

### City of La Porte Water Sources

7 ground water wells / Gulf Coast Water Aquifer

City of Houston Southeast Water Purification Plant / Trinity River

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, color, or odor of your drinking water, please contact the City of La Porte Public Works Department.

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 on contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline. 1-800-426-4791

## En Espanol

Este reporte incluye la informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistancia en Espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (281) 471-9650.

La Porte City Council Meetings Second and Fourth Monday of each Month at 6:00 P.M.

The TCEQ has completed a Source Water Assessment for your drinking water sources. This report describes 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 our source water protection strategies. More information about source water assessment and protection can be found at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/protect.html or contact the Public Works Department at (281) 471-9650 or ci.la-porte.tx.us.

# City of La Porte Water Quality Report for 2003

The City of La Porte's drinking water is monitored and tested in accordance with State and Federal regulations, and meets or exceeds all Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Environmental Protection Agency requirements.

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, in some cases radioactive material. It can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

*Microbial Contaminants*, such as viruses or 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.

*Organic Contaminants*, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, storm water, and septic systems.

**Pesticides and Herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.

*Radioactive Contaminants*, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production or mining activities.

#### DEFINITIONS

*ppm* - parts per million ( equal to milligrams per liter )

*ppb* - parts per billion ( equal to micrograms per liter )

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

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's 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 suspected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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

*Coliform Bacteria* - A group of bacteria found in the air, soil and in plants. Water of satisfactory bacteriological quality must be free of coliform organisms. Fecal coliform indicates a serious health concern since these are associated with sewage and animal wastes. *90th Percentile* - A calculation method used to determine the 90% value in a range of sample results.

# Special Notice for the Elderly, Infants, Cancer Patients, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems:

Some people may be more vulnerable to microbial 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 physician or 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 Drinking Water Hotline.

# 1-800-426-4791

The table on the reverse side will show the amounts in which some contaminants were found in the drinking water. No maximum contaminant level was exceeded and there were no violations of drinking water standards. All data presented is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations.

organics		City of La 1 of	te Water Quality	Kep	)OI t 101	2003	
Year	Constituent	Highest Level at any Sampling Point	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Possible Source of Constituent
2002-2003	Barium	0.0560	0.0414 - 0.0560	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes, metal refineries and erosion of natural deposits
2002-2003	Fluoride	0.9000	0.8000 - 0.9000	4	4	ppm	Water additive which promotes strong teeth. Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
2002-2003	Nitrate	0.7500	0.4800 - 0.7500	10	10	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from fertilizer use and leaching from septic tanks
2002	Gross Beta Emitters	5.60	0.00 - 5.60	50	0	pCi/l	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
ganics							
Year	Constituent	Highest Average of any Sampling Point	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Possible Source of Constituent
2003	Atrazine	0.1300	0.0000 - 0.1900	3	3	dqq	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
2003	Simazine	0.0700	0.0000 - 0.1400	4	4	dqq	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
sinfection B	y—Products						
Year	Constituent	Average of all Sampling Points	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Possible Source of Constituent
2003	Total Trihalomethanes	19.55	13.70 - 22.20	80	0	ppb	By- product of drinking water chlorination
2003	Total Haloacetic Acids	23.98	15.50 - 42.70	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
ad and Cop	per						
Year	Constituent	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level		Action Level	Unit of Measure	Possible Source of Constituent
2001	Lead	5.1000	0		15	dqq	Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
2001	Copper	0.2400	0		1.3	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Leaching from wood preservatives
ırbidity *							
Year	Constituent	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples meeting Limits	Li	rbidity imits	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2003	Turbidity	0.12	100%	0	.50	NTU	Soil Runoff

# **Unregulated Contaminants**

Year	Constituent	Average of all Sampling Points	Range of Detected Levels	Unit of Measure	Reason for Monitoring
2003	Chloroform	14.330	8.800 - 19.000	ppb	Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not
Е	Bromodichloromethane	4.730	3.200 - 6.300	ppb	established drinking water standards. The purpose of
С	hlorodibromomethane	0.500	0.000 - 2.000	ppb	unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in
	Phenanthrene	0.010	0.000 - 0.140	ppb	determining their occurrence in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.