

## City of Sherman Annual Drinking Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report)

### Spanish (Español)

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua potable. Por favor lea este informe o comuníquese con alguien que pueda traducir la información.

### Do I need to take special precautions?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, 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. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

### Where does my water come from?

The City of Sherman has two different sources of water, well (ground) water and lake (surface) water. Ground water comes from Sherman's 27 wells in the Woodbine and Trinity aquifers. No treatment is necessary for the ground water except for the addition of chlorine to disinfect the water. Surface water comes from Lake Texoma and is treated at the Sherman Water Treatment Plant (WTP). The WTP provides multi-barrier protection against microbial contaminants through conventional treatment. The conventional treatment process consists of preoxidation, rapid mixing, flocculation, sedimentation and filtration. In the preoxidation basin, suspended particles are oxidized to facilitate removal. Coagulants are then added to encourage suspended particles in the water to bond together so they become heavy enough to settle to the bottom of the sedimentation basin. These particles are allowed to settle for approximately four hours. After the sedimentation process, the water is filtered using granular activated carbon and sand to remove remaining suspended particles as well as taste and odor. After conventional treatment, the filtered water is demineralized to remove dissolved salts. Also, the demineralization process reduces the hardness of the water. Once the lake water has been treated, it is disinfected and held for customers.

### Source water assessment and its availability

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has completed an assessment of our source water; and the results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for our water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection 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 us at 903-892-7258.

### Why are their contaminants in my drinking water?

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). The tables in the report show all of the regulated contaminants that were detected for the 2005 & 2009 calendar years. The TCEQ continuously monitors our drinking water to ensure that safe water is delivered to your home.

### Contact Information

Contacting the City of Sherman:

Public participation opportunities. You are invited to attend City Council Meetings. Please call the City Clerk's Office at 903-892-7206 for more information.

Questions regarding your water bill? Please call 903-892-7237, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays.

Questions about this report? Please call 903-892-7258, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays.

### Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 350 gallons of water per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost or no-cost ways to conserve water. Water your lawn at the least sunny times of the day. Fix toilet and faucet leaks. Take short showers; a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath. Turn the faucet off while brushing your teeth and shaving; 3-5 gallons go down the drain per minute. Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!

### Additional Information for 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 materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The CITY OF SHERMAN is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but the City 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>.

### Water Quality Data Table

The table on the back side of this page lists all of the drinking water contaminants that have been found in your drinking water. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires monitoring for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Inorganic Contaminants									
Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measurement	Source of Contaminant	
2008-2005	Barium	0.009	0.0055	0.0136	2	2	ppm	Discharge of grilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits	
2008-2005	Chromium	0.06	0	3.7	100	100	ppb	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits.	
2009-2008	Fluoride	0.86	0.6	1.12	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.	
2009	Nitrate	0.06	0	0.13	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.	
2008-2005	Selenium	3.2	0	9.9	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines.	

Organic Contaminants									
Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measurement	Source of Contaminant	
2009	Phthalate	0.13	0	0.22	6	0	ppb	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories.	
2009	Heptachlor	1.67	0	60	200	0	ppt	Breakdown of heptachlor.	

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level									
Year or Range	Disinfectant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measurement	Source of Contaminant	
2009	Chlorine	2.19	1.85	2.57	4	<4.0	ppm	Disinfectant used to control microbes.	

Disinfection Byproducts									
Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measurement	Source of Contaminant	
2009	Total Haloacetic Acids	11.9	1.3	29.6	60	N/A	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.	
2009	Total Trihalomethanes	39.9	8.4	78	80	N/A	ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.	

Unregulated Initial Distribution System Evaluation for Disinfection Byproducts									
Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measurement	Source of Contaminant	
2008	Total Haloacetic Acids	13.2	0	26.3	N/A		ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.	
2008	Total Trihalomethanes	54.5	8.4	99.9	N/A		ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.	

This evaluation is sampling required by EPA to determine the range of total trihalomethane and haloacetic acid in the system for future regulations. The samples are not used for compliance and may have been corrected under non-standard conditions. EPA also requires the data to be reported here.

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 2 (UCMR2)									
Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. The City of Sherman sample results indicated a non detect. For additional information and data, visit <a href="http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ucmr/ucmr2/index.html">http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ucmr/ucmr2/index.html</a> , or call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.									

Unregulated Contaminants									
Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measurement	Source of Contaminant	
2009	Chloroform	15.09	15.09	15.09			ppb	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection.	
2009	Bromoform	3.61	3.61	3.61			ppb	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection.	
2009	Bromodichloromethane	19.03	19.03	19.03			ppb	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection.	
2009	Dibromochloromethane	18.52	18.52	18.52			ppb	Byproducts of drinking water disinfection.	

Lead and Copper									
Year or Range	Contaminant	The 90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measurement	Source of Contaminant	
2007	Lead	1.3	0	15			ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.	
2007	Copper	0.149	0	1.3			ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.	

Turbidity									
Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.									
Year or Range	Contaminant	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limits	Unit of Measurement	Source of Contaminant			
2009	Turbidity		98	0.3	NTU	Soil runoff.			

Total Organic Carbon									
Total coliform bacteria are used as indicators of microbial contamination of drinking water because testing for them is easy. While not disease-causing organisms themselves, they are often found in association with other microbes that are capable of causing disease. Coliform bacteria are more hardy than many disease-causing organisms; therefore, their absence from water is a good indicator that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption.									
Year or Range	Contaminant	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MCL	MCLG	Unit of Measurement	Source of Contaminant	
2009	Source Water	4.42	3.62	7.45			ppm	Naturally present in the environment.	

Total Coliform									
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Year or Range	Contaminant	Highest Monthly % of Positive Samples	MCL	Unit of Measurement	Source of Contaminant				
2009	Total Coliform Bacteria	0%	*	Presence	Naturally present in the environment.				

\* Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% or more of the monthly samples.  
Fecal Coliform: Reported monthly test found no fecal coliform bacteria.

Cryptosporidium Monitoring Information									
We monitored for Cryptosporidium, a microbial parasite that may be commonly found in surface water. Cryptosporidium may come from animal and human feces in the watershed. The result of our monitoring indicated that there is no Cryptosporidium in the raw water and/or treated finished water. Although treatment by filtration removes Cryptosporidium, it cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. The testing methods used cannot determine if the organisms are alive and capable of causing cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection with nausea, diarrhea and cramps that may occur after ingestion of contaminated water.									

Unit Descriptions									
ppm	ppm: parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)								
ppb	ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µ/L)								
Positive Samples/Month	positive samples/month: Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive								
Positive Samples/Yr	positive samples/yr: The number of positive samples taken that year								
NA	NA: not applicable								
ND	ND: not detected								
NR	NR: Monitoring not required, but recommended								

Important Drinking Water Definitions									
MCLG	MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.								
MCL	MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.								
TT	TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.								
AL	AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.								
Variances and Exemptions	Variances and Exceptions: State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.								
MRDL	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.								
MNR	MNR: Monitored Not Regulated								
MPL	MPL: State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level								

For more information, please contact: DeWayne Sutherland, Water System Superintendent, City of Sherman, P. O. Box 1106, Sherman, TX 75091-1106  
<http://www.ci.sherman.tx.us/index.asp>