

WATER QUALITY 2023



PWS#0290065

EXCELLENCE IN WATER QUALITY

PORT OCONNOR IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Dear Customer,

The Port O'Connor Improvement District (POCID) is pleased to provide you with the 2023 Water Quality Report (January 1-December 31, 2023). We take all possible precautions to safeguard your water supply and hope you will be encouraged to learn about the high quality of water provided to you.

The federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires water utilities to issue an annual report to customers, in addition to other notices that may be required by law. This report explains where your drinking water comes from, what it contains, and the health risks our water testing and treatment are designed to prevent.

We are committed to providing you with information about your water supply because informed customers are our best allies in supporting improvements needed to maintain the highest drinking water standards.

We are proud to report that the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has assessed our system and determined that your drinking water, provided by the Port O'Connor Improvement District through the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority's surface water treatment plant, meets, or exceeds all federal and state water quality standards.

The tables on this report list all substances that were detected in our treated water, and the highest level at which they were detected. The tables also reflect the highest levels allowed by federal regulatory agencies. Please read this information carefully and if you have questions, call the numbers listed in this report. An electronic version of this report can be found at <https://pocid.org/water-quality>

Customer Views Welcome

The POCID strongly supports the national primary water regulation compliance process. If you are interested in learning more about the water department, water quality, or participating in the decision-making process, there are a number of opportunities available.

Questions about water quality can be answered by calling the Improvement District at 361-983-2652 from 8 am – 5 pm, Monday through Friday. Inquiries about public participation and policy decisions should be directed to the District office in Port O'Connor at 39 Denman Dr., Box 375, Port O'Connor, Texas 77982. The District Directors hold their monthly meeting the third Thursday of each month at 1:00 pm.

En Español

Este informe incluye informacion importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en Espanol, favor de llamar al tel. 361-983-2652 para hablar con una persona bilingue en espanol durante las horas regulares de oficina (8 am – 5 pm).

Information about your Drinking Water

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.

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 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, 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.

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

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, odor, or color of drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

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 (800-426-4791).

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. We are responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we 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>.

Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

POCID received its water from surface water diverted from the Guadalupe River and treated at the GBRA Port Lavaca Water Treatment Plant operated by the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA).

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source was conducted by TCEQ in 2004. This report describes the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with the drinking water source based on human activities and

natural conditions. The system from which we purchase our water received the assessment report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system contact GBRA Water Treatment Plant at 361-552-9751.

Trained operators monitor and test the water, including the addition of fluoride and chloramine, to ensure that our water meets or exceeds all state and federal drinking water standards. The treated water is delivered to the District's water storage tanks and delivered through its distribution system to you. A well located near the POC ID office is blended with the GBRA water on a regular basis. This well gets its water from the Gulf Coast Aquifer. For information on the treatment of your drinking water and water quality protection efforts, contact the GBRA Port Lavaca Water Treatment Plant at 361-552-9751, or, for the well water quality information, contact the POC ID office at 361-983-2652.

What We Found

The following tables list the contaminants that have been found in your drinking water. USEPA requires water systems to test for more than 97 contaminants. The column marked "Highest Level at Any Sampling Point" shows the highest test results during the year. The "Source of Contaminant" column shows where the substance usually originates.

DEFINITIONS and ABBREVIATIONS

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

Action Level Goal (ALG) – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

Avg – Regulatory compliance with some MCL's are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Level 1 Assessment-A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment-A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Maximum Contaminant Level or 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 or 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 or 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 residual disinfectant level goal or 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.

NTU's – Nephelometric Turbidity Units

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

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

ppb – parts per billion (ug/L)

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Level 2 Assessment – A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E.coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

MFL-millions fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

Mrem-millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

Information about Source Water

PORT OCONNOR IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT purchases water from GUADALUPE BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY. GUADALUPE BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY provides purchase surface water from **Guadalupe River** located in **Calhoun County**

2023 Water Quality Test Results

Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2023	33	21.3 - 43.3	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

*The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all HAA5 sample results collected at a location over a year

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2023	97	74.1 - 118	No goal for the total	80	ppb	Y	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
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*The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all TTHM sample results collected at a location over a year

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
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Arsenic	2023	2	2.2 - 2.2	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	2023	0.0765	0.0765 - 0.0765	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2023	0.5	0.52 - 0.52	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2023	4	4.3 - 4.3	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	2023	10	5.7 - 5.7	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters	2023	8.1	8.1 - 8.1	0	50	pCi/L*	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Atrazine	2023	0.12	0 - 0.12	3	3	ppb	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.

Disinfectant Residual

A blank disinfectant residual table has been added to the CCR template, you will need to add data to the fields. Your data can be taken off the Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Reports (DLQOR).

Disinfectant Residual	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source in Drinking Water
	2023			4	4		ppm	Water additive used to control microbes.

Turbidity

	Level Detected	Limit (Treatment)	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest single measurement	0.9 NTU	1 NTU	N	Soil runoff.
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	99%	0.3 NTU	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 system and disinfectants.

Total Organic Carbon

The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month, and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.

Violations

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	07/15/2023	02/24/2024	We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about a violation of the drinking water regulations.

Total Organic Carbon			
Total organic carbon has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. These byproducts include Trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking water containing these byproducts in excess of the MCL may lead to adverse health effects, liver or			
Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MONITORING, ROUTINE (DBP), MAJOR	01/01/2023	03/31/2023	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period

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
FAILURE SUBMIT OEL REPORT FOR TTHM	08/29/2023	01/23/2024	We failed to submit our operational evaluation level (OEL) report to our regulator. The report is needed to determine best treatment practices necessary to minimize possible future exceedences of TTHM.

Violations

FAILURE SUBMIT OEL REPORT FOR TTHM	12/26/2023	01/23/2024	We failed to submit our operational evaluation level (OEL) report to our regulator. The report is needed to determine best treatment practices necessary to minimize possible future exceedences of TTHM.
MCL, LRAA	04/01/2023	06/30/2023	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
MCL, LRAA	10/01/2023	12/31/2023	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

TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water, and results indicate that 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 detections of these contaminants will be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system contact the **GBRA Water Treatment Plant at 361-552-9751**.

Port O'Connor Improvement District 2023 Water Quality Test Results

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2023	1.3	1.3	0.459	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing
Lead	2023	0	15	2.97	1	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2023	28	0 - 29.3	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

*The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all HAA5 sample results collected at a location over a year

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2023	77	62.3 - 88.2	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
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*The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all TTHM sample results collected at a location over a year

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	2023	3	2.6 - 2.6	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	2023	0.0756	0.0756 - 0.0756	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2023	0.5	0.51 - 0.51	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2023	3	0.08 - 2.68	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	2023	10	6.9 - 6.9	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters	2023	8.1	8.1 - 8.1	0	50	pCi/L*	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

Volatile Organic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
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Xylenes	2023	0.0005	0 - 0.0005	10	10	ppm	N	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories.
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Disinfectant Residual

Disinfectant Residual	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source in Drinking Water
	2023	1.47 mg/l	.21 - 3.6	4	4	ppm	ppm	Water additive used to control microbes.

Violations

Disinfectant Residual Treatment Technique	06/01/2023	06/30/2024	We failed to maintain the minimum chlorine residual in more than five percent (5%) of the monthly disinfectant residual samples for two consecutive months.					
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