CITY OF COLLEGE STATION

ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

REPORTING YEAR

2024

Public Water System ID:
TX0210002

City of College Station
Water Services

Letter from the Mayor

Dear Customers,

I am pleased to provide you with the annual report about your drinking water quality. These reports are also known as Consumer Confidence Reports and are provided to customers as a requirement of the Safe Drinking Water Act.

The report will help you become more knowledgeable about your water supply and the high-quality drinking water we provide. It explains where your drinking water comes from, test results from monitoring between Jan. 1, 2022-and Dec. 31, 2024, and what we are doing to ensure our community continuously has clean, safe drinking water.

We are pleased to report that our water again has met all federal and state requirements, one of several factors that helped College Station maintain its Superior ranking from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The report includes a lot of information. If you have questions or concerns, please call **979.764.3660** or visit **cstx.gov/water**.

John Nichols
Mayor

City of College Station
Water Services

Where does our water come from?

The sources of drinking water including both tap water and bottled water, are rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and groundwater wells. As water travels over the surface or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from animal or from human activity.

College Station relies entirely on groundwater for its drinking water supply, pumping from eight deep wells in the Simsboro Aquifer and one well each in the Carrizo and Sparta Aquifers in northwest Brazos County. Source water protection is essential in making and keeping water safe to drink. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)'s assessment of your source water describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The results indicate that some sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements are based on that susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection of the contaminants is noted in thie Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts in our system, contact Jennifer Nations at **jnations@cstx.gov** or call **979-764-6223**.

For more information about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: tceq.texas.gov/gis/swaview.

Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW.

INFORMACIÓN EN ESPAÑOL - Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar.
Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono **979.764.3435.**

Substances expected in drinking water:

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 **Safe Drinking Water Hotline** at **800.426.4791**.

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 from 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.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Contaminants found in drinking water may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for health concerns. For more information on the taste, odor, or color of your drinking water, call **979.764.3660.**

Special Notice for Elderly, Infants, and Immuno-Compromised People

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; persons 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 providers. 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.

Definitions & Abreviations

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

ACTION LEVEL (AL): The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow. Lead and Copper have action levels, for example.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment involves studying the water system to identify potential problems and, if possible, determine the cause of total coliform bacteria being detected in the water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a detailed examination of the water system to identify potential problems and, if possible, determine why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and why total coliform bacteria have been found in a water system on multiple occasions.

MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL): The MCL is the highest level of a contaminant 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): 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.

MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL (MRDL): MCLG is 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 (MRDLG): MRDL is 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 using of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

ND: Not Detected

PPB: Micrograms per liter or parts per billion. Equivalent to one ounce in 7.35 million gallons of water (think of it as one drop of water in an Olympic-sized swimming pool).

PPM: Milligrams per liter or parts per million. Equivalent to one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water (think of it as one drop of water in a hot tub).

WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS

Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	MCLG	Highest % of Positive	Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level	Total # of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation (Y/N)	Likely Source of Contamination
5% of monthly samples are positive.	0	0.85	A routine sample AND a repeat sample are total coliform positive, AND one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive.	1	N	Naturally present in the environment.

Understanding Coliform Testing:

Total coliform bacteria are not disease-causing organisms themselves, but they are often found in association with other microbes that can cause disease. They are used as indicators of microbial contamination of drinking water because their absence from water is a good indication that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption. In 2024, a total of 1,322 samples, at least 110 per month, were collected by licensed operators and analyzed by an independent accredited laboratory. Out of these 1,322 samples, one routine sample tested positive for Total Coliform Bacteria and E. Coli bacteria. The positive location was immediately re-sampled and two additional samples adjacent to the positive location were sampled. All repeat samples tested negative for both Total Coliform bacteria and E. Coli bacteria. College Station maintained its perfect compliance record with the Total Coliform Rule.

Lead and Copper	Year Sampled	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation (Y/N)	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2022	1.3	0.103	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2022	15	0.898	1	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

What You Need To Know About Lead In Drinking Water

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 College Station is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but it 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 the tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, consider having it 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 epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Water Service Line Inventory

In compliance with the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR), College Station has developed an inventory of both city-owned and customer-owned service lines. The city-owned portion of the service line runs from the water main to the meter, and the customer-owned portion runs from the meter to the entrance to the home. This inventory serves as a crucial foundation for water systems to address a significant source of lead in drinking water. College Station's service line inventory is updated regularly as we continue to investigate and classify our service line material. To access the inventory, please visit https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/52e6ca7071f047238ff07cf152d3e24a/.

To identify the material of your own service line you may conduct a scratch and magnet test at your water meter, which is generally located at or near the property line. Using a tool such as a flathead screwdriver, scratch the service line to expose the material. A copper service line will look much like a penny. A lead pipe will be dull or gray in color, but shiny after being scratched. A magnet will stick to a galvanized service line but will not stick to a copper or lead service line.

DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL

Substance	Year Sampled	Highest Average Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MRDL	MRDLG	Units	Violation (Y/N)	Source in Drinking Water
Chlorine	2024	1.66	1.01-2.18	4	4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

DISINFECTION BY PRODUCTS

Substance	Year Sampled	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation (Y/N)	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2024	2	1.1-2	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2024	0.0205	0.0131-0.0205	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

*The value in the Highest Level column is the highest average of all sample results collected at a location over a year.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Substance	Year Sampled	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation? Y / N	Possible Source(s) of Contaminant
Arsenic	2022	2.2	2.2 - 2.2	10	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	2022	0.077	0.077 - 0.077	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium	2022	13.7	13.7 - 13.7	100	100	ppb	N	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2023	0.39	0.39 - 0.39	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Selenium	2023	7.6	7.6 - 7.6	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.

SECONDARY CONSTITUENTS

Secondary contaminants do not relate to public health but rather to aesthetic effects such as taste, odor, and color.

Year Sampled	Substance	Highest Level Detected	Limit	Units
2023	Bicarbonate Alkalinity	402	No recommendation	ppm
2022	Calcium	2.41	No recommendation	ppm
2023	Carbonate	12	No recommendation	ppm
2023	Chloride Alkalinity	57	300	ppm
2022	Copper	0.0065	1	ppm
2023	Diluted conductance	948	No recommendation	µmhos/cm
2022	Manganese	0.0014	0.05	ppm
2023	pH	8.8	>7.0	N/A
2023	Phenolphthalein Alkalinity as CaCo3	10	No recommendation	ppm
2022	Potassium	1.45	No recommendation	ppm
2022	Sodium	168	No recommendation	ppm
2023	Sulfate	4	300	ppm
2023	Total Alkalinity as CaCo3	407	No recommendation	ppm
2023	Total Dissolved Solids	557	1,000	ppm
2022	Total Hardness (as CaCo3)	6.02	No recommendation	ppm

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING

Under the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), the EPA issues a list of unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems (PWSs) every five years. The contaminants originate from the contaminant candidate list, a list of drinking water contaminants known or anticipated to occur in public water systems but are not yet regulated by the EPA. Unregulated contaminant monitoring assists the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

Between 2023 and 2025, public water systems are sampling for 30 chemical contaminants, including PFAS chemicals and lithium. College Station's monitoring was conducted in May and November 2023, and those results are listed below. For more information about the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule please visit **epa.gov/dwucmr/learn-about-unregulated-contaminant-monitoring-rule.**

Perfluorinated Alkyl Acids (PFAs)	Units	Average	Maximum
Perfluorobutanoic acid (PFBA)	ppb	0.004456	0.00891
Perfluoropentanoic acid (PFPeA)	ppb	0.0028	0.00560
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (PFBS)	ppb	0.00185	0.00369
Perfluorohexanoic acid (PFHxA)	ppb	0.00294	0.00588
Lithium	ppb	17.3	18.6

A note about PFAS:

PFAS is a shortened name for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, a group of chemicals used since the 1940s. PFAS are found in firefighting foam, waterproofing products, nonstick cooking equipment, stain-resistant carpets and furniture, plastic products, and more. Due to their widespread manufacture and use, exposure to PFAS occurs through various avenues. But there is good news: the manufacture of many PFAS chemicals has been phased out, drinking water monitoring technology is now sophisticated enough to detect a wide array of contaminants at low levels, and in April 2024, the EPA established standards for six PFAS chemicals. The MCL for PFOA and PFOS is four parts per trillion, or PPT. For the other PFAS chemicals, the MCL is 10 parts per trillion. Parts per trillion is incredibly small: think one second in 32,000 years. The table above shows detections of small amounts of four of the PFAS chemicals, which were only detected in one of the two rounds of UCMR5 monitoring.

A NOTE ABOUT MEASURING WATER LOSS

The Texas Legislature requires retail public water suppliers to file an annual water loss report and notify their customers of the results of the water loss audit. In the most recent audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for January to December 2024, the City of College Station water system recorded an estimated total water loss volume of 37.1 gallons per connection per day (14 gallons per person per day). Water losses are attributed to water line breaks, leaks, inaccurate meter registration, and other causes. If you have any questions about the water loss audit, please contact Jennifer Nations at **979.764.6223**. Help conserve limited water resources by reporting suspected water leaks to Utility Dispatch 24 hours per day at **855.528.4278**.

Stay Informed During Water System Emergencies

College Station's Water Utilities (CSU – Water) has launched a new emergency text alert system powered by TextPower. In the event of a water system emergency, this service will send notifications to your mobile phone, provide ongoing updates, and alert you when the situation has been resolved.

All CSU – Water customers are automatically enrolled in this free service, using the mobile number currently associated with their utility account.

To help us keep you informed, please take a moment to confirm your contact details by visiting cstx.gov/utilities or calling **979-764-3535**.

FOR MORE INFORMATION REGARDING THIS REPORT OR COLLEGE STATION WATER SERVICES, CONTACT:
Jennifer Nations
Water Resource Coordinator
979.764.6223 | **jnations@cstx.gov**

COLLEGE STATION UTILITIES ACCOUNT / BILLING QUESTIONS:
Utility Customer Service: **979.764.3535**
cstx.gov/ucs

REPORT WATER, WASTEWATER & ELECTRIC ISSUES TO OUR 24/7 HOTLINE
855.528.4278

CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

College Station Water Services is a department of the City of College Station government. City Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month (unless otherwise poste) at City Hall and are open to the public. Agendas are available at cstx.gov/council or by calling the City Secretary's Office at **College Station City Hall.**

Agenda details are available at:
cstx.gov/council
or by calling the **City Secretary's Office** at **979.764.3541.**

CITY OF COLLEGE STATION
WATER SERVICES

cstx.gov/water