

Ruby Ranch Water Supply Corporation

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Ruby Ranch Water Supply Corporation Wants Our Customers to Be Informed.

Here's what you should know about lead and drinking water.

Lead is not typically found in the streams, reservoirs or wells that serve as water supplies or in the main water lines that carry water from treatment plants to homes. Yet, the chemical properties of water can cause lead and other metals to leach into drinking water. The main source of lead in drinking water is from lead service lines (the pipes that deliver water from water mains in the street and into homes) and from typical household plumbing (lead solder and brass fixtures) that contains lead. Households that have, or suspect having, lead service lines or lead in their household plumbing are strongly encouraged to replace them. The use of lead in solder was prohibited after 1986, so buildings constructed after then should not have contained lead in the solder.

How Ruby Ranch WSC protects its customers:

Water utilities, including Ruby Ranch WSC, treat drinking water to reduce the chance for metals to leach into the water. Ruby Ranch WSC conducts required testing for drinking water contaminants, including lead and copper, to ensure compliance with state and federal drinking water standards. Ruby Ranch WSC tests the water at our treatment plants, and also schedules customer tap sampling and tests for lead in potential high-risk areas, to comply with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) lead and copper rule.

You can always view your community's test results. They are summarized in our annual water quality reports, noted below which are produced for every water system we own and operate.

*Please Call us at 1-866-643-3472
for more information.*

*You can find more information by
visiting www.pgms.net*

*Este reporte incluye informacion
importante sobre el agua para
tomar. Para asistencia en espanol,
favor de llamar al telefono
1-866-643-3472*



If you are a residential customer:

You should know that there are parts of the service line bringing water to your home that are Ruby Ranch WSC property (the pipe that goes from our water main in the street to your meter) and parts of the service line that are your property (the pipe that goes from your meter to your home.) We will also let you know if we observe lead in your service line. If you have concerns regarding your portion of the service line, or your plumbing, we recommend that you have a licensed plumber check the pipes that are your property. This is important to know, because lead service lines can be a source of lead in tap water. See the section below on “what you can do” for minimizing your risk if this happens.

Please call us at 866-643-3472 for more information. We'll quickly put you in touch with one of our water quality experts.

The health effects of lead:

Lead can cause serious health problems if too much enters your body from drinking water or other sources. It can cause damage to the brain and kidneys and can interfere with the production of red blood cells that carry oxygen to all parts of the body. The greatest risk of lead exposure is to infants, young children and pregnant women.

If you are concerned about lead exposure:

- Contact your local health department or healthcare provider to find out how you can get your child tested for lead.
- Visit the EPA at [EPA.gov/lead](https://www.epa.gov/lead) for more information on the health effects of lead or reducing lead exposure in your home.
- Call Ruby Ranch WSC at 866-643-3472 for information about testing your water.



If you are a school or day care center:

You should know that the EPA has established more stringent sampling procedures for schools and day care centers. Because children often drink from fountains and faucets at school without flushing the water first and because they are at higher risk of health effects due to exposure, for their protection, sampling is done differently at schools and day care centers.

Please call the EPA's safe drinking water hotline at 800-426-4791 or email them using this URL:

<https://safewater.zendesk.com/hc/en-us/requests/new>

It's important for any testing you do to be conducted using EPA protocols, so that the results are meaningful.

What you can do:

If your home's water shows elevated levels of lead, or if you are concerned about the potential of lead in your water, below are ways you can minimize your exposure.

- **Run your tap to flush out lead.** If your water hasn't been used for several hours, run your water for a few minutes or until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature before drinking or cooking.
- **Use cold water to cook or prepare baby formula. Don't boil water to reduce lead.** Lead dissolves more easily in hot water and boiling will concentrate the lead. Boiling water won't reduce lead.
- If you buy a water filter for lead removal, make sure it's approved to reduce lead. Contact NSF International, www.NSF.org.

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2017 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

OUR DRINKING WATER MEETS OR EXCEEDS ALL FEDERAL (EPA) DRINKING WATER REQUIREMENTS

This report is a summary of the quality of the water that we provide to our customers. The analysis was made 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 is in your drinking water.

Where Do We Get Our Water? – Our drinking water is obtained from groundwater sources. It comes from the Edwards Aquifer for wells 1 through 4 and from the Middle Trinity Aquifer for well 5. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) completed an assessment of the wells that provide water for this system and the assessment concluded that some of our wells are susceptible to certain contaminants as a result of human activities or natural conditions. It does not mean that there are any health risks present. The sampling requirements for our water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact the Regulatory Compliance Manager at 1-866-643-3472.

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.

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.

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. 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling 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 concern. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document, but they may greatly affect the appearance and tastes of your water. 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 by calling 866-643-3472.

SPECIAL NOTICE - Required language for ALL community public water supplies: 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; those who have undergone organ transplants; those who are undergoing treatments 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 1-800-426-4791.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES – If you would like to talk to a Ruby Ranch WSC representative about your Water Quality Report, please call us at 1-866-643-3472. For more information from the EPA, you may call the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791.

DEFINITIONS

<p>Action Level (AL) The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.</p> <p>Action Level Goal (ALG) – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALG’s allow for a margin of safety.</p> <p>Average (AVG) – Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.</p> <p>Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) The highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as possible to MCLGs as feasible using the best available technology.</p> <p>Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – The level contaminant in drinking water below which there is no expected health risk. MCLGs allow a margin of safety.</p>	<p>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.</p> <p>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 a disinfectant to control microbial contamination.</p> <p>Treatment Technique (TT) A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.</p> <p>MFL - million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)</p> <p>mrem - millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)</p> <p>na - not applicable</p> <p>ppm - parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)</p> <p>ppb - parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (pg/L)</p> <p>ppt - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter</p> <p>ppq - parts per quadrillion, or pictograms per liter</p> <p>NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units</p> <p>MFL - million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)</p> <p>pCi/L - picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)</p>
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About the following pages – 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 are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants will be found in the Consumer Confidence Report. Please contact Ruby Ranch WSC at 866-643-3472 for more information on source water assessments and protection efforts. The pages that follow list all of the federally regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Disinfectant
Free Chlorine	.71	.30	1.22	4	4	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes

Regulated Contaminants

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	2017	0.0455	0.0455-0.0455	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	11/15/2016	.31	.29-.31	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge form fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	2017	.68	.51-.68	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	09/09/2014	1	1-1	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits

Volatile Organic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Ethylbenzene	2017	1.1	0-1.1	700	700	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Xylenes	2017	.0062	0-0.0062	10	10	ppm	N	Discharge from petroleum factories; Discharge from chemical factories

Lead and Copper

	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 th Percentile	# of Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Lead	08/09/2016	0	15	1.2	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	08/09/2016	1.3	1.3	.16	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing

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. Ruby Ranch Water Cooperation 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 cold water 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>.

CUSTOMER RESPONSIBILITIES – Our water systems are designed and operated to deliver water to our customers' plumbing systems that complies with state and federal drinking water standards. This water is disinfected using chlorine, but it is not necessarily sterile. Customers' plumbing, including treatment devices, might remove, introduce or increase contaminants in tap water. All customers, and in particular operators of facilities like hotels and institutions serving susceptible populations (like hospitals and nursing homes) should properly operate and maintain the plumbing systems in these facilities. You can obtain additional information about these matters from the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.