OUR PRIDE
& DEDICATION

Safe drinking water is an essential and precious resource for our community. We utilize the latest technology to treat your drinking water and this water is tested continuously to ensure high quality.

As a Division of the City of Longview's Public Works Department, Water Supply and Purification provides safe and potable water. Our primary goal and responsibility is to provide you with safe and reliable drinking water. The City of Longview is committed to maintaining an adequate raw water supply and for producing potable water at sufficient pressure, volume and quality for our customers. We strive to continuously improve the service to the community and wholesale customers by monitoring the watershed and our water treatment plants and distribution system to ensure that they meet local, state and federal regulations. We also strive to meet the demands of our community and maintain fire protection by operating and maintaining our facilities, booster stations, valves, and elevated storage towers throughout the City.

The City of Longview Public Water Supply employees are proud of the role they play in protecting public health and providing safe and potable water to the City of Longview. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that goes above and beyond state and federal drinking water standards. We continually strive to adopt new and better methods of delivering the best quality drinking water to you. The licensed water professionals of the City of Longview are committed to providing quality, innovative services that set the standard for professionalism and excellence. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we will be vigilant in maintaining our objective of providing quality drinking water at an affordable price.

It is important to us that you have information about your drinking water so you can have confidence in the product we deliver. This report provides you with information about the quality and sources of the drinking water you received in 2008. As you read this report, you will learn that the water delivered to your tap meets or exceeds all state and federal water quality standards. We hope that you will find it useful and reassuring that your water is safe to drink.

If you have any health concerns related to the information in this report, we encourage you to contact your health care provider. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call the Water Purification Division at 903-663-7641.

SUBSTANCES EXPECTED
IN DRINKING WATER

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Substances 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 runoff, industrial, or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- **PESTICIDES AND HERBICIDES:** which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- **ORGANIC CHEMICAL CONTAMINANTS:** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- **RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS:** which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that 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 at 903-663-7641. 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 at 800-426-4791.

? ? ? DID YOU KNOW ? ? ?

- Water is the only substance that is found naturally on earth in three forms: liquid, gas, and solid; therefore allowing it to be found not only on the surface, but also in the ground and in the air.
- Water moves around the earth in a water cycle. The water cycle has five parts: evaporation, condensation, precipitation, infiltration, and surface run-off.
- Of all the earth's water, 97% is salt water found in oceans and seas. Only 1% of the earth's water is available for drinking water. Two percent is currently frozen.
- One gallon of water weighs approximately 8 ½ pounds.
- Americans drink more than 1 billion glasses of tap water each day. You can refill an 8 ounce glass of water approximately 15,000 times for the same cost as a six-pack of soda.
- Water helps to maintain healthy body weight by increasing metabolism and regulating appetite. It also leads to increased energy levels. The most common cause of daytime fatigue is actually mild dehydration. By the time a person feels thirsty; their body has lost over one percent of its total water amount. Water can even prevent and alleviate headaches, and joint and back pain. Water also regulates the temperature of the human body, just as it regulates the earth's temperature. If you have caught a fever, you should drink lots of water. Water is essential to the human body's survival. A person can live for about a month without food, but only about a week without water.
- Used oil from one oil change can contaminate up to 1,000,000 gallons of water.

WATER CONSERVATION
IS EVERYONE'S RESPOSIBILITY.

Water continues to be one of our most precious resources. Although the City of Longview does not currently mandate water conservation, we strongly encourage our customers to use water resources wisely. Conserve water because it is the right thing to do. Don't waste water just because someone else is paying the water bill. The following conservation tips will assist you in your water conservation efforts.

Outdoor Tips

- Water your lawn every third day. Always water during the cool time of the day to minimize evaporation. Early morning is best, and the peak water consumption hours *(4 p.m. to 9 p.m.)* should be avoided *(to avoid evaporation)*.
- Control water so that it stays on your lawn areas and out of the streets.
- Select drought tolerant and/or native plants and grasses and condition the soil with mulch and compost.
- Add sufficient fertilizer to stimulate the roots of your lawn, but do not over fertilize.
- When mowing, raise the blade on your lawn mower to at least three inches high, or to its highest level. Closely cut grass makes the roots work harder, requiring more water.

Indoor Tips

- Retrofit all household faucets by installing aerators with flow restrictors to slow the flow of water. Fix leaks immediately and check for leaks on a regular basis. Even a small leak wastes a lot of water. Dripping faucets can waste about 2,000 gallons of water each year. Leaky toilets can waste as much as 200 gallons each day. An average of 20% of toilets leak.
- Only wash full loads when using your clothes or dish washer. Set the water size of load you are using.
- Turn off the water when brushing your teeth or shaving and save more than 5 gallons per day.
- Take a quick shower rather than a bath and save an average of 20 gallons of water

STORM WATER
POLLUTION PREVENTION PROGRAM

Watersheds may be susceptible to contamination resulting from flood, erosion, and pollution; also referred to as storm water runoff. The City of Longview has incorporated a program to help manage Storm Water Pollution. Storm water pollution is being reduced from the monitoring and modification of the City's operations through good municipal housekeeping. Our program also works to control construction runoff resulting in less sediment, the number one pollutant in our watersheds. Finally, one of the most important parts of this program is the education and involvement of the public and citizens of Longview regarding watersheds and storm water pollution.

The Following Guidelines May Help Prevent Storm Water Pollution

- Use fertilizers sparingly
- Sweep up driveways, sidewalks, and gutters
- Never dump, blow, sweep, or wash anything down storm drains
- Don't leave bare spots in your yard
- Compost wastes
- Use less toxic pesticides, follow labels, and learn how to prevent pest problems
- Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider a rain garden to capture runoff
- Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway
- Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil
- Pick up after your pet

For more information on Storm Water Pollution Prevention, please feel free to contact the Streets and Drainage Division of the City of Longview's Public Works Department at 903-237-1018.

LONGVIEW'S SOURCES
OF DRINKING WATER

Longview uses surface water from three sources: Lake Cherokee, Sabine River, and Lake O' the Pines. A source water assessment has been completed by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for all three water sources and the report is available to review by calling us at 903-753-4870 or 903-663-7641. It allows us to focus on our source water protection activities. The results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection of these contaminants will be found in this report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system contact us at 903-753-4870. To monitor water quality in local rivers, streams, and reservoirs, the City of Longview has a Watershed Management Program. We work closely with the Sabine River Authority, Cherokee Water Company, Northeast Texas Municipal Water District, Texas Railroad Commission, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission, American Water Works Association, Texas Water Utilities Association and local industries to monitor and maintain a high level of water quality.

TABLE
DEFINITIONS

MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL (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 CONTAMINANT LEVEL GOAL (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 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 contaminants.

MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL GOAL (MRDL)
The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. This is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

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 a treatment or other requirement which a water system must follow.

mrem/YEAR
Millirems per year *(a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)*.

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

NTU
Nephelometric turbidity units *(a measure of turbidity)*.

ppm
Parts per million, or milligrams per liter *(mg/l)*.

ppb
Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter *(ug/l)*.

NA
Not applicable

ND
Not detecable at testing limits

TTHM
Total Trihalomethanes

HAA5
Haloacetic Acids

ADDITIONAL
PARAMETERS

This chart lists other items for which the water is tested. These items do not relate to public health but rather to the aesthetic quality. These parameters are often important to industrial water users or customers with special needs.

CONSTITUENT	UNITS OF MEASURE	RANGE
Aluminum	ppm	0.166 - 0.756
Manganese	ppm	0.002 - 0.007
Nickle	ppm	0.002 - 0.006
Zinc	ppm	0.005 - 0.014
Chloride	ppm	9.39 - 31.9
Sulfate	ppm	18.9 - 55.3
pH	pH units	8.11 - 9.14
Conductivity	µmhos/cm	260.0 - 380.5
Total Alkalinity as $CaCO_3$	ppm	20.0 - 148.5
Bicarbonate	ppm	20.0 - 148.5
Dissolved solids	ppm	166 - 215
Calcium	ppm	18.3 - 29.9
Magnesium	ppm	3.18 - 5.28
Sodium	ppm	13.7 - 24.6
Total Hardness as $CaCO_3$	ppm	32.95 - 76.70
Total Hardness in Grains	Grains/Gallon	1.92 - 4.48

LONGVIEW CONTINUES
TO IMPROVE YOUR WATER
QUALITY & SERVICE

Drinking water standards continue to tighten, and our challenge is to meet these stricter regulations. This means we must continue to update the treatment technology used at our water plants. As the City of Longview continues to grow and look toward the future, we continue to improve ourselves and the quality of the water that is sent to you and how it travels to your home or business. The City of Longview's Public Water system is widely recognized as a leader in the municipal utility industry and has made a measurable improvement to customer service.

The City of Longview's Public Water Supply licensed professionals are committed to providing a safe product for your use.

The City of Longview did not experience any water shortages or implement any conservation plans during 2008. However, during 2008, East Texas watersheds experienced unusual and harsh weather patterns, including Hurricanes Gustov and Ike. During this time, our employees worked extremely hard to maintain the supply and quality of your water by ensuring that your water is the best that it can be. In the event of a major power outage, an emergency generator has been installed to ensure an adequate supply and pressure to the North Longview Pressure Plane.

During 2009, the Sabine River Water Treatment Plant will undergo various renovations and additions. The water plant will receive a raw water holding reservoir with a capacity of 30 million gallons. During this construction project, the plant will also receive various plant renovations to improve the treatment and delivery of the City of Longview Drinking Water. Also, included in this project will be various security enhancements for the public water supply of the City of Longview and surrounding areas.

During recent years, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has implemented new rules regarding surface water treatment; the Stage 2 Disinfectants & Disinfection Byproducts (Stage 2 DBP) Rule, the Long Term 2 Enhanced Surface Water Treatment (LT2) Rule and the second phase of the Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR2). Each of these rules builds upon earlier rules that addressed disinfection by-products, waterborne pathogens, and unregulated contaminants. For these rules, the City of Longview is evaluating and performing additional sampling on source waters, water treatment plants, and the distribution system. The information from each of these rules will be compiled by the EPA and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) and used to provide additional modifications or improvements in the treatment techniques used by the City of Longview and used in future regulatory decision making. For more information on these and other rules and regulations, visit: www.epa.gov/safewater.

CITY OF LONGVIEW
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Under normal operating conditions, the Cherokee, Sabine River, and Lake O' the Pines Water Treatment Plants treat and distribute water to elevated and ground storage tanks with the capacity of approximately 6 million gallons of water throughout the city in over 600 miles of pipeline. The east and southeast regions of Longview typically receive water from the Cherokee Water Treatment Plant. The west and southwest regions of Longview receives water from the Sabine River Water Treatment Plant. The north region receives water from the Lake O' the Pines Water Treatment Plant. Due to changes in demand and normal or emergency maintenance requirements, the typical distribution of water may change and residents may receive water from any of the water treatment plants.

REGULATED
SUBSTANCES

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	AVERAGE	RANGE OF DETECTED LEVELS	MCL	MCLG
2008	Chloramines (ppm)	1.66	1.42 - 1.98	4	4
	Disinfectant used to control microbes				
2008	Chlorite (ppm)	0.378	0.09 - 0.77	1	0.8
	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection				
2008	Bromate (ppb)	0.825	ND - 9.9	10	0
	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection				
2008	Barium (ppm)	0.065	0.050 - 0.082	2	2
	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits				
2008	Fluoride (ppm)	0.433	0.130 - 0.660	4	4
	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth				
2008	Nitrate (ppm)	0.095	0.060 - 0.130	10	10
	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion from natural deposits				
2006	Gross Beta Particles & Photon Emitters (pCi/L)	2.23	0 - 3.6	50	NA
	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				
2008	Methylene Chloride (ppb)	0.1	0 - 0.59	5	NA
	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories				
2008	Total Organic Carbon (ppm) - Source Water	6.82	5.29 - 9.76	NA	NA
	Naturally present in the environment				
2008	Total Organic Carbon (ppm) - Drinking Water	3.35	2.56 - 4.83	NA	NA
	Naturally present in the environment				
2008	Total Organic Carbon (ppm) % Removal	45.82	24.18 - 63.22	NA	NA

The TOC removal ratio is the percent of TOC removed through the treatment process divided by the percent of TOC required by the TCEQ to be removed. The City of Longview water system provides the alternative compliance criteria removal ratio required.

Total Organic Carbon (TOC) has no adverse health effects. The disinfectant can combine with TOC to form disinfection by-products. Disinfection is necessary to ensure that water does not have unacceptable levels of pathogens. Total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection by-products when water is disinfected. By-products of disinfection include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAA) which are reported elsewhere in this report.

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	HIGHEST SINGLE MESUREMENT	LOWEST MONTHLY % OF SAMPLES MEETING LIMITS	TURBIDITY LEVEL
2008	Turbidity (NTU)	0.29	100	0.3
	Soil runoff			

Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity is measured in Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU) and is a measurement of water clarity. This water quality parameter is monitored as a treatment technique (TT).

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	THE 90th PERCENTILE	# OF SITES EXCEEDING ACTION LEVEL	ACTION LEVEL
2006	Lead (ppb)	0.0013	0	15
	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits			
2006	Copper (ppm)	0.0347	0	1.3
	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives			

The City of Longview is on a reduced sampling schedule for lead and copper, due to an excellent compliance history. The results listed above are distribution samples taken from the customers' tap. Lead and copper has not been detected in water leaving the water treatment facilities. The source of lead and copper is 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 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	HIGHEST MONTHLY% OF POSITIVE SAMPLES	MCL	MCLG	UNITS OF MEASURE
2008	Total Coliform Bacteria	1.2	*	0	Presence
	Naturally present in the environment				
2008	Fecal Coliform Bacteria	ND	*	0	Presence
	Naturally present in the environment				

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful bacteria may be present. The absence of coliform bacteria from water is a good indication that the water is micro-biologically safe for consumption. Longview analyzes over 984 samples each year. All repeat samples taken were negative and did not indicate the presence of coliform bacteria. *Presence of coliform in 5% or more of the monthly samples.

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	AVERAGE	RANGE OF DETECTED LEVELS	MCL	MCLG
2008	Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	47.3	6.7 - 82.5	80	NA
	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination				

Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	AVERAGE	RANGE OF DETECTED LEVELS	MCL	MCLG
2008	Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	23.8	6.1 - 44.8	60	NA
	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination				

Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES
STAGE 1 - DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	AVERAGE	RANGE
2008	Chloroform (ppb)	36.7	26.5 - 50.9
	By-product of drinking water chlorination		
2008	Dichlorobromomethane (ppb)	14.7	8.9 - 20.6
	By-product of drinking water chlorination		
2008	Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	6.3	3.2 - 7.8
	By-product of drinking water chlorination		

Bromoform, chloroform, dichlorobromomethane, and dibromochloromethane are disinfection by-products. There is no maximum contaminant level for these chemicals at the entry point to distribution.

Unregulated Contaminants are those for which the EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted.

STAGE 2 - DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS

This information will be used for study purposes and will be compiled by the EPA to provide improvements in our treatment techniques and in future decision making for rules and regulations implemented by the EPA.

YEAR	CONSTITUENT	AVERAGE	RANGE
2008	Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	43.3	21.2 - 80.0
	By-product of drinking water chlorination		
2008	Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	23.2	10.5 - 46.7
	By-product of drinking water chlorination		

This evaluation is sampling required by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to determine the range of total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids in the system for future regulations. The samples are not used for compliance, and may have been collected under non-standard conditions. The EPA also requires the data to be reported to the customer. Please contact your water system representative if you have any questions.

The City of Longview testing of lake and river water detected low levels of *Cryptosporidium*, *Giardia lamblia* and *Escherichia coli (E. coli)* commonly found in surface water. Required levels of inactivation are achieved through disinfection and filtration; however these treatment methods cannot guarantee 100% removal nor can the testing methods determine if the organisms are active or inactive and capable of causing diarrhea, cramps, and fever when ingested.

HOW TO CONTACT US

Billing Questions: **903-237-1030**

Questions About the Quality of Your Drinking Water: **903-663-7641**

Water and Sewer Emergency, Service Interruptions: **903-236-3030**

Water Conservation or to Request a Speaker: **903-237-1034**

Source Water Assessment Questions: **903-753-4870**

Storm Water Runoff and Pollution Management: **903-237-1018**

To Report Water Pollution: **903-753-4870**

You can also find us on the internet at **www.cityoflongview.com**

The City Council meets every 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month.
Times vary. Call **903-237-1080** or check our website for more information.

The Longview City Hall is located at 300 West Cotton Street. Offices are open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar.
Para asistancia en español, favor de llamar al telefono 903-237-5552 or 903-237-1236.

SPECIAL HEALTH INFORMATION

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as *Cryptosporidium*, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly or Immuno-compromised persons 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 on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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WATER QUALITY REPORT 2008

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CITY OF LONGVIEW

WATER QUALITY REPORT

2008