

# 2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## CITY OF VERNON, TX 76384

(940) 552-2581

[www.vernontx.gov](http://www.vernontx.gov)

### Important 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 immunocompromised persons such as those undergoing chemotherapy; 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 at: (800) 426-4791.

### Public Participation Opportunities

**Date:** 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month

**Time:** 6:30 pm

**Location:** City Commission Chamber, City Hall at 1725 Wilbarger St.

**Phone Number:** (940) 552-2581

To learn about future public meetings (concerning your drinking water), or to request to schedule one, please call us.

### 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 tel. (940) 552-2581 – para hablar con una persona bilingue en español.

### Our Drinking Water is Regulated

This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

### Source of Drinking Water

The source of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) includes 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 animal or 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 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 storm 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 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 City of Vernon receives its ground water from wells out of the Seymour Aquifer. The well fields are located in Northern Wilbarger County (the Odell and Winston Farm wells), in west Vernon (the Schmoker wells) and in south Vernon (Orbison Park wells, used only as an emergency supply). Chlorine is injected into the water for disinfecting purposes. The amount of chlorine residual in the water is tightly controlled to meet the TCEQ standards, and to keep the chlorine residual at lower safer concentrations, which are less likely to cause long-term chronic health effects.

## Source Water Assessment

The TCEQ completed a source water assessment and results indicate that some of our water sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for our water system are based on the susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants may be found in this Consumer Confident Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, contact (940) 552-2581 or (940) 552-9961.

For more information about our sources of water, please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer available at the following URL: <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/gis/swaview>. Further details about sources and source-water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL: <http://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/>.

## All Drinking water may contain contaminants

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health

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.

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 (940) 552-2581 or (940) 552-9961

## Additional Health 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 Vernon is 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>.

### Abbreviations

**NTU** – Nephelometric Turbidity Units

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

**mrem/year** – millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

**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

**ppt** – parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

**ppq** – parts per quadrillion, or pictograms per liter

## 2020 Consumer Confidence Report for Public Water System CITY OF VERNON

This is your water quality report for January 1 to December 31, 2020

CITY OF VERNON provides ground water from [insert source name of aquifer, reservoir, and/or river] located in [insert name of County or City].

For more information regarding this report contact:

Name Darell Kennon PW Director

Phone 940-552-9961

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono ( ) - - .

### Definitions and Abbreviations

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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)

#### na:

not applicable.

#### NTU

nephelometric turbidity units (a measure of turbidity)

#### pCi/L

picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

## Definitions and Abbreviations

ppb:	micrograms per liter or parts per billion
ppm:	milligrams per liter or parts per million
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.

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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, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- 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.
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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).

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### Information about Source Water

TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water, and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for your water system is based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections 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 [insert water system contact][insert phone number]

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	12/19/2019	1.3	1.3	0.2005	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	12/19/2019	0	15	3.1	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

### 2020 Water Quality Test Results

Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2020	1	0 - 1	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

\*The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all HAA5 sample results collected at a location over a year

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2020	6	0 - 5.87	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
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\*The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all TTHM sample results collected at a location over a year

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	01/30/2019	0.22	0.22 - 0.22	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2020	0.503	0.503 - 0.503	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	2020	7	6.79 - 7.4	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Uranium	2020	1.4	1.4 - 1.4	0	30	ug/l	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

### Disinfectant Residual

A blank disinfectant residual table has been added to the CCR template, you will need to add data to the fields. Your data can be taken off the Disinfectant Level Quarterly Operating Reports (DLQOR).

Disinfectant Residual	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of Measure	Violation (Y/N)	Source in Drinking Water
Chlorine (Free)	2020	.90	.51 - 2.39	4	4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

