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 materials, 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, and septic systems.
- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential use.
- **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

Where do we get our drinking water?
The source of drinking water used by SAWS North San Antonio Hills is ground water from the Edwards Aquifer. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. This information describes the susceptibility and types of contaminants that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions.

The information contained in the assessment allows us to focus source water protection strategies. Some of this source water assessment information is available on Texas Drinking Water Watch at [http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/](http://www.tceq.state.tx.us/DWW/).

For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our systems, please contact us.

2012 Water Quality Report

**All drinking water may contain contaminants**
When drinking water meets federal standards, there may not be any health 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

**Secondary constituents**
Many constituents (such as calcium, sodium, or iron), which are found in drinking water, can cause taste, color, and odor problems. The taste and odor constituents are called secondary contaminants and are regulated by the State of Texas, not the EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concern. Therefore, secondary are not required to be reported in this document, but they may affect the appearance and taste of your water.

**Health information about lead**
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 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 two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking.

For additional guidelines appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium or any other pathogen, contact your physician or health care provider.

SPECIAL NOTICE
You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or immune-compromised such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer; those 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 provider.

Additional guidelines for lead are available on the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.
### Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Constituent</th>
<th>Date Sampled</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>AL</th>
<th>90th Percentile</th>
<th>Number of Sites Over AL</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Likely Source of Contamination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Copper</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Emission of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Corrosion of household plumbing systems; emission of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Definitions

**ALG (Action Level Goal)** – 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.

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal)** – 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.

**MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal)** – 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.

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level)** – 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.

**MRLD (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal)** – 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.

**MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level)** – The highest level of a drinking water disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal)** – 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.

**MFL** – Million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

**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 (µg/L)

**pCi/L** – Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

**pg/L** – Picograms per liter (pg/L)

**ppb** – Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

**IT** – Treatment technique

### Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level for 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Constituent</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Average Level</th>
<th>Minimum Level</th>
<th>Maximum Level</th>
<th>MRLD</th>
<th>MRDLG</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Source of Chemical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chlorine residual, free</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>-4.0</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>Disinfectant used to control microbes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Water Quality Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Average Level</th>
<th>Minimum Level</th>
<th>Maximum Level</th>
<th>MRLD</th>
<th>MRDLG</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Source of Chemical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>3.7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Coliform Bacteria

**Total Coliforms** Total coliforms are bacteria that are capable of causing disease. Coliform bacteria are more than 90% of all disease-causing organisms; therefore, their absence from water is a good indication that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption.

**Fecal Coliforms** Fecal coliforms are indicator organisms that are commonly found in the feces of warm-blooded animals. The presence of fecal coliforms in drinking water indicates the potential for human or animal waste contamination. The absence of fecal coliforms indicates that sewage contamination of drinking water is unlikely.

**Total Coliform:**

REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.

**Fecal Coliform:**

REPORTED MONTHLY TESTS FOUND NO TOTAL COLIFORM BACTERIA.

### Inorganic Contaminants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Constituent</th>
<th>Collection Date</th>
<th>Highest Level Detected</th>
<th>Range of Levels Detected</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Likely Source of Contamination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barium</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>0.0367</td>
<td>0.0367–0.0387</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Emission of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; emission of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>0.19</td>
<td>0.19–0.19</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Emission of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate (measured as nitrogen)</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>0.675</td>
<td>0.675–0.675</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Sulfate reduction, leaching from organic materials, sewage; emission of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products

**Haloacetic acids (RAAs)**

**Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Constituent</th>
<th>Collection Date</th>
<th>Highest Level Detected</th>
<th>Range of Levels Detected</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Likely Source of Contamination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chlorine residual, free</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>4.0</td>
<td>-4.0</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>Disinfectant used to control microbes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Radioactive Contaminants

**Gross beta particles**

**Gross alpha**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Constituent</th>
<th>Collection Date</th>
<th>Highest Level Detected</th>
<th>Range of Levels Detected</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Likely Source of Contamination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gross beta particles</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>&lt;4.0</td>
<td>&lt;4.0–&lt;4.0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>pCi/L</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Decay of natural and man-made deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gross alpha</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>&gt;2.0</td>
<td>&gt;2.0–&gt;2.0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>pCi/L</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Emission of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Contact Us

**Questions About Your Water Quality Report?**

If you would like more information or a copy of this Water Quality Report, call: 210-233-3176

**Call 24 Hours a Day to:**

- Report leaks, main breaks, or sewer backups
- Discuss water quality concerns

210-704-SAWS (210-704-7297)

### In Your Neighborhood

SAWS External Relations Team extends their community outreach efforts with neighborhood leaders through homeowners association and neighborhood meetings, schools and community gatherings. Call us for more information about how we can assist in your neighborhood.

210-233-3246

**Website**

Our website has the latest news and program information on water issues. www.saws.org

**En Español**

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en español, favor de llamar al

210-233-3176

Para hablar con una persona bilingüe en español.