

2014 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report



CHIMNEY HILL MUD



Yes, your water is safe to drink

OUR WATER MEETS ALL FEDERAL (EPA) AND STATE REQUIREMENTS

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) assessed our system, Chimney Hill Municipal Utility District (Chimney Hill MUD), and determined that our water is safe to drink. The analysis was made by using the data in the tables in this report which uses testing results from 2010 through 2014.

Because our water meets all state and federal drinking water health standards for the sampling period, there may not be any health based benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices. Chimney Hill MUD system identification number is 101-0910. Thank you for taking the time to read and learn about the water you drink. We look forward to another year of providing you with safe, reliable water.

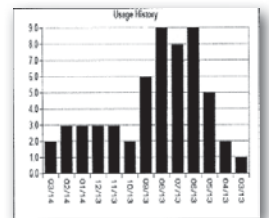
En Español – Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Si tiene preguntas o discusiones sobre este reporte en espanol, favor de llamar al tel. 281.376.8802 par hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol.

TRACK YOUR WATER USAGE

Your water bill contains helpful information on a 12-month chart. You can also compare your water usage to other residents in the District.

Midway down on the left of your bill is the average of Chimney

Hill MUD's 1,743 homes water usage for the month.



Average residential usage in 1,000's Gls: 4.0

WHERE YOUR WATER COMES FROM

Chimney Hill MUD obtained the majority of its water from City of Houston and the remainder from a well in the District. The District's well pumps ground water from the Evangeline Aquifer.

The City of Houston supplies both ground water from the Gulf Coast Aquifers, including the Evangeline Aquifer, and surface water from the San Jacinto River, through Lakes Conroe and Houston, and the Trinity River through Lake Livingston.

The District also has interconnect lines with neighboring Spencer Road Public Utility District (Hearthstone) and Harris Co. MUD No. 130. These water suppliers are governed by the same drinking water regulations as Chimney Hill MUD.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chimney Hill MUD meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Wednesday of each month at the Waste Water Treatment Plant, 13450 Traders Village Dr., Houston, Texas.

Any last minute cancellations will be posted at the Chimney Hill Water Plant No. 1, 13255 Firebrick. Call Water District Management (WDM) 281.376.8802 for directions. Chimney Hill also maintains a website with useful information, www.chimneyhillmud.com.

SPECIAL NOTICE FOR THE ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, PEOPLE WITH IMMUNE PROBLEMS

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water.

Infants, some elderly, or immune-compromised 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.

WHAT'S IN THE WATER In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA 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 contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 1.800.426.4791 or at the following website: www.epa.gov/safewater.

Bottled water information may be obtained at www.nrdc.org/water/drinking/bw/bwinx.asp.

TABLE INFORMATION The tables contain chemical constituents which have been found in your drinking water. The TCEQ and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) require water systems to test up to 97 constituents. The constituents detected in Chimney Hill MUD's water are listed below and all detects were well below the maximum contaminant level allowed in drinking water. The agencies do not require some contaminants to be monitored annually because their concentrations are not expected to vary.

This report, also referred to as a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), states the results of the most current water testing from 2010 through 2014.

INORGANICS - REGULATED									
Year Tested	Contaminant Detected	Unit of Measure	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Allowed (EPA's MCL)	MCLG	Meets Standards	Possible source of Contaminant
2010-14	Barium	ppm	0.050	0.040	0.0608	2.0	2.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2014	Cyanide	ppb	0.026	0.000	0.090	200.0	200.0	yes	Discharge from plastic & fertilizer factories
2014	Fluoride	ppm	0.224	0.000	0.290	4.0	4.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride promotes strong teeth. Ideal level to prevent tooth decay is 0.7 to 1.0									
2014	Nitrate	ppm	0.588	0.240	0.800	10.0	10.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2013	Nitrite	ppm	0.008	0.000	0.020	1.0	1.0	yes	Erosion of natural deposits
2012-13	Gross beta emitters	pCi/L	1.740	0.000	5.700	50.0	0.0	yes	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

ORGANICS - REGULATED									
Year Tested	Contaminant Detected	Unit of Measure	Avg Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Allowed (EPA's MCL)	MCLG	Meets Standards	Possible source of Contaminant
2014	Atrazine	ppb	0.276	0.130	0.610	3.0	3.0	yes	Runoff containing herbicides
2014	Hexachloro-cyclopentadiene	ppb	0.048	0.000	0.240	50.00	50.00	yes	Discharge from chemical factories
2014	Simazine	ppb	0.018	0.000	0.090	4.0	4.0	yes	Runoff containing herbicides

DISINFECTANT RESIDUALS									
Year	Constituent	Unit	Avg	Min	Max	MRDL	MRDLG	Possible Source of Contaminant	
2014	Chloramines	ppm	1.67	0.60	3.00	4.0	4.0	Disinfectant used to control microbes	

DISINFECTANT BYPRODUCTS - REGULATED									
Year	Constituent	Unit	Avg	Min	Max	MCL	Disinfectant Byproducts (DBPs) are formed when disinfectants (such as Chloramines) reacts with natural organic material in water. The District monitors the water distribution system as required by Stage 2 of the federal Disinfectant Byproduct Rule		
2014	Total Haloacetic Acids	ppb	20.18	13.80	29.30	60.0			
2014	Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	24.33	16.80	31.40	80.0			
Total Trihalomethanes represents four and Haloacetic Acids represent five different constituents. The maximum for each is the sum of either the four or the five constituents.									

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

CONTAMINANTS - UNREGULATED									
Tested	Contaminant	Unit	Average	Minimum	Maximum	Source of Contaminant			
2014-15	Bromodichloromethane	ppb	8.72	1.10	14.00	The Unregulated contaminants listed are byproducts of the drinking water disinfection.			
2014-15	Chloroform	ppb	16.60	11.00	22.00				
2014-15	Dibromochloromethane	ppb	3.32	0.00	5.60				
2014-15	Bromoform	ppb	0.30	0.000	0.50				

SECONDARY CONSTITUENTS Many contaminants (such as calcium, sodium, or iron) which are often found in drinking water can cause taste, color, and odor problems. These constituents are called secondary contaminants and are regulated by the State of Texas, not EPA. The secondary constituents are not causes for health concerns. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document, but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

SECONDARY CONSTITUENT - UNREGULATED							
Year Tested	Contaminant Detected	Unit of Measure	Avg Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	Meets Standards	Possible source of Contaminant
2010-14	Sodium	ppm	29.24	24.10	34.00	no standards set	Erosion of natural deposits

TURBIDITY - CLARITY OF WATER - CONTINUOUSLY SAMPLED AT THE WATER PLANT - REGULATED							
2014	Turbidity‡	Highest single measure	0.29 NTUs	Turbidity is measured in NTUs and is caused by soil runoff.		95% of samples	
	Lowest monthly % of samples	Meeting Limits	100%	tested each month must be less than or equal to the limit of 0.300 NTUs.			

‡**Turbidity is a measure of how clear the water looks.** Turbidity is a cloudiness or haziness of water caused by individual particles that are too small to be seen without magnification, thus being much like smoke in air. Turbidity has no health effects but it is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system. 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.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The TCEQ 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. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact Water District Management at 281-376-8802.

ADDITIONAL TESTING

Additional testing is done daily at the water plant and throughout the community at various locations to ensure that a safe level of disinfectant is in the system. Water samples are sent to an independent state approved laboratory to verify the absence of harmful bacteria. No such bacteria has been detected in this water system.

DEFINITIONS

Contaminant: The technical term for anything else in water except pure water is "contaminant." Technically, pure, fresh orange juice can be considered water which has been "contaminated" by the oil, orange pulp and flavorings in the orange which make it taste so good.

Obviously, some contaminants aren't good and can actually be hazardous to your health at specific levels. Those are the ones that are tested and measured.

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

MCL, Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology. MCLs are set at very stringent levels.

MCLG, Max. Contaminant Level Goal: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL, Max. Residual Disinfectant Level: The highest level of disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

SOURCES OF DRINKING 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 source water before treatment include: microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

FIGHTING FIRES, WATER LINE BREAKS, & DISTRICT MAINTENANCE ALL ADD TO LOSS WATER

The District's water distribution system lost an estimated 3.07% of its water in 2014. The national recommended water loss standard is 10% or less. **Please help reduce water loss by reporting all leaks to WDM, 281.376.8802.**



MRDLG, Max. 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 contamination.

n/a: not established at this time

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

pCi/L: PicoCuries per liter

ppm - Part per million: One part per million equals 1 teaspoon in 1,302 gallons, which is enough water to fill a typical bathtub over 40 times.

ppb - Part per billion: One part per billion equals 1 teaspoon in 1,302,000 gallons, which is enough water to fill a typical bathtub over 40,000 times.

INFORMATION ON LEAD IN WATER

Chimney Hill MUD 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 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 service lines and home plumbing.

LEAD AND COPPER – TESTED AT THE CUSTOMER’S TAP (SAMPLES COLLECTED FROM 20 HOMES)						
Year Tested	Substance	Unit of Measure	90th Percentile	No. of Homes Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Possible Sources of Lead and Copper
2014	Lead	ppb	13.00	1 of 20	15.0	Corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits
2014	Copper	ppm	0.13	0 of 20	1.3	



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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



- Mulch shrubs and other plants to retain moisture in the soil longer. Mulch keeps the soil cool and it reduces evaporation because the soil is not exposed to dry air and drying winds.
- Irrigate with the proper amount and only when necessary.
- Avoid watering when windy or in heat of day and keep track of the time. Set an alarm clock or timer as a reminder. A sprinkler left on overtime in one spot wastes water.
- Water less frequent but heavier encourages deep roots which withstands dry weather better.
- Lawns require only 1" of water in the heat of summer - less when it is cooler.
- Plant native and tolerant plants then water less.
- Vegetables and other plants requiring more water should be grouped together to make efficient use of water.
- To avoid runoff on slopes water in cycles - for example, three 5 minute watering periods rather than one 15 minute period.
- Avoid over-fertilizing your lawn. Fertilizers increases the need for water.
- Do not leave sprinklers or hoses unattended. Your garden hose can pour out 600 gallons or more in only a few hours, so don't leave the sprinkler running all day. Use a kitchen timer to remind yourself to turn it off.



DON'T KILL THE GOOD GUYS!

More than 90% of insects aren't pests. Some pollinate our flowers and vegetables, while many others feed on pests in our gardens.

By allowing them to do their job we can reduce the need for pesticides and maintain good water quality. www.ci.austin.tx.us/growgreen/downloads/beneficial.pdf

FIXING A LEAKY FAUCET

How to stop that steady drip, drip, drip



There are four kinds of faucets: compression (shown at left), cartridge (sleeve), ceramic disk, and ball type. Each type is illustrated at the website below along with simple directions on how to stop leaks. www.thisoldhouse.com/toh/article/0,,193895,00.html

SAVE WATER BY INSTALLING a 1.6 Gallon Toilet

When you replace one or more toilets you can expect to see significant savings.



For example, replacing a typical 3.5 gallon toilet with a 1.6 gallon model will save a family of four 11,096 gallons per year. That's a 54% reduction in toilet water use.

The more water the toilet you're replacing uses, the more you'll save.

Chimney Hill MUD has Online Bill-Pay options for your convenience in paying your water utility bill at: www.eonlinebill.com/bapp/wdm/wp01.r

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

Chimney Hill MUD has been awarded Outstanding Performance Certificates for no violations of the Safe Drinking Water Act bacteriological sampling rule from 2011-2012. The District continues with the same performance record to date.

HAVE QUESTIONS

If you would like more information about particular health risks or contaminants, you may call the EPA at 1.800.426.4791, or the Harris County Health Department at 713.439.6000. **EPA has answers to many questions at www.epa.gov/safewater/ccr/frequentquestions.** The District's Operator, Water District Management (WDM), may also be able to assist you with your questions, 281.376.8802. **This Report is also available online at www.wdmtexas.com.**

