

# 2020 Consumer Confidence Reports

## City of Brownwood



### **Source Water Information:**

Through a collaborated effort with Brown County Water Improvement District, the City of Brownwood has been providing clean water to the community since the early 1900s, ensuring that the water provided surpassed the strict regulations set forth by the U.S. Environmental 2020.

The City of Brownwood purchases treated water from Brown County Water Improvement District #1. The District's water source is a combination of Lake Brownwood and Pecan Bayou.

The TCEQ has completed a Source Water Susceptibility for all drinking water systems that own their sources. 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 for our system, contact Brown County Water Improvement District #1. Some of this source water assessment information will be available later this year on Texas Drinking water Watch at <http://dww.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/>.

The city water delivery system consists of more than 150 miles of various size water mains and four storage tanks containing 5 million gallons of water. We are continuing to make improvements and expanding our capabilities in order to provide to you, our customer, a quality product and quality service.

There is nothing more basic to life in our community than quality drinking water. That is why, the City of Brownwood Utility Department maintain our distribution system and anticipate needs and problems before they arise. To maintain a superior water quality, disinfectant residual tests are performed daily and dead end mains are flushed monthly. Our overall success depends on quality workmanship, teamwork, and communication within the City network and the public. The City of Brownwood maintains a Superior Water System rating from the State of Texas.

In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the time period of Jan—Dec 2020, our system lost an estimated 1,420,500 gallons of water. If you have any questions about the water loss audit please call (325) 646-6000.

### **Educational Information:**

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 the 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).

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.

## **Need More Information!**

For more information about your drinking water and for opportunities to get involved, please contact the Utility Department. by calling (325) 646-6000 between 8 am—5 pm or by writing to P.O. Box 1389, Brownwood, Texas 76804. Also, you are welcome and encouraged to attend City Council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesdays: 9:00 am, at city Hall, 501 Center Street. (www.brownwoodtexas.gov)

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para obtener una copia de esta informacion traducida en Espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (325) 646-5775.

## **Contaminants in Drinking Water**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromise persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, those who are undergoing treatment with steroids, and 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/CEC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## **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 productions, 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.

## **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.

### **90th Percentile**

90% of samples are equal to or less than the number in the chart.

## **Abbreviations**

NTU—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 or micrograms per liter (g/L)

Inorganic								
Year	Constituent	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2020	Barium	0.130	0.130	0.130	2	2	ppm	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
2020	Cyanide	0.14	0.14	0.14	2	2	ppm	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories.
2020	Fluoride	0.20	0.20	0.20	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2020	Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	0.20	0.20	0.20	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Radioactive								
Year	Constituent	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2018	Beta/photon emitters	6.1	6.1	6.1	50	0	mrem/yr	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
2018	Combined Radium 226/228	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0	5	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.

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

Disinfection By-Products									
Year	Contaminant	Range of Levels Detected		Highest Level	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Source of Contaminant
2020	Total Haloacetic Acids	13.0– 63.5		63.5	No goal	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
2020	Total Trihalomethanes	44.2 - 58.1		58.1	No goal	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Lead and Copper							
Year	Contaminant	The 90th Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	MCLG	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2020	Lead	3.0	0	15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2020	Copper	0.18	0	1.3	1.3	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems.

"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 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>."

Turbidity						
Year	Contaminant	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measure	Source of Contaminant
2020	Turbidity	0.102	100%	95% < 0.3	NTU	Soil runoff.

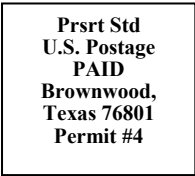
Disinfectant Residual							
Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source of Drinking Water
2020	3.51	0.5 - 5.3	4	4	mg/L	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

## Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated

**Organic Contaminants** TESTING WAIVED, NOT REPORTED, OR NONE DETECTED

## 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 taste of your water.



**A New Way to Get Your Water Bill:**

You can automatically receive your bills by email just by signing up for paperless billing, go to [www.brownwoodtexas.gov/ebill](http://www.brownwoodtexas.gov/ebill).

**New Ways to Pay Your Water Bill:**

You can pay the bill online or you can set up your account on auto draft, visit [www.brownwoodtexas.gov](http://www.brownwoodtexas.gov) and go to the Utility Billing Department page for more information and required electronic forms. Another option is to pay your bill by phone, access is available 24 hours a day. It's a convenient way to pay your bill on your own time, with no waiting, just call (866) 283-3293.

If you need any assistance or have any questions, please feel free to contact Utility Billing at (325) 646-9700.

**UNDERGROUND UTILITY LINE LOCATES**

State law requires that utility lines are located/marked prior to any digging or excavating. Call (325) 646-6000 to get City potable water and sewer utilities located and call 811 to get electric, gas, non-potable water and communication utilities located. Once the utility locate request has been made the utility provider has 48 hours to locate their utility lines. The following is a list of the color codes used for marking underground utility lines:

Blue – Potable water lines, Green – Sewer lines, Yellow – Gas lines, Orange – Communication lines, Purple – Non-potable water lines, Red – Electric lines, White – Proposed excavation or digging area.

**DEFEND YOUR DRAINS**

**TRASH IT DON'T FLUSH IT**

Wipes, cleaning cloths, paper towels, feminine hygiene products, and personal care items — these common household items don't break-down in the sewer pipes of your home or on the way to the wastewater treatment plant. So what happens when you flush them down the toilet or drain? Since they don't break down, they can tangle and clump together. This can clog pipes and cause sewage to back up into your home or neighborhood. Even items labeled "flushable" can clog sewer pipes. Defend your drains by disposing of these products in the trash (where they belong) before they cause unpleasant and expensive problems.