

# City of Lubbock

## Water Quality Report 2003

July 2004

### **Lubbock Implements New Irrigation Ordinance and Landscaping Program**

The City of Lubbock is currently looking at ways to preserve its current water source. Two different programs are being utilized to encourage wise water use among our customers.

The first is a new irrigation ordinance, which restricts irrigation times on watering from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. The purpose of the irrigation times is to prevent water loss due to evaporation. Other key parts of the ordinance encourages citizens to keep their irrigation systems in proper working order, turn off their system during freezing weather, and directs new irrigation systems to be installed without intentional overspray and prohibits spray heads in areas that are four feet or less.

The second program currently underway encourages wise water use through the use of wise landscaping and wise landscaping techniques. The program called Texas SmartScape, is an interactive web page where citizens will be able to input features of their yard, such as the amount of sun that a particular area of their yard gets, and the web page displays a list of water-wise plants that will perform under those circumstances. This information can then be taken with the customer to their local nursery and assist the customer with their plant selection.

### **Where Does Our Water Come From?**

The City of Lubbock's drinking water comes from both surface and ground water sources. During 2003, the citizens of Lubbock used approximately 14 billion gallons of water. Our primary water source is Lake Meredith and wells located in Roberts County which is located approximately 150 miles north of Lubbock. The Canadian River Municipal Water Authority (CRMWA) manages and maintains these water sources and the aqueduct system that transports this water to Lubbock. Of the 14 billion gallons of water used, over 12 billion gallons of the water were supplied by CRMWA. The remaining 2 billion gallons used were supplied by well fields located in Bailey County.

The TCEQ has completed a Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s). This report describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. Contact our water system for more information about these reports.

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en espanol, favor de llamar al telefono 775-2592.

### **Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds All Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Requirements**

This report is a summary of the quality of the water Lubbock provides to its customers. The analysis was made by using data from the most recent 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. This report represents data for the year 2003.

## **Helpful Definitions for Reading this Report**

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – The level of a contaminant, or substance, in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant, or substance, that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available technology.

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

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

**Part per million (ppm)** – One part per million. For example, if you had one million dollars, one part per million would equal one dollar.

**Part per billion (ppb)** – One part per billion. For example, if you had one billion dollars, one part per billion would equal one dollar.

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

**NTU** – nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)

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

**MRDL** – Maximum Residual Disinfection Level. The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**MRDLG** – Maximum Residual Disinfection Level Goal. The level of a drinking water contaminant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG's do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contamination.

### **Important Information for Your Consideration**

#### **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/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).**

#### **What Do You Know About Bottled Water?**

When drinking 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. 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 about on taste, odor or color of drinking water, please call 775-2587. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water.

SUBSTANCE	MONITORING DATE	MCL	HIGHEST LEVEL DETECTED	MCLG	RANGE	SOURCES OF CONTAMINATION
<b>REGULATED AT TREATMENT PLANT</b>						
ARSENIC	2003	50 ppb	4.2 ppb	0	3.6-4.2 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards
BARIUM	2003	2 ppm	0.187 ppm	2 ppm	0.1190-0.1870 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE	2003	4 ppm	0.9 ppm	4 ppm	0.7-0.9 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE	2003	10 ppm	1.05 ppm	10 ppm	0.78 - 1.05 ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion
SELENIUM	2003	50 ppb	4.3 ppb	50 ppb	3.5-4.3 ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits.
TURBIDITY*	2003	TT = 5 NTU TT = % of samples <0.3 NTU	0.23 NTU 100%	0	N/A	Soil runoff
GROSS ALPHA ADJUSTED	2002	15 pci/l	5.8 pci/l	0	3.8-5.8 pci/l	Erosion of natural deposits.
GROSS BETA EMITTERS	2002	50 pci/l	8.7 pci/l	0	6.2-8.7 pci/l	Decay of natural and manmade deposits.
<b>REGULATED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM</b>						
TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES	2003	80 ppb	20.75 ppb	0	0.00-26.20 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TOTAL COLIFORM	2003	Presence of coliform in 5% or more of the monthly samples	Highest monthly % of positive samples =0.76	N/A	Presence	Naturally present in environment
HALOACETIC ACIDS (5)	2003	60 ppb	8.775 ppb	0	none detected to 23 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
<b>REGULATED AT THE CUSTOMERS TAP</b>						
LEAD	2003	15 ppb AL	2.0 ppb No sites exceeded AL	0	< 0.3-4.0 ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing systems
COPPER	2003	1.3 ppm AL	0.109 ppm No sites exceeded AL	1.3 ppm	0.004-0.262 ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; corrosion of household plumbing systems
<b>UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES</b>						
CHLOROFORM	2003	Not Regulated	.52 ppb	Not Regulated	0-1.4 ppb	Component of Total Trihalomethanes
BROMODICHLOROMETHANE	2003	Not Regulated	2.16 ppb	Not Regulated	0-4.6 ppb	Component of Total Trihalomethanes
DIBROMOCHLOROMETHANE	2003	Not Regulated	5.72 ppb	Not Regulated	0-12 ppb	Component of Total Trihalomethanes
BROMOFORM	2003	Not Regulated	3.76 ppb	Not Regulated	0-8.1 ppb	Component of Total Trihalomethanes
<b>ADDITIONAL MONITORING</b>						
CHLORIDE	2003	300 ppm	305 ppm	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
TOTAL DISSOLVED SOLIDS	2003	1000 ppm	1023 ppm	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
SODIUM	2003	Not Regulated	232 ppm	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
HARDNESS	2003	Not Regulated	288 ppm	N/A	N/A	Naturally occurring
<b>INFORMATION COLLECTION RULE MONITORING (FINISHED WATER RESULTS)</b>						
HALOKETONES	1997-98	Not Regulated	1.0 ppb	N/A	0-1.0 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HALOACETONITRILES	1997-98	Not Regulated	7.9 ppb	N/A	0.6-7.9 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TOTAL ORGANIC HALIDES	1997-98	Not Regulated	115 ppb	N/A	84-115 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
CYANOGEN CHLORIDE	1997-98	Not Regulated	2.9 ppb	N/A	1.5-2.9 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
CHLORAL HYDRATE	1997-98	Not Regulated	3.5 ppb	N/A	0-3.5 ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination

\*Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provides a medium for microbial growth.

# We Welcome Your Comments

If you have any questions regarding water quality issues, please contact:

- The Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791
- For questions about Lubbock's water quality, call 775-2614  
Monday – Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.
- For general questions about Lubbock Water Utilities, or additional copies of this brochure, call 775-2592  
Monday – Friday between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- City Council meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.  
Citizen comments are from 7:30 a.m. to 8:00 a.m.



**We're on the Web!!!**  
**[www.ci.lubbock.tx.us](http://www.ci.lubbock.tx.us)**