

# City of Huntsville: 2019 Drinking Water Quality Report for the Huntsville Public Water System

Reporting Period: January 1- December 31, 2019

CITY OF HUNTSVILLE provides two sources of water. The Purchased Surface Water from **Trinity River Authority Huntsville Regional Water Supply System Treatment Plant (HRWSS) located in Walker, County**. The Groundwater source from seven (7) active wells from the **Catahoula Aquifer** located in Walker, County.

***Know the Facts About Your Drinking Water:*** In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the *Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)* prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. This report is the summary of the results from the most recent data available from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Only those with concentrations greater than detection are provided.

***En Espanol:*** Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomr. Si tiene preguntas o' discusiones sobre este reporte en espanol, facor de llamar al tel. (936) 294-5712 par hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol.

***Special Notice:*** 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 at (800) 426-4791.

***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 include: Microbial contaminants, 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 results 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 water runoff, and septic systems. Radioactive contaminants which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities. 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 and at <https://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/>. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact James Ferguson at (936) 294-5762.

***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 these does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects may be obtained by calling EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

**Where Do We Get Our Water?** Water from the City of Huntsville is obtained from two sources: One (1) seven wells owned and operated by the City of Huntsville which pumps water from the **Catahoula Aquifer** and two (2) Surface water from the Trinity River that is treated by the **Huntsville Regional Water Supply System (HRWSS)**. These two sources are blended, as needed, to provide an ample supply of potable drinking water year-round. Approximately ninety percent (90%) of the water is purchased, as a finished product, from the **(HRWSS)** with the remaining ten percent (10%) produced from the City wells.

**Water Loss:** In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the calendar year of January-December 2019, our system estimated volume of water loss was 182,322,618 gallons. The total water loss-percentage is four-point five-three (4.53%). If you have any questions about the (TWDB) water loss audit please call (936) 294-5762.

**Understanding the Charts:** The charts that follow list all of the federally regulated or monitored constituents which have been found in your drinking water. The list below explains the terms used in the charts.

## **Water Quality Test Results:**

**Definitions and Abbreviations: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.**

Action Level:	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Action Level Goal (ALG):	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known 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 2 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 have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
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.
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 residual disinfectant level or MRDL:	The highest level of a 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 or 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 contaminants.
MFL	million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
mrem:	millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
na:	not applicable.
NTU	nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)
ppb:	micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppm:	milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)
ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
Treatment Technique or TT:	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

# TRA Huntsville Regional Water Supply System Treatment Plant

## Regulated Contaminants

Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorite	2018	0.12	0.02 - 0.12	0.8	1	ppm	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2019	0.0544	0.0 - 0.0544	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide	2019	0.08	0.0 - 0.08	0.2	0.2	ppm	N	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories.
Fluoride	2019	0.22	0.0 - 0.22	4.0	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2019	2.04	2.04 - 2.04	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

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

## Turbidity

	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest single measurement	1 NTU	0.21	N	Soil runoff.
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	0.2 NTU	100%	N	Soil runoff.

Turbidity is 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.

## Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.

# City of Huntsville “Blended” Distribution System Water

## Coliform Bacteria

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant	Highest No. of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	5% of monthly samples are positive.	0	0	0	N	Naturally present in the environment.

## Lead and Copper

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	07/20/2017	1.3	1.3	0.44	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	07/20/2017	0	15	4.6	1	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## Disinfection By-Products

Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2019	20.9	6.3 - 20.9	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2019	51.1	16.1 - 51.1	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

\* The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all HAA5 sample results collected at a location over a year'

\* 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

## Disinfectant Residual

Disinfectant Residual	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source in Drinking Water
Chloramines	2019	2.78	0.60 - 4.0	4	4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

### Inorganic Contaminants

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	01/11/2017	3.7	0 - 3.7	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	01/11/2017	0.143	0.0605 - 0.143	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide	01/11/2017	40	30 - 40	200	200	ppb	N	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories.
Fluoride	01/11/2017	0.63	0.5 - 0.63	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2019	6.3	0 - 6.3	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

### Radioactive Contaminants

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters	05/31/2017	13	5.5 - 13	0	50	pCi/L*	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Gross alpha excluding radon and uranium	05/31/2017	4.8	0 - 4.8	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium 226/228	05/31/2017	2.5	1.5 - 2.5	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

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

### Synthetic Organic Contaminants

Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Atrazine	2019	0.1	0 - 0.1	3	3	ppb	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.
Simazine	2019	0.1	0 - 0.1	4	4	ppb	N	Herbicide runoff.

**Contact Person:** James Ferguson, Water Services Superintendent (936) 294-5762. **Public Participation:** The City Council meets regular on the first (1st) and third (3rd) Tuesday of each month. Call 936-291-5400 or visit our web site at <http://www.huntsvilletx.gov> for times and complete agenda.