

2023 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

STEPHENS REGIONAL SPECIAL UTILITY DISTRICT

PWS ID #:2150007

April 30, 2024

Report for January 1 to December 31, 2023

Phone No: 254-559-6180

Where do we get our drinking water?

During 2023, the source of drinking water produced by Stephens Regional Special Utility District was SURFACE water which came from POSSUM KINGDOM LAKE located in Stephens and Palo Pinto Counties, and purchased SURFACE water that comes from the following Lake/River/Reservoir/Aquifer: HUBBARD CREEK LAKE, LAKE DANIEL. Source Water Susceptibility Assessments for drinking water sources throughout Texas are currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Currently no Source Water Assessment has been conducted by TCEQ for Stephens Regional SUD's water system. When complete, this information will describe the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in this assessment will allow us to focus source water protection strategies. For more information, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer at <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/gis/swaview> or for more details at Drinking Water Watch at <https://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/>. You may also contact our office at 254-559-6180 or PO Box 1621, Breckenridge, TX 76424.

Community Participation

Date: Third Thursday of each month

Time: 6:00 P.M.

Location: 204 FM 3099, Breckenridge, TX

Phone Number: 254-559-6180

To learn about future public meetings (concerning your drinking water), or to request to schedule one, please call the District's business office.

En Español

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono: 254-559-6180

Our Drinking Water is Regulated

We are pleased to report that during the past year, the water delivered to your home or business complies with all state and federal drinking water requirements. Although all the constituents listed are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL), it is important to inform our customers of what was detected and how much of the substance was present. This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

Source 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:

- **Microbial Contaminates**, 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 runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

ALL Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants

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 (1-800-426-4791).

In order to ensure the tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which 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.

Contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, and 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 District's business office.

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as *Cryptosporidium*, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or immuno-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 (800- 426-4791).

About the Following Pages

The pages that follow list all of the federally regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants.

DEFINITIONS

Action Level (AL)

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

Action Level Goal (ALG)

The concentration of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no know or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

Avg:

Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Level 1 Assessment:

A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment:

A Level 1 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria has been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)

The highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)

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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)

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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)

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.

Treatment Technique (TT)

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

ABBREVIATIONS

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units

na - Not applicable

MFL - million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

mrem – millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

pCi/L -picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppm - parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppb - parts per billion, or micrograms per liter

ppt - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

ppq - parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

Lead and Copper

Date Sampled	Contaminant	MCGL	Action Level (AL)	90 th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2022	Copper	1.3	1.3	0.067	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
2022	Lead	0	15	0	0	MG/L	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analysis from homes throughout the District’s water system.

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 service lines and home plumbing. Stephens Regional Special Utility District 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 at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Disinfectant Residual

Disinfectant Residual	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source in Drinking Water
Chloramines	2023	2.89	0.85 – 4.08	4	4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

Disinfection Byproducts

Year	Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Unit of Measure	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2023	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	8	4.5-9.9	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

2023	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	35	16.9-29.4	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
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*The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all TTHM sample results collected at a location over a year

Turbidity

Year 2023	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest single measurement	1 NTU	0.19 NTU	N	Soil runoff.
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	0.3 NTU	100%	N	Soil runoff.

Turbidity is a measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration and disinfectants.

Inorganic Contaminants

Collection Date	Inorganic Contaminants	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCGL	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
2023	Barium	0.047	0.047-0.047	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries.
2023	Fluoride	0.1	0.113-0.113	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2023	Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	0.0787	0.0787-0.0787	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Water Loss

In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the time period of January-December 2023, our system lost an estimated 36,309,154 gallons of water. If you have any questions about the water loss audit, please call Stephens Regional Special Utility District at 254-559-6180.

Radioactive Contaminants

Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCGL	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination	
Beta/photo Emitters	2023	4.2	4.2 – 4.2	0	50	pCi/L*	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

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