

# 2020 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

(Consumer Confidence Report)

City of Sachse PWS TX0570057

972-495-7600



## **Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds All Federal (EPA)**

### **Drinking Water Requirements:**

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water. We hope the information helps you become more knowledgeable about the water you drink.

**Water Sources:** The sources of drinking water (both tap and bottled) 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 before treatment include: microbes, pesticides, herbicides, inorganic contaminants, organic chemical contaminants and radioactive contaminants.

**Public Participation:** Currently, there are no public meetings scheduled that concern our drinking water. The City Council meets on the first and third Mondays of the month. To request an item regarding our drinking water be placed on a future agenda for public participation, please call 972-495-7600.

### **Information Included in this**

**Report:** The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants. The following pages lists all the regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in our drinking water.

## **Where Does Sachse Get Its Drinking Water?**

Our drinking water is obtained from LAKE LAVON, a surface water source, through North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD). Sachse purchases the water from NTMWD and pipes it to our residents. The TCEQ has completed a Source Water Assessment for all drinking water systems. 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. NTMWD received the following assessment report from TCEQ. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) or the City of Sachse. In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the period of January-December 2020, our system lost an estimated 63,116,000 gallons of water. If you have any questions about the water loss audit, please call 972-495-7600.

## **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 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.

## **Secondary Constituents**

Many constituents, such as calcium, sodium, or iron, which are often 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, and are not cause for health concerns. Although we do report secondary constituents in this report, it is not required. Unless otherwise noted, all samples were collected and tested in 2019.

## **Health Information for Special Populations**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as those undergoing chemotherapy for cancer, those who have undergone organ transplants, those who are undergoing treatment with steroids, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk to infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their 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.

**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 Sachse is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in home 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>.

## **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. 972-495-7600 – para hablar con una persona bilingue en Español.

Inorganic Contaminants							
Contaminants	Units	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	ppm	0.061	0.058 – 0.061	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes, discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	ppm	0.225	0.218 – 0.225	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	ppm	1	0.687-0.687	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Organic Contaminants							
Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides	Units	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Atrazine	ppb	0.20	0.20-0.20	3	3	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Di (2-ethyloxl) phthalate	ppb	0.60	0.60-0.60	0	6	No	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Simazine	ppb	0.08	0.07-0.08	4	4	No	Herbicide runoff

Radioactive Contaminants								
Test Year	Radioactive Contaminants	Units	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
2018	Beta/photon emitters	pCi/L	8.0	8.0-8.0	0	50	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

Disinfection By-Products								
Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Units	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination	
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ppb	23	4.5-32.5	No goal for the total	60	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination	
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHm)	ppb	37	21.4-37.9	No goal for the total	80	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination	

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

Unregulated Contaminants				
Contaminants	Units	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Likely Source of Contamination
Chloroform	ppb	11.8	7.78-11.8	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform	ppb	2.73	<1.0-2.73	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromodichloromethane	ppb	13.2	6.79-13.2	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane	ppb	10.8	4.14-10.8	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Lead and Copper								
Test Year	Contaminants	Units	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
2018	Lead	ppb	0	15	1.8	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing system: erosion of natural deposits
2018	Copper	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.65	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservative corrosion of household plumbing systems

Coliform Bacteria					
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	Total Coliform Maximum Contaminant Level	Highest # of Positives	Total # of Positive E. Coli or Fecal Coliform Samples	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
0	One coliform positive sample in any single month	1	0	No	Naturally present in the environment

**Note:** Reported monthly tests found no fecal coliform bacteria. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

Turbidity				
	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Level Detected	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest single measurement	1 NTU	0.31 NTU	No	Soil runoff
Lowest monthly percentage	0.3 NTU	100.0%	No	Soil runoff

**Note:** 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 including bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level							
Disinfectant Type	Units	Average Level	Minimum Level	Maximum Level	MRDL	MRDLG	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine Residual (Chloramines)	ppm	2.43	0.50	4.0	4.0	<4.0	Disinfectant used to control microbes
Chlorine Dioxide	ppm	0	0	0	0.8	0.8	Disinfectant
Chlorite	ppm	0.0475	0	0.483	1.0	N/A	Disinfectant

Total Organic Carbon				
	Units	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	Likely Source of Contamination
Source Water	ppm	5.16	3.95-5.16	Naturally present in the environment
Drinking Water	ppm	3.14	2.13-3.14	Naturally present in the environment
Removal Ratio	% removal*	53.9	28.4-53.9	N/A

**Note:** TOC has no health effects. The disinfectant can combine with TOC to form disinfectant by-products. Disinfection is necessary to ensure that water does not have unacceptable levels of pathogens. By-products of disinfection include trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs) which are elsewhere in this report.

\*Removal ratio is the percentage of TOC removed by the treatment process divided by the percentage of TOC required by TCEQ to be removed.

<b>Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated</b>				
<i>Contaminants</i>	<i>Units</i>	<i>Highest Level Detected</i>	<i>Range of Levels Detected</i>	<i>Likely Source of Contamination</i>
Calcium	ppm	62.4	58.3-62.4	Abundant naturally occurring element
Chloride	ppm	78.9	23.2-78.9	Abundant naturally occurring element
Magnesium	ppm	9.40	8.83-9.40	Abundant naturally occurring element
Manganese	ppm	0.017	0.012-0.017	Abundant naturally occurring element
Nickel	ppm	0.0068	0.0066-0.0068	Erosion of natural deposits
pH	units	8.60	8.04-8.60	Measure of corrosivity of water
Sodium	ppm	68.5	62.7-68.5	Erosion of natural deposits; by-product of oil field activity
Sulfate	ppm	158	42.0-158	Naturally occurring; common industrial by-product of oil field activity
Total Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	ppm	107	72.0-107	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	504	265-504	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water
Total Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	ppm	207	106-207	Naturally occurring calcium

### Table Definitions

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- MFL: Million Fibers per Liter – A measure of asbestos.
- MREM: Millirems per Year – A measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
- N/A – Not applicable.
- NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units – A measure of turbidity.
- pCi/L: Picocuries per Liter – A measure of radioactivity.
- ppb: Parts per Billion or micrograms per liter – One ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
- ppm: Parts Per Million or milligrams per liter – One ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.

## Take the guesswork out of watering your lawn

**W**ith science-based advice from [www.watermyyard.org](http://www.watermyyard.org), you can feel confident that you are providing enough water on your lawn without wasting any. Sachse has invested in a weather station that gives the most accurate and localized information on watering needs, based on rain, wind, temperature and soils. Turn off the automatic controller on your system and use Water My Yard as a reliable guide. No more guessing and no more wasting water or money.



## There's a flag on the play!

**N**ot exactly a violation of football rules, but a broken sprinkler head can certainly penalize you and your pocketbook. Broken or misdirected sprinkler heads represent the biggest water wasters in most homes. But they are often out of the homeowner's line of sight. That's why Sachse field personnel will place a flag on those heads that need your attention. Forgo the penalty and fix the problem.

## Foundations benefit from soaking

**S**oaker hoses can help homeowners stabilize their home's foundation if used properly. Place the soaker hose around the perimeter of the house 8 to 18 inches away from the foundation. Before attaching the soaker hose to the faucet, make sure you have a backflow preventer on the faucet. Soaker hoses run best with low pressure. You do not need to turn the faucet on full blast. Turn on the faucet so water slowly comes out of the soaker hose. Run the soaker hose for several hours.



*The City of Sachse contracts with North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) for water supplied to its citizens. The primary concern and responsibility of the NTMWD is the conservation and preservation of safe, clean, high-quality drinking water, a concern shared by the City of Sachse. If you would like more information about the quality of water, contaminants in drinking water, and/or potential health effects, please contact Sachse Public Works at 972-495-7600, the NTMWD's Public Information Office at 972-442-5405, or the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.*

*Sachse Public Works Department, 3815-B Sachse Road, Sachse, Texas 75048 | [www.cityofsachse.com](http://www.cityofsachse.com)*

### My Water Advisor

The City is offering a free service to allow customers access to their consumption habits. My Water Advisor is available on the computer and as a mobile app for both iOS and Android, to set thresholds that will alert via text message or email. Once alert settings are personalized, alerts can include continuous 24-hour consumption, consumption above a maximum consumer-defined limit, and consumption during a specific time frame (a holiday, vacation, or any daily use). Begin monitoring your water habits by registering with My Water Advisor today! [www.mywateradvisor.com](http://www.mywateradvisor.com).

### Water Conservation Measures

The City of Sachse has implemented its Water Conservation Plan that limits yard watering to no more than twice per week and prohibits watering between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. Additional watering of foundations, new landscaping, and new plantings (first year) of shrubs and trees is permitted by a hand-held hose, a soaker hose, or a dedicated zone using a drip irrigation system. Hosing of paved areas, buildings, or windows, washing or rinsing of vehicles by hose except with a cutoff nozzle, and/or allowing water to runoff is prohibited. Please visit the city's website for the latest watering restrictions.



### An Efficient Watering Schedule

The key to watering lawns is to apply water infrequently, yet thoroughly. This creates a deep, well-rooted lawn that efficiently uses the water that is stored in the soil.

- \* During designated watering times, water enough to wet the soil thoroughly.
- \* Prevent water run-off! Check your system for efficiency.
- \* Don't over water. A properly designed landscape needs only 1" of water per week. If you water too much you may damage the landscape by supporting a shallow root system.



Water conservation tips for both indoors and outdoors, Texas Smartscape, and the Texas Urban Landscape Guide can be found online.

### Stormwater Management MS4 Program

Sachse's Stormwater Management Program lists Best Management Practices (BMPs) implemented by the City to reduce pollutants in our stormwater system which are required by the state, TCEQ regulations. We depend on good water quality, and ensuring good water quality starts with you. There are many ways you can help reduce storm water

pollution. Never put anything in a storm drain; scoop your pet's waste; minimize fertilizer, herbicide and pesticide use; don't litter; check your car for leaks and recycle used motor oil; and compost or collect yard clippings for pick up. Consider the benefits on our local waterways if everyone took these few simple steps. Report stormwater pollution or dumping of trash, yard wastes, or other pollutants into storm water drains by calling the Stormwater Specialist at 469-429-4788. Please visit the City's website for Stormwater Management information.



### Conducting an Irrigation System Checkup

A major problem with most irrigation systems is poor distribution and maintenance. Items to consider:

- \* Nozzles – Use water-conserving, multi-stream nozzles that apply water in heavier droplets, so less water is lost due to displacement by wind and evaporation. Make sure sprinkler heads spray the landscape and not the driveway or sidewalks.
- \* Controller – Replace old controllers with new models that offer water conserving settings. Smart controllers which use moisture sensors to determine runtime are also available.
- \* Rain / Freeze Sensor – Prevents an automatic system from applying water when it is raining or during freezing conditions. It helps to avoid loss of water and prevent hazardous icy conditions.
- \* Drip Irrigation – Drip irrigation is 90% efficient compared to spray irrigation which is about 65% efficient. In some cases, drip irrigation is exempt from drought restrictions. Many existing irrigation systems can be converted to drip irrigation. Drip irrigation tubing is available for DIYers who want to convert to a drip irrigation system.

### Rainwater Harvesting

Rainwater harvesting offers an effective way to conserve water. An easy way to harvest rainwater is by directing a gutter downspout into a barrel and using the collected water in gardens or on potted plants. Rainwater does not contain hard minerals and is better for your plants. Another incentive to begin rainwater harvesting is that it reduces your utility bill. After all, the rainwater is free and it helps reduce the



flow into stormwater drains and stream pollution. Easy instructions for constructing a rain barrel can be found on the TCEQ website, [www.TCEQ.Texas.gov](http://www.TCEQ.Texas.gov).