

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report For 2009
Town of Denton
PWSID # 0050001

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the water quality and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is two (2) potable wells drilled at an average depth of 450 feet in the Piney Point Aquifer.

We have a source water protection plan available from our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination.

I'm pleased to report that our drinking water is safe and meets all federal and state requirements.

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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact **Mark Chandler or Scott Getchell of the Department of Public Works at 410-479-5446**. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled Town Council meetings held on the first and third Mondays of each month at the Town Office.

The Water Treatment Division of the Department of Public Works routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, **2009**. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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 - The "Goal"(MCLG) is 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.

TEST RESULTS							
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	Health Effects
Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Coliform Bacteria (Nov 2009)	Y			0	presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than were allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.
Fecal coliform & E.coli (Nov 2009)	Y			0	a routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive	Human and animal fecal waste	Fecal Coliforms and E Coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely-compromised immune systems.
Radioactive Contaminants							
Beta/photon emitters Well 3 Well 5	N N	4.6 6.8	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	
Alpha emitters Well 5	N	2.3	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits	
Inorganic Contaminants							
Arsenic Well 3 Well 5 (2008)	N N	4 < 3.0	ppb	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes	
Copper (distribution) (2008)	N	0.108	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	
Fluoride Well 3 Well 5 (2008)	N N	1.43 1.47	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
Lead (distribution) (2008)	N	4	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits	
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes] (distribution) (2008)	N	10.65	ppb	0	80	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
HAA5 [Haloacetic Acids] (distribution) (2008)	N	4.32	ppb	0	60	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
Unregulated Contaminants							
Sodium Well 3 Well 5 (2005)	N N	213.9 200	ppm	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits	
Chloroform Well 3	N	1.5	ppb	N/A	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
Bromodichloromethane Well 5	N	1.89	ppb	N/A	N/A	By-product of drinking water chlorination	

Note: Tests were completed in year 2009 or as otherwise noted. Some testing is not required annually.

We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. In November 2009, our system had a couple of violations related to Coliform testing. We suspected lab error, however we collected several additional samples immediately following our awareness. All additional sample results were negative.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained at the Caroline County Library or by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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. Denton Public Works 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 drinking 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. In order to maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all of our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

