - 0.2200	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
1998	Selenium	4.8	4.8000 - 4.8000	50	50	ppm	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.

**TURBIDITY**

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.

Year	Constituent	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
1998	Turbidity	0.5	100	0.5	NTU	Soil runoff.

**LEAD & COPPER**

Year	Constituent	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
1996	Lead	0.0051	1	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
1996	Copper	0.0310	0	1.3	Ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.