



City of La Porte Water Quality Report for 2011

The City of La Porte's drinking water is monitored and tested in accordance with State and Federal regulations, and meets or exceeds all Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Environmental Protection Agency requirements.

City of La Porte Water Sources
7 ground water wells / Gulf Coast
Water Aquifer

City of Houston Southeast
Water Purification Plant / Trinity River

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 on taste, color, or odor of your drinking water, please contact the City of La Porte Public Works Department.

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 on contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline. **1-800-426-4791**

En Espanol

Este reporte incluye la informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en Espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (281) 471-9650.

La Porte City Council Meetings
Second and Fourth Monday of each
Month at 6:00 P.M.

The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source waters and results indicate some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system is based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection of these contaminants will be found in this Water Quality Report. More information about source water assessment and protection efforts can be found at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/protect.html> or contact the Public Works Department at (281) 471-9650 or www.laportetx.gov.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, 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. It can also 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 or 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.

Organic Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, storm water, and septic systems.

Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production or mining activities.

DEFINITIONS

ppm - parts per million (equal to milligrams per liter)

ppb - parts per billion (equal to micrograms per liter)

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

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units

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.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's 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 suspected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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

Coliform Bacteria - A group of bacteria found in the air, soil and in plants. Water of satisfactory bacteriological quality must be free of coliform organisms. Fecal coliform indicates a serious health concern since these are associated with sewage and animal wastes.

90th Percentile - A calculation method used to determine the 90% value in a range of sample results.

Special Notice for the Elderly, Infants, Cancer Patients, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems:

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

The table on the reverse side will show the amounts in which some contaminants were found in the drinking water. No maximum contaminant level was exceeded and there were no violations of drinking water standards. All data presented is from the most recent testing done in accordance with the regulations.

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Inorganics

Year	Constituent	Highest Level at any Sampling Point	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Possible Source of Constituent
2011	Barium	0.1330	0.0501 - 0.1330	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes, metal refineries and erosion of natural deposits
2011	Fluoride	1.2300	0.3600 - 1.2300	4	4	ppm	Water additive which promotes strong teeth-Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
2011	Nitrate	0.1900	0.0400 - 0.1900	10	10	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from fertilizer use and leaching from septic tanks
2011	Cyanide	60	60 - 60	200	200	ppb	Discharge from steel, metal, plastic and fertilizer factories
2011	Gross Beta Emitters	5.6	0.0 - 5.6	*50	0	pCi/L	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

** The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem per year. The EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.*

Organics

Year	Constituent	Highest Average of any Sampling Point	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Possible Source of Constituent
2011	Atrazine	0.3400	0.0000 - 0.3400	3	3	ppb	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
2011	Simazine	0.1000	0.0800 - 0.1000	4	4	ppb	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops

Disinfection By—Products

Year	Constituent	Average of all Sampling Points	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Possible Source of Constituent
2011	Total Trihalomethanes	22.06	14.10 - 49.10	80	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination
2011	Total Haloacetic Acids	15.46	9.70 - 29.50	60	0	ppb	By-product of drinking water chlorination

Lead and Copper

Year	Constituent	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Possible Source of Constituent
2010	Lead	2.500	0	15	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of household plumbing systems
2010	Copper	0.3500	0	1.3	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Corrosion of Household plumbing systems; Leaching from wood preservatives

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. This water supply 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Turbidity

Year	Constituent	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2011	Turbidity	0.160	100%	0.300	NTU	Soil Runoff

**Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for bacterial growth.*

Disinfection

Year	Constituent	Annual Average All Sampling Points	Range of Detected Levels	MRDL	MRDL G	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2011	Chlorine and Chloramine Disinfectant	3.13	0.7 - 3.5	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbial contaminants

Unregulated Contaminants

Year	Constituent	Average of all Sampling Points	Range of Detected Levels	Unit of Measure	Reason for Monitoring
2011	Chloroform	8.888	6.300 - 14.200	ppb	Unregulated Contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of Unregulated Contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining their occurrence in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. For additional information and data visit http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ucmr/ucmr2/index/html , or call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.
	Bromodichloromethane	7.500	5.100 - 15.400	ppb	
	Dibromochloromethane	4.813	2.100 - 15.200	ppb	
	Bromoform	0.863	0.000 - 4.300	ppb	
	Bromochloroacetic Acid	5.4250	3.800 - 8.600	ppb	