# 2015 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

**Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)**

PWS ID Number: **TX0310003**

PWS Name: **CITY OF LA FERIA**

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of
January 1 to December 31, 2015

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required test and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

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.

In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the time period of Jan.-Dec. 2015, our system lost an estimated 99,196,289 gallons of water of 303,819,192 total for a 33% loss. If you have any questions about the water loss audit, please call (956) 797-2261.

For more information regarding this report contact:

Name Heriberto Ureste
Phone (956) 797-2261

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al teléfono (956) 797-2261.

## Public Participation Opportunities

**Date:** **2nd Tuesday of the Month**
**Time:** **5:15 p.m.**
**Location:** **115 E. Commercial Avenue**
**La Feria, TX 78559**
**Phone #:** **(956) 797-2261**

## Special Notice

Required Language for ALL Community Public Water Systems

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 at (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 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 http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

The source of drinking water used by **CITY OF LA FERIA** is Surface Water from the Rio Grande River.

### Sources of 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 pickup 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 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.

### Information about Secondary Contaminants

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 Heriberto Ureste at (956) 797-2261.

## Information about Source Water Assessments

The TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water and results indicate that some of your 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 may be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assesments and protection efforts at our system, contact Heriberto Ureste.

For more information about your sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: http://www.tceq.texas.gov/gis/swaview

Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL: http://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/

| Source Water Name | Type of Water | Report Status | Location |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 - 3 / LA FERIA RESERVOIR | SW | NEGATIVE | City of La Feria |

## 2015 Regulated Contaminants Detected

### Coliform Bacteria

| Maximum Contaminant Level Goal | Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level | Highest No. of Positive | Fecal Coliform or E. Coli Maximum Contaminant Level | Total No. of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | 1 positive monthly sample | 2 | 0 | 0 | Y | Naturally present in the environment. |

### Disinfectant Residual Table

| Disinfectant | Year | Average Level | Minimum Level | Maximum Level | MRDL | MRDLG | Unit of Measure | Violation (Y/N) | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Chloramine | 2015 | 1.9 | 1.1 | 2.7 | 4.0 | 4.0 | ppm | N | Water additive used to control microbes. |

### Lead and Copper

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

| Lead and Copper | Date Sampled | MCLG | Action Level (AL) | 90th Percentile | # Sites Over AL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Copper** | 8/282013 | 1.3 | 1.3 | 0.106 | 0 | ppm | N | Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems. |
| **Lead** | 8/282013 | 0 | 15 | 1.91 | 0 | ppb | N | Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits. |

## Water Quality Test Results

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| Definitions: | The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation. |
| Avg: | Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples. |
| 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. |

## Water Quality Test Results

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|---|---|
| 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) |
| na: | not applicable. |
| NTU | nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity) |
| pCi/L | picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity) |
| 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. |
| ppt | parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L) |
| ppq | parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L) |

## Regulated Contaminants

| Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)* | 2015 | 25 | 2.4 - 35.2 | No goal for the total | 60 | ppb | N | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) | 2015 | 122 | 72.9 - 181 | No goal for the total | 80 | ppb | Y | By-product of drinking water disinfection. |

| Inorganic Contaminants | Collection Date | Highest Level Detected | Range of Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Arsenic | 2015 | 2 | 2.2 - 2.2 | 0 | 10 | ppb | N | Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes. |
| Barium | 2015 | 0.145 | 0.145 - 0.145 | 2 | 2 | ppm | N | Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Cyanide | 2015 | 70 | 70 - 70 | 200 | 200 | ppb | N | Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories. |
| Fluoride | 2015 | 0.4 | 0.41 - 0.41 | 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] | 2015 | 0.1 | 0.1 - 0.1 | 10 | 10 | ppm | N | Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits. |
| Selenium | 2015 | 10 | 5.5 - 5.5 | 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 Levels Detected | MCLG | MCL | Units | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Beta/photon emitters | 09/09/2014 | 6.8 | 6.8 - 6.8 | 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.

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Combined Radium 226/228** | 09/09/2014 | 1 | 1 - 1 | 0 | 5 | pCi/L | N | Erosion of natural deposits. |

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Uranium | 2014 | 1.3 | 1.3 - 1.3 | 0 | 30 | ug/l | N | Erosion of natural deposits. |

## Turbidity

| | Limit (Treatment Technique) | Level Detected | Violation | Likely Source of Contamination |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Highest single measurement | 1 NTU | 0.34 NTU | N | Soil runoff. |
| Lowest monthly % meeting limit | 0.3 NTU | 100% | 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.

**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 Table

### 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | | . |

### Total Coliform

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

| Violation Type | Violation Begin | Violation End | Violation Explanation |
|---|---|---|---|
| MCL (TCR), MONTHLY | 01/01/2015 | 01/31/2015 | Total Coliform (TC) bacteria were found in our drinking water during the period indicated in enough samples to violate a standard. Corrective action taken included repeat samples with negative results (no TC found) with continued monitoring. |

### 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 |
|---|---|---|---|
| MCL, LRAA | 01/01/2015 | 03/31/2015 | 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 period indicated. Corrective action taken included Notice of Violation to the public and implementation of additional disinfectant system, continued quality control monitoring, and looping of the distribution system for improved circulation. |
| MCL, LRAA | 04/01/2015 | 06/30/2015 | 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 period indicated. Corrective action taken included Notice of Violation to the public and implementation of additional disinfectant system, continued quality control monitoring, and looping of the distribution system for improved circulation. |
| MCL, LRAA | 07/01/2015 | 09/30/2015 | 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 period indicated. Corrective action taken included Notice of Violation to the public and implementation of additional disinfectant system, continued quality control monitoring, and looping of the distribution system for improved circulation. |
| MCL, LRAA | 10/01/2015 | 12/31/2015 | 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 period indicated. Corrective action taken included Notice of Violation to the public and implementation of additional disinfectant system, continued quality control monitoring, and looping of the distribution system for improved circulation. |