

Our Mark of

EXCELLENCE

The City of Longview is once again proud to present to you our annual water quality report. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets or exceeds state and federal drinking water standards. We continually strive to adopt new and better methods of delivering the best quality drinking water to you.

The City of Longview is committed to providing quality, innovative services that set the standard for professionalism and excellence. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we will be vigilant in maintaining our objective of providing quality drinking water at an affordable price.

It is important to us that you have information about your drinking water so you can have confidence in the product we deliver. As you read this report, you will learn about where your water comes from and water quality data for the past year. We hope that you will find it useful and reassuring that your water is safe to drink. If you have any health concerns related to the information in this report, we encourage you to contact your health care provider. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call the Water Purification Division at (903) 663-7641.

Community

PARTICIPATION

You are invited to attend the City Council meetings scheduled the second and fourth Thursday of each month. For more information about these meetings, call the City Secretary's Office at (903) 237-1080 or visit our website at www.ci.longview.tx.us for agenda information.

Contact Us for More Information

- Questions or concerns about water quality: (903) 663-7641
- To request information on water conservation or a speaker for your group: (903) 237-1034
- Questions about your water bill: (903) 237-1030
- Water and sewer emergency line: (903) 236-3030
- To report water pollution: (903) 753-4870
- E-mail: wpurification@ci.longview.tx.us



What's in the

W A T E R

We are pleased to report that during the past year, the water delivered to your home or business complied with, or did better than, all state and federal drinking water requirements. We analyze water samples for bacteria, turbidity, inorganic contaminants, lead and copper, nitrate, volatile organic contaminants, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, and synthetic organic contaminants. For your information, we have listed in the tables inside the substances that were detected in our drinking water during the year. Although all of the substances listed are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) set by U.S. EPA, we believe it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.

Special Health

INFORMATION

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 (800-426-4791).

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (903) 237-1063.

Substances Expected in

DRINKING WATER

The sources of drinking water (*both tap water and bottled water*) include rivers, lakes, streams, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances that may be present in source water include microbial contaminants, inorganic contaminants, pesticides and herbicides, and organic chemical contaminants. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on taste, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office. 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Regulated SUBSTANCES

Year	Constituent	Average	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
2002	Barium (ppm)	0.050	0.043 – 0.057	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
2002	Fluoride (ppm)	0.70	0.68 – 0.83	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth
2002	Nitrate (ppm)	0.16	0.11 – 0.21	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
2002	Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	20.1	ND – 43.0	60	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination
2002	Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	51.9	29.0 – 91.8	80	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Year	Constituent	The 90th Percentile	# of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Typical Source
2000	Lead (ppb)	1.4	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
2000	Copper (ppm)	0.051	0	1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

The City of Longview is on a reduced sampling schedule for lead and copper. The results listed above are distribution samples taken from the customers' tap. Lead and copper have not been detected in water leaving the water treatment facilities. The source of lead and copper is corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Year	Constituent	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Typical Source
2002	Turbidity (NTU)	0.29	100	0.3	Soil runoff

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity is measured in Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU) and is a measurement of water clarity. This water quality parameter is monitored as a Treatment Technique (TT).

Year	Constituent	Highest Monthly % of Positive Samples	MCL	MCLG	Units of Measure	Typical Source
2002	Total Coliform Bacteria	1.2	*	0	Presence	Naturally present in the environment
2002	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	1.2	**	0	Presence	Human and animal fecal waste

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present. Longview analyzed 990 samples last year. All repeat samples taken were negative and did not indicate the presence of coliform bacteria.

* Presence of coliform in 5% or more of the monthly samples.

**A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive.

Table

DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL – 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.

Treatment Technique (TT) – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Action Level (AL) – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.

NTU – Nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity).

ppm – Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l).

ppb – Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l).

NA – Not applicable.

ND – Not detectable at testing limits.

Unregulated

SUBSTANCES : DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

Year	Constituent	Average	Range	Typical Source
2002	Chloroform (ppb)	26.7	11.3 – 61.5	By-product of drinking water chlorination
2002	Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	15.7	8.0 – 21.3	By-product of drinking water chlorination
2002	Chlorodibromomethane (ppb)	9.1	2.9 – 13.0	By-product of drinking water chlorination
2002	Bromoform (ppb)	ND	0.6 – 1.5	By-product of drinking water chlorination
2002	Dichloroacetic acid (ppb)	12.3	ND – 25.3	By-product of drinking water chlorination
2002	Trichloroacetic acid (ppb)	5.2	ND – 16.5	By-product of drinking water chlorination
2002	Dibromoacetic acid (ppb)	2.2	ND – 4.1	By-product of drinking water chlorination

All four of these substances constitute the total trihalomethanes parameter listed above in the regulated contaminants. Total trihalomethanes are a by-product of chlorination and have an MCL of 80 ppb.

All three of these substances constitute the total haloacetic acid parameter listed above in the regulated contaminants. Total haloacetic acids are a by-product of chlorination and have an MCL of 60 ppb.

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

Longview's Sources of DRINKING WATER

Longview uses surface water from two sources: Lake Cherokee and the Sabine River. The source water assessment has been completed and the report will be available this year. It allows us to focus on our source water protection activities. To monitor water quality in local rivers, streams, and reservoirs, Longview has a Watershed Management Program. We work closely with the Sabine River Authority, Cherokee Water Company, the Texas Railroad Commission, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), the Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission, and local industries to monitor the water quality in the Sabine River and Lake Cherokee watershed. We commend the Northeast Texas Municipal Water District for their leadership role in maintaining the integrity of the water quality in the watershed and reservoir and look forward to working with them in the future.



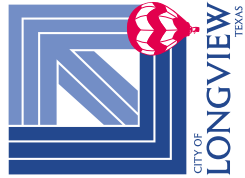
CITY OF LONGVIEW
Lake O' the Pines Water Treatment Plant

City of Longview DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Under normal operating conditions, both the Cherokee and Sabine River Water Treatment Plants treat and distribute water to elevated and ground storage tanks throughout the city. The east and southeast regions of Longview typically receive water from the Cherokee Water Treatment Plant. The north and west regions of Longview receive water from the Sabine River Water Treatment Plant. Due to changes in demand and normal or emergency maintenance requirements, the typical distribution of water may change and residents may receive water from Cherokee, Sabine, or a mixture of both.

Lake O' the Pines WATER TREATMENT PLANT

In April 2003, City officials held a dedication ceremony for the Lake O' the Pines Water Treatment Plant representing the completion of a four-component project consisting of a raw water intake structure, a 36-inch raw water pipeline approximately 20 miles long, a 10 million gallon per day water treatment plant, and the addition of two treated water distribution lines. The water treatment plant utilizes state-of-the-art ozone disinfection, enhanced coagulation and settling, and dual media filtration processes. Water quality information will be included in the 2003 Water Quality Report.



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2002 WATER QUALITY REPORT



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