

# City of Katy

## 2008 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

### (Consumer Confidence Report)



910 Avenue C . Katy TX 77493 . 281.391.4800

**Special Notice for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems:** 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/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where Do We Get Our Water		
Our drinking water is obtained from ground water sources. The City of Katy owns and operates six well plants.		
Well Plant Address	Storage Capacity	
	Ground	Elevated
#1 909 Avenue B	600,000 gal.	100,000 gal.
#2 5450 Franz Rd.	1,000,000 gal.	250,000 gal.
#3 5701 Medical Center Dr.	1,000,000 gal.	500,000 gal.
#4 6850 Franz Rd.	1,000,000 gal.	500,000 gal.
#5 3300 Katy Hockley Rd.	1,000,000 gal.	500,000 gal.
#6 27515 Highway 90	1,000,000 gal.	500,000 gal.
This groundwater source comes from the Gulf Coast Aquifer.		

#### Public Participation Opportunities

**City Council Meetings** are held the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers, 910 Avenue C. To learn about future public meetings concerning your drinking water, or to request to schedule one, please call 281-391-4800.

#### Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds

##### All Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Requirements

This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

**En Espanol:** Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en espanol, favor de llamar al tel. (281) 391 - 4820 para hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol.

**WATER SOURCES:** 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 before treatment include: microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants and organic chemical contaminants.

#### Where do we get our drinking water?

Our drinking water is obtained from ground water sources. It comes from the GULF COAST Aquifer. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water sources is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and will be provided to us this year. The report will describe the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment will allow us to focus our source water protection strategies. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact us.

#### ALL drinking water may contain contaminants.

When drinking water meets federal standards there may not be any health-based benefits to purchasing bottled water or point of use devices. 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).

#### Secondary Constituents

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 concerns. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but they may greatly affect the appearance and taste of your water.

#### We Welcome Your Comments

The City of Katy has maintained a Superior Water System rating for the past 20 years and is dedicated to continuing this Superior Service to you, our citizens, customers and friends. There are many opportunities available to learn more about your City of Katy Water Department and water quality. For questions or concerns, to request a speaker or tour, call Public Works at (281) 391-4820. The Water Department is part of the city government.



#### About The Following Pages

The pages that follow list all of the federally regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. U.S. EPA requires water systems to test up to 97 contaminants.

#### Definitions

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – the highest permissible level of a contaminant 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 health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** – the highest level of 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)** – 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 contamination.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** – a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Action Level (AL)** – the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

#### Abbreviations

**NTU** – Nephelometric Turbidity Units

**MFL** – million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

**pCi/L** – picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

**ppm** – parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppb** – parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

**ppt** – parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

**ppq** – parts per quadrillion, or pictograms per liter

**Inorganic Contaminants**

Year or Range	Contaminant	Avg Level	Min Level	Max Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008 2006	Barium	0.147	0.132	0.16	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
2008 2006	Fluoride	0.26	0.11	0.6	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth, discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2008	Nitrate	0.01	0	0.02	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
2008 2006	Selenium	2	0	5.9	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.
2008 2005	Uranium	0.8	0	10.1	30	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits.
2008 2005	Combined Radium 226 & 228	1.21	0	2.14	5	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.
2008 2005	Gross beta emitters	4.23	0	9.2	50	0	pCi/L	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
2008 2005	Gross alpha	5.22	0	12.2	15	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.

**Organic Contaminants**

Year or Range	Contaminant	Avg Level	Min Level	Max Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2006 2005	Ethylbenzene	0.3	0	0.6	700	700	ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level**

Year	Disinfectant	Avg Level	Min Level	Max Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
2008	Chlorine Residual, Free	0.53	0.48	0.7	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.

**Disinfection Byproducts**

Year or Range	Contaminant	Avg Level	Min Level	Max Level	MCL	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	Total Trihalomethanes	0.2	0	1.2	80	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts – Waived or not yet sampled

**Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated (no associated adverse health effects)**

Year or Range	Constituent	Avg Level	Min Level	Max Level	Secondary Limit	Unit of Measure	Source of Constituent
2008 2006	Bicarbonate	215	179	266	NA	ppm	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
2008 2006	Calcium	41.2	22.1	52.8	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008 2006	Chloride	47	38	66	300	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity.
2008 2006	Copper	0.002	0	0.003	1	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
2008 2006	Iron	0.077	0.015	0.121	.3	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; iron or steel water delivery equipment or facilities.
2008 2006	Magnesium	5.9	4.7	7.2	NA	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008 2006	Manganese	0.0073	0.003	0.0136	.05	ppm	Abundant naturally occurring element.
2008 2006	Nickel	0.001	0	0.001	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.
2008 2006	pH	7.5	7.3	8.1	>7.0	units	Measure of corrosivity of water.
2008 2006	Sodium	56	31	106	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
2008 2006	Sulfate	13	9	16	300	ppm	Naturally occurring; common industrial byproduct; byproduct of oil field activity.
2008 2006	Total Alkalinity as CaCO3	176	147	218	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts.
2008 2006	Total Dissolved Solids	279	247	360	1000	ppm	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water.
2008 2006	Total Hardness as CaCO3	127	75	161	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring calcium.

**Unregulated Contaminants**

Bromoform, chloroform, dichlorobromomethane and dibromochloromethane are disinfection byproducts. There is no maximum contaminant level for these chemicals at the entry point to distribution.

Year or Range	Contaminant	Avg Level	Min Level	Max Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2006 2005	Bromoform	1.35	1.1	1.6	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
2006 2005	Dibromochloromethane	0.45	0	0.9	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

**Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 2 (UCMR2)**

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 the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Any unregulated contaminants detected are reported in the following table. For additional information and data visit [www.epa.gov/safewater/ucmr/ucmr2/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ucmr/ucmr2/index.html), or call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800)426-4791.

Year	Contaminant	Avg Level	Min Level	Max Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2008	No Contaminant Detected	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

**Lead and Copper**

Year	Contaminant	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2007	Lead	3.6	2	15	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2007	Copper	0.184	0	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

**Recommended Additional Health Information for Lead**

All water systems are required by EPA to report the language below starting with the 2009 CCR to be delivered to you by July of 2010. We are providing this information now as a courtesy.

*"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 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 [www.epagov/safewater/lead](http://www.epagov/safewater/lead)."*

**Turbidity** NOT REQUIRED  
**Total Coliform** REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO COLIFORM BACTERIA  
**Fecal Coliform** REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO FECAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.