# 2015 Monitoring Results for the City of Gonzales

**You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly, or immune-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 (1-800-426-4791).**

**Turbidity**

| | Limit (treatment Technique) | Level Detected | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Highest single measurement | **1 NTU** | **0.28 NTU** | **N** | **Soil Runoff** |
| Lowest monthly % meeting limit | **0.3 NTU** | **100%** | **N** | **Soil Runoff** |

**Information Statement: 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.**

Coliform Bacteria

| Max Contaminant Level Goal | Total Coliform Max Contaminant Level | Highest No. of Positive | Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Max Contaminant Level | Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 positive monthly sample | 1 | 0 | 0 | NO | Naturally present in the environment |

| Contaminant | Unit | MCLG Health Goal | MCL EPA's Limits | Level Detected | Range Detected | Violation (Yes/No) | Collection Date | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Microbiological Contaminants** | | | | | | | | |
| The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set. | | | | | | | | |
| **Radiological Contaminants** | | | | | | | | |
| Beta Emitters | pCi/L **4** | 0 | 50 | ND | NA | NO | 2013 | Decay of natural and man-made deposits |
| Combined Radium | pCi/L | 0 | 5 | 1 | 1-1 | NO | 03/15/2013 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| **Inorganic Contaminants** | | | | | | | | |
| Barium | ppm | 2 | 2 | 0.0408 | 0.0408-0.0408 | NO | 2015 | Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits |
| Cyanide | ppb | 200 | 200 | 110 | 110-110 | NO | 2015 | Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories. |
| Copper | ppm | 1.3 | 1.3 = AL | 0.0517 ($90^{th}$ percentile) | 0 sites below AL | NO | 08/22/2013 | Erosion of natural deposits. Leaching from wood preservatives. Corrosion of household plumbing systems. |
| Fluoride | ppm | 4 | 4 | 0.2 | 0.21-0.21 | NO | 2015 | Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive which promotes strong teeth. Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories. |
| Lead | ppb | 0 | 15 = AL | 1.91 ($90^{th}$ percentile) | 0 sites below AL | NO | 08/22/2013 | Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Nitrate Measured as Nitrogen | ppm | 10 | 10 | 1 | 1.26-1.26 | NO | 2015 | Runoff from fertilizer use. Leaching from septic tanks, sewage. Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Selenium | ppb | 50 | 50 | 3.5 | 3.5-3.5 | NO | 2014 | Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines. |
| **Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides** | | | | | | | | |
| Dalapon | ppb | 200 | 200 | 3.4 | 0-3.4 | NO | 2014 | |
| **Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products** | | | | | | | | |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) | ppb | NA | 60 | 104 | 8.5-76.7 | YES | 2015 | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
| Total Trihalomethanes 5 (TTHM) | ppb | 0 | 80 | 110 | 16.9-81 | YES | 2015 | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |

| | Year | Average Level | Minimum Level | Maximum Level | MRDL | MRDLG | Unit of Measure | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chloramine | 2015 | 2.42 | 0.5 | 4.4 | 4 | 4 | ppm | NO | Water additive used to control microbes. |

Violations Table

Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*

Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

| Violation Type | Violation Begin | Violation End | Violation Explanation |
|---|---|---|---|
| MCL, LRAA | 01/01/2015 | 3/31/2015 | Water samples showed that the amount of this contaminant in our drinking water was above its standard (called a maximum contaminant level and abbreviated MCL) for the period indicated. |

Public Notification Rule

The Public Notification Rule helps to ensure that consumers will always know if there is a problem with their drinking water. These notices immediately alert consumers if there is a serious problem with their drinking water (e.g., a boil water emergency).

| Violation Type | Violation Begin | Violation End | Violation Explanation |
|---|---|---|---|

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| PUBLIC NOTICE RULE LINKED TO VIOLATION | 4/28/2015 | 2015 | We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about a violation of the drinking water regulations. |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) | | | |
| Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. | | | |
| Violation Type | Violation Begin | Violation End | Violation Explanation |
| MCL, LRAA | 01/01/2015 | 3/31/2015 | Water samples showed that the amount of this contaminant in our drinking water was above its standard (called a maximum contaminant level and abbreviated MCL) for the period indicated. |
| The City has authorized an Engineering Firm to study the City's water infrastructure and operational procedures to determine what improvements and changes could assist in preventing future exceedances of MCLs for he DBPs. | | | |

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. The City of Gonzales 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 or at http:/www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

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

Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium, or iron) which are often found in drinking water can cause taste, color, and odor problems. The taste and odor constituents are called secondary constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not the EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concern. Therefore, secondary's are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

**Definitions**
**Maximum Contaminant Level (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 (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 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 contaminants.
**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (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.
**Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which if exceeded triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
**Treatment Technique (TT):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
**90$^{th}$ Percentile:** 90% of samples are equal to or less than the number in the chart.
**NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** A measure of clarity.
**MREM (millirems):** a measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
**pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** a measure of radioactivity.
**PPB (parts per billion):** micrograms per liter (ug/l).

**PPM (parts per million):** milligrams per liter (mg/l).
**TCEQ:** Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.
**ND:** Not detectable at testing limits.
**NA:** Not applicable.
**EPA:** Environmental Protection Agency

**Notes:**
**1** The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do no change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.
**2** Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
**3** Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort and anemia.
**4** The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.
**5** Some people who drink water, containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidney or central nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

# City of Gonzales
# 830-672-2815
# PWS ID# 0890001

**Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

## What's the Quality of My Water?

The City of Gonzales is pleased to share this water quality report with you. It describes to you, the customer, the quality of your drinking water. This report covers January 1 through December 31, 2015. The City of Gonzales's drinking water supply surpassed the strict regulations of both the State of Texas and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), which requires all water suppliers to prepare reports like this every year.

Our water source is surface water from the Guadalupe River and Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer Wells.

Gonzales treats your water using disinfection and filtration to remove or reduce harmful contaminants that may come from the source water. 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 detection's of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confident Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact Gary Shock. For information about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: http://gis3.tceq.state.tx.us/swav/Controller/index.jsp/wtrsrc= , or Drinking Water Watch at the following URL: http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW

If you any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Gary Shock by calling 830-519-4923 or by writing to this address: PO Box 547, Gonzales, TX 78629. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. You can attend regular public meetings on the first Tuesday of each month at 6PM, in City Hall Council Chambers, at 820 St. Joseph Street.

**The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) wants you to know:**

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

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).

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.