

# WATER QUALITY REPORT 2024

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al teléfono 512-218-5555.

# SAFE, HIGH-QUALITY DRINKING WATER, ROUND THE CLOCK, ROUND ROCK.

The City of Round Rock is committed to providing high-quality, dependable water to the community. Round Rock's water system is rated "superior" by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) – TCEQ's highest rating – and meets or exceeds all state and federal drinking water standards.

This Consumer Confidence Report provides information about our water system, including source water, levels of detected contaminants, compliance with drinking water rules, and water quality data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests.

#### Where Your Water Comes From

Round Rock's water supply comes from surface water and groundwater sources. Surface water is primarily supplied by Lake Georgetown, and groundwater is served by the Edwards Aquifer.

The sources of drinking water, including both tap water and bottled water, are rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the land's surface or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive materials.

Water can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water before treatment may include: microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

#### **Water Quality**

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 may be obtained by calling the EPA 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 the Public Works Department at 512-341-3134.

To ensure tap water is safe, EPA regulations limit the amounts of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish

limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

### **Secondary Constituents**

Secondary constituents, such as calcium, sodium, or iron, often found in drinking water, can cause taste, color, or odor problems. The State of Texas regulates these taste and odor constituents, which are not necessarily causes for health concerns. Secondary constituents are not required to be reported, but may affect the appearance or taste of your water.

#### **Vulnerability to Drinking Water Contaminants**

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; 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).

# **City of Round Rock**

Website: roundrocktexas.gov/utilities Facebook: facebook.com/roundrock Utilities Division: 512-218-5555 Water Quality Questions: 512-341-3134

Billing Questions: 512-218-5460

#### U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline

800-426-4791 or visit

http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline/index.cfm

#### Source Water Assessment

TCEQ completed an assessment of Round Rock's source water, and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling requirements for our water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection of these contaminants will be found in this Consumer Confidence Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system, please contact the City at 512-341-3134. Source water assessment information is available on Texas Drinking Water Watch at https://dww2.tceq.texas.gov/DWW/.

#### **Water Loss**

In the water loss audit submitted to the Texas Water Development Board for the period from January to December 2024, our system lost an estimated 5.0% of the total water produced. If you have questions about the water loss audit, please call 512-341-3134.

#### **Water Hardness**

Many consumers believe that their water must be softened to prevent damage to plumbing and fixtures. This is untrue. The average water hardness in Round Rock is 249 mg/L or approximately 14.55 grains per gallon. While this level of hardness may cause minor aesthetic problems, such as water spots and dry skin, it does not damage 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 Round Rock's drinking water, as delivered to your home, is stable.

#### Your Participation is Welcome

The Round Rock City Council meets on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at 6 p.m. in City Hall Council Chambers, located at 221 E. Main St. Council meetings are open to the public with opportunities for residents to comment on any city-related issue. For details, visit roundrocktexas.gov/council.

For questions regarding this report, please call 512-341-3134 or email elarson@roundrocktexas.gov.

#### **Watershed Protection**

Stormwater runoff is rain that does not absorb into the ground. It carries litter, pesticides, fertilizers, bacteria from pet waste, and other harmful pollutants into nearby creeks, streams, and other waterways.

Stormwater pollution can contaminate these vital water sources, increase the cost of treating drinking water, and adversely impact the environment.

Help keep our waterways clean. Never sweep or dump anything down storm drains.

Learn more at roundrocktexas.gov/stormwater.

#### Grease "Can It, Don't Drain It"

Grease may go in as a liquid, but as it travels through drains, it cools and hardens, forming a sticky wax that clogs pipes. This blockage can lead to sewage backups, causing overflow into your home, yard, and nearby creeks. To avoid this costly disaster, dispose of grease in a can and throw it in the trash.

Learn more facts and get your **FREE Cease the Grease kit** at roundrocktexas.gov/ceasethegrease.

## **Summer Watering 2025**

The City's Water Conservation Program continues to expand, offering free home irrigation evaluations, leak detection kits, and informative classes throughout the year. The program also offers a variety of water conservation rebates that pay back hundreds of dollars on products and services such as lawn aeration, irrigation system upgrades, water-efficient clothes washers, showerheads, toilets, and much more. Upgrading to a WaterSmart home has never been easier!

The City's Drought Contingency and Water Conservation Plans were updated in June 2024. The plans include new year-round water use standards for lawn irrigation that apply when no drought restrictions are in place. Customers choosing to irrigate outdoors must follow the twice-a-week watering schedule.

Most of the water used in Round Rock happens during the summer for outdoor use. The easiest way to reduce your water usage is to only water your yard when needed. You can also replace your traditional irrigation controller with a weather-based controller that changes the watering schedule based on weather data. Or install a water flow sensor on your property to alert you of continuous water flow.

Water conservation program information, such as rebate applications, educational videos, watering schedules, and more, can be found on the City's conservation pages at roundrocktexas.gov/conservation.

You can see your daily and hourly water use online at our customer water portal RRTXwater.com.

# 2024 Drinking Water Quality Results

The following table lists the regulated and monitored chemical constituents found in our drinking water. The EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 federally regulated primary constituents.

Inorg	norganic Constituents												
Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination				
2024	Barium	0.0382	0.0382	0.0382	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposit				
2024	Cyanide	90	90	90	200	200	ppb	Ν	Discharge from plastic, fertilizer, and steel/metal factories				
2024	Fluoride	0.22	0.22	0.22	4	4	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories				
2024	Nitrate (measured as Nitrogen)	1.12	0.34	0.73	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 seek advice from your healthcare provider.

Rad	Radioactive Constituents											
Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MCL	MCLG	Uni	its V	iolation	Likely Source of Contamination		
2024	Combined Radium	<1.0	<1.0	<1.0	5	0	рСі	i/L	Ν	Erosion of natural deposits		
Synt	Synthetic Organic Contaminants Including Pesticides and Herbicides											
Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MCL	MCLG	Uni	its V	iolation	Likely Source of Contamination		
2024	Atrazine	0.11	<0.1	0.5	3	3	pp	b	Ν	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops		
Lead	d and Copper i	n Distrik	oution	n Systen	n							
Year	Constituent	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile		Exceeding tion Level	Actio	. IMC	LG I	Units	Violatio	Likely Source of Contamination		
2024	Lead	<0.001		0 of 100	100 15		)	ppm	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits		
2024	Copper	0.003		0 of 100		1.	3	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; 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. 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.

Disinf	Disinfectant Residual											
Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MRDL	MCLG	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination			
2024	Chloramine	2.28	1.79	1.99	4	4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes			

Disin	Disinfectant By-Products											
Year	Constituent	High	Low	Max LRAA	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination			
2024	Total Trihalomethanes	73	26.4	65.5	80	NA	ppb	Ν	By-product of drinking water disinfection			
2024	Haloacetic Acids	17.5	4.4	14.6	60	NA	ppb	Ν	By-product of drinking water disinfection			

Total	Total Organic Carbon (TOC)											
Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MCL	MCLG	Units	Likely Source of Contamination				
2024	TOC (Raw Water)	3.92	3.04	3.48	TT	NA	ppm	Naturally occurring organic material. There is no health				
2024	TOC (Treated Water)	3.13	2.6	2.87	TT	NA	ppm	effect directly associated with TOC. Removal through treatment averaged 16.40%.				

Turb	idity								
Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
2024	Turbidity	0.16	0.02	0.065	0.3	NA	NTU	N	Soil runoff

Turbidity has no health effects. However, it 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.

Unre	Unregulated Contaminants												
Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	MCL	MCLG	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination				
2024	Dibromochloromethane	20	1.3	10.65	None Es	None Established		Z	Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining their occurrence in drinking water				
2024	Chloroform	5.0	<1.0	2.05	None Es	None Established		И					
2024	Bromoform	5.9	<1.0	3.4	None Established		ppb	Z					
2024	Bromodichloromethane	14	1.1	8.3	None Es	None Established		N	and if future regulation is warranted.				

Colif	Coliform Bacteria											
Year	Constituent	Highest % of Positive Samples	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination						
2024	Total Coliform	4.35%	5% of monthly samples are positive	Presence	Ν	Naturally present in the environment						
2024	Fecal Coliform	0	Routine or repeat sample is coliform positive, and one is also fecal positive	Presence	Ν	Naturally present in the 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, <u>E. coli</u>, 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 (<u>E. coli</u>) in drinking water may indicate recent contamination of the drinking water with fecal material.

Seco	Secondary and Other Constituents Not Regulated												
Year	Constituent	High	Low	Average	Secondary Limit	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination					
2024	Aluminum	0.0997	0.0997	00997	0.05-0.2	ppm	N	Naturally occurring element					
2024	Calcium	39.4	39.4	39.4	NA	ppm	N	Naturally occurring element					
2024	Chloride	80	48	64	300	ppm	Z	Naturally occurring element					
2024	рН	7.7	7.10	7.36	> 7.0	units	N	Measure of corrosivity of water					
2024	Sodium	41	41	41	NA	ppm	Z	Naturally occurring element					
2024	Sulfate	32	32	32	300	ppm	Z	Naturally occurring material					
2024	Hardness	358	184	271	NA	ppm	И	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium					
2024	Total Alkalinity	176	120	148	NA	ppm	Z	Naturally soluble mineral salts					
2024	Total Dissolved Solids	340	290	239	1000	ppm	N	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water					

#### **Definitions**

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

**Level 1 Assessment** – A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria were found.

**Level 2 Assessment** – A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an Escherichia coli (E. coli) MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria were found on multiple occasions.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) – The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for the control of microbial contaminants.

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.

**Treatment Technique (IT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

#### **Abbreviations**

LRAA - locational running annual average

MPN – most probable number per 100 milliliters

NA - 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 (ug/L)

ppm - parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppq – parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (pg/L)

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