2023 Consumer Confidence Report for Public Drinking Water System
Fern Bluff MUD

FERN BLUFF
Municipal Utility District

7320 Wyoming Springs Dr. Round Rock, TX 78681 (512) 238-0606 www.fernbluffmud.org

This is your water quality report for January 1 to December 31, 2023

Fern Bluff MUD Provides surface water from Lake Georgetown and groundwater from Edwards Aquifer located in Williamson County.

For more information regarding this report contact:
Fern Bluff MUD
(512) 238-0606
Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar por telefono a (512) 238-0606

Definitions and Abbreviations

Definitions and Abbreviations - The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.
Action Level: - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Avg: - Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.
Level 1 Assessment: - A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
Level 2 Assessment: - A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
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.
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)
mrem: - millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
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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.
ppq - parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)
ppt - parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
Treatment Technique or TT: - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Information about your 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 pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.
Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:
- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, 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.
- 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.

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 the system's business office.

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 (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 responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but we 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.

Information about Source Water

FERN BLUFF MUD purchases water from CITY OF ROUND ROCK. CITY OF ROUND ROCK provides purchase surface water from Lake Georgetown and groundwater from Edwards Aquifer located in Williamson County.

TCEQ 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(s) from which we purchase our water received the assessment report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system contact Fern Bluff MUD (512) 238-0606.

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires that all drinking water suppliers provide a water quality report to their customers on an annual basis. This is the MUD's Annual Report Card and is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the Fern Bluff MUD to provide safe 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 home treatment devices.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

The public is welcome to attend the Fern Bluff MUD Board of Directors meetings held the fourth Tuesday of each month at 7320 Wyoming Springs Dr. in Round Rock. For specific questions related to this report, please call (512) 238-0606 or email waterquality@fernbluffmud.org.

Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds All Federal (EPA) Drinking Water Requirements

The Fern Bluff MUD had no reporting, monitoring, maximum contaminant level exceedance or notification violations in 2023. This report is a summary of the quality of the water provided to our customers. The analysis was made using EPA required testing and is presented in the following pages.

WATER HARDNESS/WATER SOFTENERS

Many consumers have or consider installing water softeners. The water hardness in our water system ranges from 176-208 mg/L or approximately **10-12 grains per gallon**. While this level of hardness may cause minor aesthetic problems such as water spots and dry skin, it does not cause damage to your plumbing. The city routinely performs laboratory tests to measure the stability of the drinking water. Stability refers to whether the water is aggressive or depositional. Test results indicate that the drinking water, as delivered to your home, is stable.

BACKFLOW PREVENTION

Fern Bluff MUD's Backflow Prevention Program is in place to help prevent potentially dangerous backflow into the water system by way of swimming pools or irrigation systems. We use Backflow Solutions Inc. (bsionline.com) as our managing company for notification and collection of our backflow reports. Any Property with or considering installation of a pool with an autofill valve or an irrigation system is required to have a backflow prevention device installed, tested upon installation, and tested annually for pool autofill valves and every 7 years thereafter for irrigation systems. Local testers can be found on BSI website at www.bsionlinetracking.com.

A NOTE ABOUT STORM WATER AND POLLUTION PREVENTION (MS4)

The Fern Bluff MUD works to prevent pollution of our lakes, creeks, rivers, streams and aquifers. We continuously monitor the District to ensure we follow the guidelines laid out in our Stormwater General Permit. The General Permit can be found on the Stormwater page of our Website at fernbluffmud.org. Storm water pollution can lead to contamination of these vital water sources and increase the cost of treating drinking water as well as adversely impacting the environment. Storm water pollution occurs when rainfall picks up and carries pollutants into local waterways and aquifers. **How can you help?** Never sweep leaves or grass clippings into streets or storm drains. Take used oil and home chemicals to a recycling center or to a household hazardous waste collection event. Follow directions on pesticides and fertilizers and avoid application when rain is forecast. If you have pets, pick up their waste and dispose of it properly to keep bacteria and parasites out of our creeks. Remember, our storm water drains to Brushy Creek.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DISPOSAL (HHW)

The Fern Bluff MUD has joined with the City of Round Rock to make it easier and much more convenient for our residents to dispose of household hazardous waste. For more information on how to get your voucher, please visit our website: https://fernbluffmud.org/household-hazardous-waste-disposal-program.

Inorganics

Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation	Source of Constituent
2023	Aluminum	0.117	.117	.117	0.2	0.05 - 0.2	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits
2023	Barium	0.0324	0.0324	0.0324	2	2	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits
2023	Calcium	31.8	31.8	31.8	N/A	N/A	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits
2023	Cyanide	0.06	<0.01	0.035	0.2	0.2	ppm	N	Discharge from steel/metal factories; Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories.
2023	Fluoride	0.29	0.23	0.26	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth.
2023	Magnesium	21.2	21.2	21.2	N/A	N/A	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits
2023	Manganese	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	N/A	N/A	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits
2023	Nitrate	0.14	0.07	0.114	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leachate from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
2023	Nickel	0.0014	0.0014	0.0014	N/A	N/A	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits
2023	Potassium	3.38	3.38	3.38	N/A	N/A	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits
2023	Sodium	37.6	37.6	37.6	N/A	N/A	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper in Distribution System

Date	Constituent	MCLG	Sites Exceeding Action Level	90th Percentile	Action Level	Units	Violation	Source of Constituent
2022	Lead	0	0	<0.01	0.015	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits.
2022	Copper	1.3	0	0.036	1.3	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

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Disinfectant Residuals

Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MRDL	MRDLG	Units	Violation	Source of Constituent
2023	Chloramine	3.09	0.59	2.03	4	<4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes

Disinfection Byproducts

Year	Constituent	High	Range of Levels Detected	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation	Source of Constituent
2023	Total Trihalomethanes	48	33.1-45.5	80	0	ppb	N	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
2023	Haloacetic Acids	11	4.8 – 10.8	60	0	ppb	N	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination

Synthetic Organic Contaminants, Semi volatile Organic Contaminants, Pesticides, Herbicides & Carbamates

Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation	Source of Constituent
2023	Atrazine	0.13	0.13	0.13	3	3	ppb	N	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops

Turbidity

Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation	Source of Constituent
2023	Turbidity	0.24	0.03	0.061	0.3	NA	NTU	N	Soil runoff.

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.

Total Organic Carbon

Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation	Source of Constituent
2023	Source Water Total Organic Carbon	3.44	2.94	3.24	None established		ppm	N	Naturally occurring organic material. There is no health effect directly associated with TOC.
2023	Treated Water Total Organic Carbon	2.97	2.52	2.74	None established		ppm	N	Naturally occurring organic material. There is no health effect directly associated with TOC.

Coliform*

Year	Constituent	Highest % of Positive Samples	MCL	Units	Violation	Source of Constituent
2023	Total Coliform	0.00%	Presence in 5% or more of the monthly samples	Presence	N	Naturally present in environment
2023	Fecal Coliform	0.00%	Routine or repeat sample is coliform positive and one is also fecal positive	Presence	N	Naturally present in environment

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 hardier than many disease-causing organisms; therefore, their absence from water is a good indication that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption. Fecal coliform bacteria and, in particular, E. coli, are members of the coliform bacteria group originating in the intestinal tract of warm-blooded animals and are passed into the environment through feces. The presence of fecal coliform bacteria (E. coli) in drinking water may indicate recent contamination of the drinking water with fecal material.

Unregulated Contaminants

Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation	Source of Constituent
2023	Dibromochloromethane	20.2	14.5	17.4	None established		ppb	N	Unregulated contaminant, monitoring helps EPA determine where certain contaminants occur and whether those contaminants need to be regulated.
2023	Chloroform	3.1	2.3	2.6	None established		ppb	N	
2023	Bromoform	13.5	8.7	11.3	None established		ppb	N	
2023	Bromodichloromethane	9.9	6.7	8.18	None established		ppb	N	
2023	Hardness	208	176	189	None established		mg/L	N	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium
2023	Langelier Saturation Index (LSI)	0.03	-0.31	-0.163	None established		Index	N	LSI between -0.5 and 0.5 means the water is stable or balanced.

Radiochemicals

Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation	Source of Constituent
2023	Radium 228	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0	5	0	pci/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.
2023	Gross beta emitters	<4.0	<4.0	<4.0	50	0	pci/L	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
2023	Gross Alpha particles	<2.0	<2.0	<2.0	15	0	pci/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.