

## 2019 Consumer Confidence Report for Public Water System CITY OF SWEENY

This is your water quality report for January 1 to December 31, 2019

The CITY OF SWEENY provides Ground Water from the Gulf Coast Aquifer located in and around Brazoria County.

For more information regarding this report contact:

Name Mark W. Niemeyer

Phone (979) 548 - 3321

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (979) 548 - 3321.

### Definitions and Abbreviations

#### Definitions and Abbreviations

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

Action Level:

The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which 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 MCLs 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.

MFL

million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

mrem:

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

na:

not applicable.

NTU

nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)

pCi/L

picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

## Definitions and Abbreviations

ppb:	micrograms per liter or parts per billion - or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
ppm:	milligrams per liter or parts per million - or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
ppq	parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)
ppt	parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
Treatment Technique or TT:	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

## 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>.

### Information about Source Water

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 Mark W. Niemeyer at (979) 548 – 3321.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Copper</b>	2019	1.3	1.3	1.17	3	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
<b>Lead</b>	2019	0	0.015	0.002	0	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

### 2019 Water Quality Test Results

Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)</b>	2019	2	1.6 - 1.6	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'

<b>Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)</b>	2019	10	9.9 - 9.9	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
-------------------------------------	------	----	-----------	-----------------------	----	-----	---	--

\* 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'

<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>	<b>Collection Date</b>	<b>Highest Level Detected</b>	<b>Range of Individual Samples</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>
<b>Arsenic</b>	04/26/2017	5.2	5.2 - 5.2	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.

While your drinking water meets EPA standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

<b>Barium</b>	04/26/2017	0.0866	0.0866 - 0.0866	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Fluoride</b>	04/26/2017	0.48	0.48 - 0.48	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
<b>Selenium</b>	04/26/2017	7.8	7.8 - 7.8	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.

<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>	<b>Collection Date</b>	<b>Highest Level Detected</b>	<b>Range of Individual Samples</b>	<b>MCLG</b>	<b>MCL</b>	<b>Units</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Likely Source of Contamination</b>
<b>Uranium</b>	07/01/2015	2.9	2.9 - 2.9	0	30	ug/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

### Disinfectant Residual

<b>Disinfectant Residual</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Average Level</b>	<b>Range of Levels Detected</b>	<b>MRDL</b>	<b>MRDLG</b>	<b>Unit of Measure</b>	<b>Violation (Y/N)</b>	<b>Source in Drinking Water</b>
Free Chlorine	2019	1.05	0.07 – 2.30	4.00	4.00	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

## Violations

<b>Lead and Copper Rule</b>			
The Lead and Copper Rule protects public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing water corrosivity. Lead and copper enter drinking water mainly from corrosion of lead and copper containing plumbing materials.			
<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Violation Begin</b>	<b>Violation End</b>	<b>Violation Explanation</b>
LEAD CONSUMER NOTICE (LCR)	09/29/2018	03/01/2019	We failed to provide the results of lead tap water monitoring to the consumers at the location water was tested. These were supposed to be provided no later than 30 days after learning the results.
OCCT/SOWT RECOMMENDATION/STUDY (LCR)	03/31/2018	07/03/2019	We failed to propose treatment to our regulator in response to results that indicate our water needs treatment to reduce lead and/or copper levels.
OCCT/SOWT RECOMMENDATION/STUDY (LCR)	04/01/2018	05/07/2019	We failed to propose treatment to our regulator in response to results that indicate our water needs treatment to reduce lead and/or copper levels.
OCCT/SOWT RECOMMENDATION/STUDY (LCR)	10/01/2018	07/03/2019	We failed to propose treatment to our regulator in response to results that indicate our water needs treatment to reduce lead and/or copper levels.

<b>Public Notification Rule</b>			
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).			
<b>Violation Type</b>	<b>Violation Begin</b>	<b>Violation End</b>	<b>Violation Explanation</b>
PUBLIC NOTICE RULE LINKED TO VIOLATION	06/10/2018	01/24/2019	We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about a violation of the drinking water regulations.
PUBLIC NOTICE RULE LINKED TO VIOLATION	05/04/2019	2019	We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about a violation of the drinking water regulations.
PUBLIC NOTICE RULE LINKED TO VIOLATION	11/02/2019	2019	We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about a violation of the drinking water regulations.

**LEAD & COPPER RULE MONITORING AND REPORTING VIOLATION  
MANDATORY LANGUAGE - TIER III**

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

The City of Sweeny has violated the monitoring and reporting requirements set by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in Chapter 30, Section 290, Subchapter F. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have the right to know what happened and what we are doing (or did) to correct these situations.

TCEQ requirements govern that the City of Sweeny monitor drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether drinking water meets health standards. During the second quarter of 2018 (4/1/2018 – 6/30/2018) the City did not complete all water quality parameter (WQP) testing and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) that were not properly tested for during the period indicated above, the frequency of sampling for these contaminants, the number of samples required, the number of samples taken, dates required for sampling, and the date on which the follow-up samples were taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples taken	Dates required for sampling	Date samples were or will be taken
Lead and copper tap water sampling	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Lead and Copper entry point sampling	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>	<i>n/a</i>
Water quality parameters (WQP)	Quarterly	0	Between April 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2018 and June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2018	July 16 <sup>th</sup> , 2018

**What has been done?**

The City of Sweeny failed to capture a water quality parameter (WQP) sample for its entry-point to the water distribution system back in the second quarter (April – June) of 2018. The City of Sweeny was returned to compliance during the following quarter (July – September) of 2018 after submitting an entry-point WQP sample on July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018. It is important to note that all distribution WQP samples were captured and submitted for analysis during this time.

Please share this information with all other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

This notice is being sent to you by the *City of Sweeny*. Public Water System Number: TX0200009  
Date Distributed: \_\_\_\_\_