Lakes are our source for drinking water

Fort Worth uses surface water from Lake Worth, Eagle Mountain Lake, Lake Bridgeport, Richland Chambers Reservoir, Cedar Creek Reservoir, Lake Benbrook and the Clear Fork Trinity River.

Fort Worth owns Lake Worth. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for Benbrook Lake. The other four lakes are owned and operated by the Tarrant Regional Water District.

As water travels over the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material. Water also can pick up substances resulting from animal waste or human activity.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk.

Contaminants that may be in source water before treatment include microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive materials and organic chemical contaminants.

In addition, contaminants found in drinking water may cause taste, color or odor issues. These types of issues are not necessarily cause for health concerns.

For more information on taste, odor or the color of your drinking water, please contact the Water Department at 817-392-4477 or email wpe@FortWorthTexas.gov.

To ensure tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality regulate the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public systems.
TCEQ assesses raw water supplies for susceptibility

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality completed an assessment of Fort Worth’s source waters (see Page 1 for a list of those source waters). TCEQ classified the risk to the City of Fort Worth’s source waters as high for most contaminants.

High susceptibility means there are activities near the source water or watershed that make it very likely that chemical constituents may come into contact with the source water. It does not mean that there are any health risks present.

Further details about the source-water assessments are available through the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality’s Drinking Water Watch database. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts of the City of Fort Worth’s water system, contact Stacy Walters, regulatory environmental administrator, at 817-392-8203 or email Stacy.Walters@FortWorthTexas.gov.

### People with compromised immune systems may be more vulnerable to contaminants in water

The exact wording shown below is required by state regulations. The information is not meant to alarm or scare you. It is meant to make you aware.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

Immuno-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.

EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline, 800-426-4791.

### Raw water quality monitored regularly

Tarrant Regional Water District monitors the raw water at all lake intake sites for Cryptosporidium, Giardia Lamblia and viruses. The source is human and animal fecal waste in the watershed.

The 2017 sampling showed low level detections of Giardia Lamblia, which is common in surface water. Cryptosporidium and viruses were not detected in any of the samples.

Viruses are treated through disinfection processes. Cryptosporidium and Giardia Lamblia are removed through disinfection and/or filtration.

See chart to the left.
The City of Fort Worth provides drinking water to a growing retail and wholesale population base that currently exceeds 1.2 million people. The Water Department consists of approximately 950 dedicated individuals with a commitment to provide safe and reliable drinking water to customers. On behalf of the City of Fort Worth, I am pleased to present this Annual Drinking Water Quality Report which provides a year-end summary of the quality of our drinking water and monitoring data for 2017.

The City of Fort Worth has been providing drinking water to the public for more than 100 years, beginning with the North Holly Water Filtration plant, which went into service in 1912 (in full operation in 1918), to the most recent water treatment plant, the Westside Plant, which went into service 100 years later in 2012.

Fort Worth has five water plants that can produce 500 million gallons per day of high-quality drinking water delivered to individual customers through the 3,400 miles of transmission and distribution lines. In addition to providing sufficient and reliable quantity, Fort Worth has also invested in providing the highest quality of water to customers through treatment process improvements. As an example, as of 2012, all five of Fort Worth’s water treatment plants use ozone as part of the disinfection process. Ozone has also been shown to be highly effective at treating seasonal taste and odor episodes that can occur when the source of supply is from surface water reservoirs.

The City of Fort Worth operates a nationally accredited laboratory with talented staff responsible for performing water quality testing both at the water plants as well as numerous points within the distribution system. Our testing protocols and results are monitored by state and federal authorities to ensure compliance with regulations. The results are presented annually to customers within this Drinking Water Quality Report.

We understand the trust the public places in us to provide safe drinking water, and therefore would recommend reviewing this annual report and contacting us if you have any questions. Call Customer Service at 817-392-4477 or email wpe@FortWorthTexas.gov.

Delivery of high-quality drinking water at a reasonable price has been the city’s legacy for more than 100 years. We look forward to many more years of service to you, our customers.

Chris Harder
Interim Water Director
Water treatment process to protect your health includes seven steps

A multi-barrier approach is used in treating drinking water. The treatment process may vary between utilities based on source water quality.

In Fort Worth, the process starts with adding ozone to kill bacteria and viruses. Adding ammonia prior to ozonation decreases bromate formation. Bromate is a regulated contaminant formed when ozone combines with bromide in the source water, which can be a health concern.

Chemicals, called coagulants and polymers, are added to the water to cause small particles to adhere to each other, forming clumps. This process is called coagulation and flocculation.

In the sedimentation basins, the particles, called floc, settle to the bottom of the basin and are removed. A small amount of fluoride is added to the amount naturally present for dental health.

Water is filtered through four feet of biologically active granular anthracite coal. At the Westside Water Treatment Plant, the water then passes through membrane filters. Monochloramine is added to provide disinfection all the way to your tap. The chlorine kills bacteria and viruses. Ammonia is added to increase how long the chlorine lasts, reduce the chlorine odor and reduce the amount of chlorine byproducts created, another health concern.

Water is stored at the plants in clear wells, before it is pumped to the public.

Help us improve by taking a brief survey

The City of Fort Worth has been producing an annual water quality report for more than 20 years. It is a state and federal requirement for water utilities to produce and distribute a water quality report annually.

While much of the information is required and some of the language is mandatory, the Water Department has always tried to add additional information that is interesting and useful for our customers. Added content lets customers know what the City of Fort Worth Water Department is doing to protect public health and the environment, as well as how your utility is striving to be good stewards of resources.

We want to know what you think. Please take five minutes to respond to a short online survey.

Follow Us on Social Media!

Follow us on Instagram @savefwwater
Follow us on Twitter @fwwater
Like us on Facebook Fort Worth Water

Only Tap Water Delivers

...Public health protection
...Fire protection
...Support for the economy
...The overall quality of life we enjoy
Water loss control audits water supply

Water loss control is how water utilities provide accountability by reliably auditing their water supplies and implementing controls to minimize system losses.

Water loss control programs can potentially defer, reduce or eliminate the need for a facility to expend resources on costly repairs, upgrades or expansions.

Many variables influence water loss, including meter inaccuracy, data discrepancies, reported breaks and leaks, and unauthorized consumption (theft of water).

The utility’s leak detection efforts are aimed at finding and repairing leaks before they turn into main breaks.

In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for calendar year 2017, the Fort Worth system lost an estimated 8.6 billion gallons of water from the almost 68 billion gallons of water purchased.

Fort Worth’s Water Conservation Plan addresses water loss and has goals for lowering this over time. Customers are encouraged to report visual leakage by calling 817-392-4477.

If you have any questions about the water loss audit, please contact Water Conservation Manager Micah Reed at 817-392-8211 or email Micah.Reed@FortWorthTexas.gov.
## Drinking Water Quality Test Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Your water</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Common Sources of Substance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Turbidity</td>
<td>NTU</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>99.8%</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Soil runoff (Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of water. It is monitored because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of the filtration system.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Coliforms (including fecal coliform &amp; E. coli)</td>
<td>% positive samples</td>
<td>Presence in 5% or less of monthly samples</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>Presence in 1.4% of monthly samples</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Coliforms are naturally present in the environment as well as feces; fecal coliforms and E. coli only come from human and animal fecal waste.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta particles &amp; photon emitters</td>
<td>pCi/L</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5.6</td>
<td>4.4 to 5.6</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Decay of natural and man-made deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may emit forms of radiation known as photons and beta radiation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Combined Radium (-226 &amp; -228)</td>
<td>pCi/L</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uranium</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>0 to 1.1</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0 to 2</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, runoff from glass and electronics production waste.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atrazine</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0 to 0.1</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barium</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.08</td>
<td>0.06 to 0.08</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chromium (Total)</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>0 to 1.6</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Discharge from steel and pulp mills, erosion of natural deposits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyanide</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>57.0</td>
<td>0 to 57.0</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; discharge from steel and metal factories.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Di (2-Ethylhexyl) phthalate</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.2</td>
<td>0 to 1.2</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Discharge from rubber and chemical factories.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.66</td>
<td>0.32 to 0.66</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Water additive which promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.76</td>
<td>0.13 to 0.76</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrite (measured as Nitrogen)</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.01 to 0.03</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simazine</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>0 to 0.06</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Herbicide runoff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bromate</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.89</td>
<td>0 to 13</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haloacetic Acids</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>3.0 to 22.0</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Trihalomethanes</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>17.1</td>
<td>1.4 to 28.1</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Chloramines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>MRDL</th>
<th>MRDLG</th>
<th>Your water</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Common Sources of Substance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chloramines</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3.9</td>
<td>1.5 to 4.3</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Water additive used to control microbes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Total Organic Carbon

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Your water</th>
<th>Range</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Common Sources of Substance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Organic Carbon</td>
<td>TT = % removal</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Naturally occurring</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It is used to determine disinfection by-product precursors. Fort Worth was in compliance with all monitoring and treatment technique requirements for disinfection by-product precursors.
**Abbreviations used in tables**

MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level – the highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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.

MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level – 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.

MRDLG: 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.

N/A - not applicable/does not apply

NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit; a measure of water turbidity or clarity

pCi/L – Picocuries per liter; a measure of radioactivity

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

ppm – Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

TT: Treatment Technique – a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water

### Unregulated Contaminants

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>MRDL</th>
<th>MRDLG</th>
<th>Your Water</th>
<th>Range of Detects</th>
<th>Common Sources of Substance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chloral Hydrate</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>Not regulated</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td>0.18 to 0.70</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bromoform</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>Not regulated</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>5.83</td>
<td>1.19 to 5.83</td>
<td>By-products of drinking water disinfection; not regulated individually; included in Total Trihalomethanes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bromodichloromethane</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>Not regulated</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7.81</td>
<td>3.37 to 7.81</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloroform</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>Not regulated</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>7.96</td>
<td>2.58 to 7.96</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dibromochloromethane</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>Not regulated</td>
<td>0.06</td>
<td>8.51</td>
<td>4.33 to 8.51</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dibromoacetic Acid</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>Not regulated</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>15.3</td>
<td>11.9 to 15.3</td>
<td>By-products of drinking water disinfection; not regulated individually; included in Haloacetic Acids</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dichloroacetic Acid</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>Not regulated</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>4.70 to 8.60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monobromoacetic Acid</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>Not regulated</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>3.10</td>
<td>1.60 to 3.10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monochloroacetic Acid</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>Not regulated</td>
<td>0.07</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trichloroacetic Acid</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>Not regulated</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>1.60</td>
<td>0 to 1.60</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Secondary Constituents

These items do not relate to public health but rather to the aesthetic effects. These items are often important to industry.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Your Water</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bicarbonate</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>108 to 144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>37.4 to 50.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloride</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>11.6 to 36.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conductivity</td>
<td>µmhos/cm</td>
<td>299 to 456</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pH</td>
<td>units</td>
<td>7.8 to 8.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnesium</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>2.69 to 7.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>9.57 to 25.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulfate</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>24.8 to 34.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Alkalinity as CaCO₃</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>108 to 145</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Dissolved Solids</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>116 to 255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hardness as CaCO₃</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>113 to 157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Hardness in Grains</td>
<td>grains/gallons</td>
<td>7 to 9</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Emergency interconnection

From April 24 to April 25, 2017, Fort Worth used the emergency interconnection with the Trinity River Authority of Texas-Tarrant Water Supply Project to supply water to the CentrePort portion of the Fort Worth distribution system while repairs were made to a pipeline. An equivalent volume of water was returned to TRA the following day.

To obtain the TRA-TCWSP water quality data, please email the City of Fort Worth Water Department at wpe@FortWorthTexas.gov or call 817-392-4477.
What you should know about lead in drinking water

If present, elevated lead levels can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Fort Worth's drinking water does not contain lead when it leaves the treatment plant.

Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing.

The City of Fort Worth is responsible for providing customers with high-quality drinking water. The material used in a customer’s service line and/or plumbing fixtures is not under the Water Department’s control.

When water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by running or flushing the tap for 30 seconds to two minutes before using the tap water for drinking or cooking.

If you are concerned about lead in your water, the Fort Worth Water Department Laboratory offers testing to customers. The cost is $15 per sample. Call 817-392-4477 to make the arrangements.

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods and steps you can take to minimize your exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or call 800-426-4791.

Fort Worth has been on reduced monitoring for lead and copper, meaning we sample 50 homes every three years. Additionally, in 2009, monitoring for one apartment complex, one daycare and one school that met the lead criteria based on material found during construction and known lead lines located throughout the city was added.

Compliance sampling was performed in 2016 and will be performed again in 2019.

### Eliminating lead plumbing is a shared responsibility

- **EPA defines the service line as from the main to the point it enters the home. There is a shared ownership.**
  - The utility owns the portion from the main to the meter, including the meter.
  - The property owner is responsible for the line exiting the meter and all plumbing and fixtures inside the home.

---

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>Year of testing</th>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>90th percentile</th>
<th># of sites exceeding action level</th>
<th>Action Level</th>
<th>Common Sources of Substance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lead</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>ppb</td>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper</td>
<td>2016</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>0.6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

90th Percentile Value: 90 percent of the samples were at or below this value. EPA considers the 90th percentile value the same as an “average” value for other contaminants. Lead and copper are regulated by a treatment technique that requires systems to control the corrosiveness of their water. If more than 10 percent of tap water samples exceed the action level, water systems must take additional steps.

**Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
Fort Worth is working to eliminate city-owned lead service lines

The Fort Worth Water Department’s goal is to eliminate all city-owned lead service lines. More than 50 percent of the meters have been inventoried, since this goal was set in 2016.

In April 2016, the Water Department began obtaining GPS coordinates for every water meter and recording the service line material on both sides of the meter. The Water Department is systematically using billing cycles and routes to ensure every meter is touched.

The goal is to complete the meter inventory inside Loop 820 because these older areas are where lead service lines are more likely to be found. Homes built after 1988 would not have lead service lines.

As of May 1, 2018, 97 percent of the meters inside Loop 820 and 55 percent of the meters within the city limits had been surveyed. During the surveying, more than 1,100 lead service lines were found on the city side of the meter, and 11 on the customer side of the meter.

Property owners and tenants are being notified by letter when a lead service line is found.

Field crews are replacing lead service lines found during the course of maintenance work. If customers are home, contact is made and a packet of information is provided. The crew also works with the customer to remove faucet aerators and run the taps for a few minutes.

If the customer is not home, information that a lead service line was replaced is left along with instructions on how to run fresh water through the taps.

All customers with known lead service lines are offered a free test. The packet contains instructions for requesting the free test.
Rolling Hills Water Laboratory staff conduct taste and odor tests on water samples three times a week. Taste and odor is recognized as a factor affecting the acceptability of drinking water. Every water treatment plant and raw water source is checked for acceptability and any abnormalities.

The City of Fort Worth’s laboratory was the first municipal lab and third overall in Texas to be accredited in 2006 through the National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality requires the lab to reapply annually, and an onsite audit is done every two years.

Résumés and backgrounds of each employee are examined to ensure that they meet rigorous minimum requirements. Then the lab must successfully complete two rounds of proficiency testing.

Known samples are sent to the lab by a select test provider and lab staff must process the samples, with routine samples, and report correct results to pass.

Certified laboratory inspectors then conduct a full-scale detailed audit at the lab. Employees are interviewed and the quality assurance and analytical processes are scrutinized. When the lab passes all of the steps, accreditation is granted and maintained.

Staff tests quality by taste and smell

Other resources

Learn more about water by visiting the following websites. Many of these sites offer resources for teachers and children.

Environmental Protection Agency
www.epa.gov

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
www.tceq.texas.gov

Texas Water Development Board
www.twdb.texas.gov

Texas American Water Works Association
www.tawwa.org
www.drinktap.org

Water Environment Federation
www.wef.org

National Sanitation Foundation
www.nsf.org

Texas Water Conservation Association
www.twca.org

www.SaveFortWorthwater.org

www.FortWorthTexas.gov/water
Tanks, planes and mains keep the water moving

You call them water towers, we call them elevated storage tanks and ground storage tanks. They are vital for:
- Maintaining pressure within the water distribution system and,
- Providing storage for peak demands for water (weather, fire events & main breaks).

The city’s water mains and water service lines are responsible for moving water from a water treatment plant to the customer’s home or business. Providing adequate storage is required by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Tanks are routinely checked for compliance.

Fort Worth’s water tanks come in different shapes and sizes. Some are made from steel or reinforced concrete or a combination of both.

The city currently operates 28 water storage tanks within the distribution system with a total storage capacity of 95.3 million gallons.

Distribution system
The distribution system consists of 11 pressure planes - East Side (one), North Side (three), West Side (four), South Side (two), and Holly. Pressure planes are isolated areas of the distribution system that are based on the elevations of the area to ensure reasonable water pressure.

The East Side has three elevated tanks and three ground reservoirs. North Side includes five elevated tanks and three ground storage reservoirs.

On the West Side there is one elevated tank, three ground storage reservoirs and one standpipe. Three elevated tanks and two ground storage reservoirs make up the South Side Pressure Plane, and the Holly Pressure Plane consists of four ground storage reservoirs.

Newest water tank
Caylor, #2, north of Timberland Road, is the newest tank in the City of Fort Worth’s system. It is a five-million gallon pre-stressed concrete tank that was put into operation in 2016. It is located adjacent to Caylor #1, which is a five-million gallon steel tank built in 1988. Caylor #1 was repainted in 2018. The next new tank to be constructed will be a one-million gallon elevated tank in far west Fort Worth.

Maintenance
The city takes pride in the external appearance of our storage tanks. Some tanks are identifiable with the city’s “Molly” logo. Steel tanks are repainted to maintain a positive appearance. The Calmont elevated storage tank located between Calmont Avenue and the I-30 West freeway is scheduled to be repainted in the fall.

Fort Worth has an aggressive program to regularly clean and inspect the tank interiors, which helps maintain water quality and provides for quicker maintenance and repair cycles.

Unless a storage tank is taken out of service for cleaning, inspection or rehabilitation, the water level inside a storage tank is kept above a minimum level while in operation. From that level, staff can cycle the water level up and down to minimize the age of the water and maximize mixing. Operators can control water levels within storage tanks by using pump stations and gravity transfers from one pressure plane to another.

Speakers available!
We welcome the opportunity to speak to neighborhood groups and civic organizations about the city’s utility services.

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