

**EL OSO WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION
2015 WATER QUALITY REPORT
PWS ID NUMBER: TX1280007**



This report is a summary of the quality of water El Oso Water Supply Corporation provides its 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 this report. We hope this information helps you become knowledgeable about what is in your drinking water.

SOURCE OF 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.

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.

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 source of El Oso WSC drinking water originated as groundwater from the Carrizo and Catahoula aquifers. Our drinking water is supplied by 4 Ground Water Wells – Well 1 (CR 189); Well 2 – 0.5 miles east of well 1; Well 3 – CR 202; Well 4 west of well 3. A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for your drinking water source(s) is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. The report will describe the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment information will be available later this year on the Texas Drinking Water Watch at <http://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/>. Please refer to the Source Water Assessment Viewer online at <http://www.tceq.texas.gov/gis/swaview> for more information about your sources of water. For more information on source water assessment and protection efforts at our system, please contact us at (830) 583-3543.

ALL DRINKING WATER MAY CONTAIN CONTAMINANTS

When drinking water meets federal standards, there may not be any health 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)

IMPLICATIONS OF SECONDARY CONSTITUENTS

Secondary constituents (such as calcium, sodium, or iron), which are found in drinking water, can cause taste, color, and odor problems. The taste and odor constituents are called secondary constituents and are regulated by the State of Texas, not the EPA. These constituents are not causes for health concern. Therefore, secondaries are not required to be reported in this document but they may affect the appearance and taste of your drinking water.

SPECIAL NOTICE

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

HEALTH INFORMATION ABOUT 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. 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 two 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

The following tables list all of the drinking water contaminants which were detected during the 2015 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1 – December 31, 2015. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water, is more than one year old. The bottom line is that the water provided to you is safe.

Questions About Your Water Quality Report?

To learn more about your drinking water, please attend any of the regularly monthly scheduled meetings held on the second Tuesday of the month. The public is welcome to request time on the agenda for comments about water utility topics. Consult our web site www.elosowsc.com for more information or obtain a copy of this Water Quality Report.

En español

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono (830) 583-3543.

STATE WATER LOSS AUDIT

In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the time period of January through December 2015, our system lost an estimated 96,878,450 gallons of water through main breaks, leaks, inaccurate customer metering, theft and other causes.

DEFINITIONS

The preceding tables contain scientific terms and measures some of which may require explanation.

AL (Action Level) – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

ALG (Action Level Goal) – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALGs allow for a margin of safety.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level) – 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.

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.

Avg – Regulatory compliance with some MCLs are based on running annual average of monthly samples.

MFL – Million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)

NA: Not applicable

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units (a measure of turbidity)

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 (µg/L)

ppt – Parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

ppq – Pats per quadrillion or pictograms per liter (pg/L)



MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL

Disinfectant	Test Year	Average Concentration Found	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine Residual, Free	2015	1.66	.75	2.70	4.0	<4.0	ppm	N	Disinfectant used to control microbes

LEAD AND COPPER

Constituent	Date Sampled	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90 th Percentile	Number of Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	08/13/2013	1.3	1.3	0.15	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	08/13/2013	0	15	1.35	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS

Constituent	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2015	15	8.2 – 25.8	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2015	61	25.1 - 113	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Constituent	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	03/03/2014	0.074	0.0594 – 0.074	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	03/03/2014	1	0.92 - 1	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)	2015	3	0.1 – 2.71	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic*	2015	10	0 – 13	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Selenium	03/03/2014	3.1	0 – 3.1	50	50	ppb	N	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.

*While your drinking water meets EPA standards for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS

Constituent	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Beta/photon emitters	02/22/2010	5.2	0 – 5.2	0	50	pCi/L*	N	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Gross Alpha, excluding Radon and Uranium	02/22/2010	2.6	0 – 2.6	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits.

*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

VIOLATION TABLE (TTHM) Total Trihalomethanes

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
MCL, LRAA	07/01/2015	09/30/2015	Water samples showed that the amount of this contaminant in our drinking water was above its standard (called a maximum contaminant level and abbreviated MCL) for the period indicated.

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.