

## Water Security:

Water Security is a shared responsibility involving water suppliers, wastewater utilities, government, law enforcement and citizens. We can all be involved in homeland security by playing an important role in protecting our critical water resources.

## Problem:

Local drinking water and wastewater systems may be targets for terrorists and other would-be criminals wishing to disrupt and cause harm to your community water supplies or wastewater facilities.

## Challenge:

Water utilities are often located in isolated areas. Drinking water sources and wastewater collection systems may cover large areas that are difficult to secure and patrol.

## Solution:

Residents can be educated to notice and report any suspicious activity, in and around local water utilities. Interested and dedicated citizens are essential to increase the security eyes and ears in your community.

## What Can You Do?

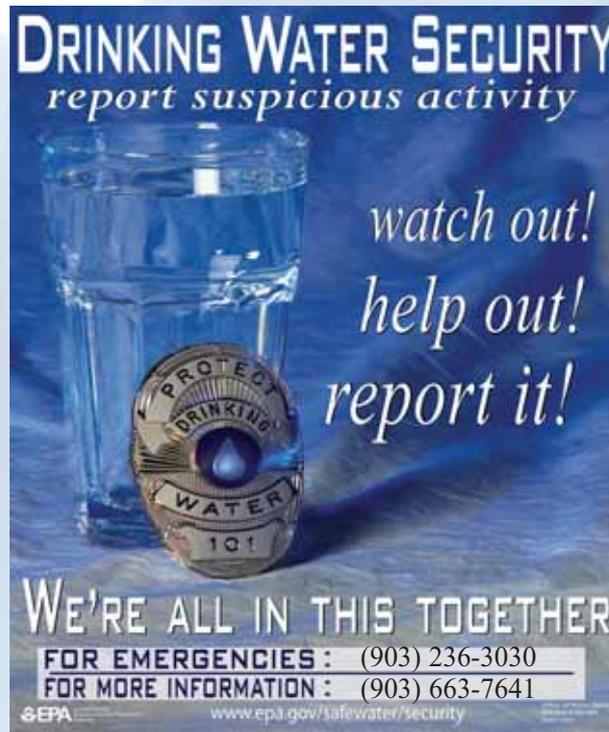
Form and operate a citizens watch network within your community to communicate regularly with law enforcement, your public water supplier, and wastewater operator. Communication is the key to a safer community!

- Be alert
- Become aware of your surroundings

## When Reporting an Incident:

- State the nature of the incident
- Identify yourself and your location
- Identify location of activity
- Describe any vehicle involved (color, make, model, license plate number)
- Describe the participants (how many, sex, race, color of hair, height, weight, clothing)

For more information on water security, visit:  
[www.epa.gov/safewater/security](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/security)



## Help Protect Your Local Water System

Local drinking water and wastewater systems may be targets for terrorists and other would-be criminals wishing to disrupt and cause harm to your community water supplies or wastewater facilities. Residents can help by noticing and reporting any suspicious activity in and around local water utilities.

## Contacts

City of Longview Water and Wastewater  
24-Hour Emergency Number: (903) 236-3030

Local Emergency Response: 911

Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
Region 5, Tyler: (903) 535-5100

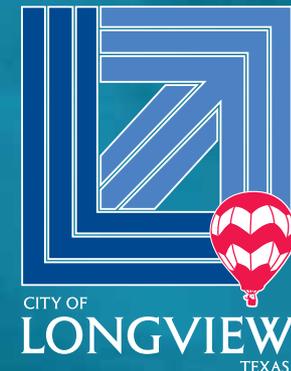
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality  
After Hours Emergency Number: (800) 832-8224

# 2003

## WATER QUALITY REPORT

*LONGVIEW...*

*Committed to Excellence*



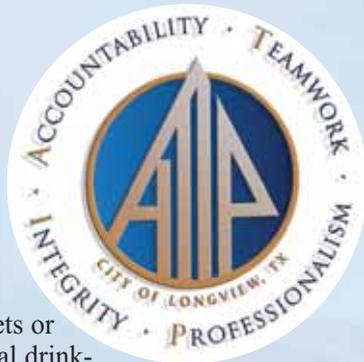
## Our Mark of Excellence

The City of Longview is once again proud to present to you our annual water quality report. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets or exceeds 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 City of Longview is 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. As you read this report, you will learn about where your water comes from and water quality data for the past year. 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.

## Community Participation

You are invited to attend the City Council meetings scheduled the second and fourth Thursday of each month. For more information about these meetings, call the City Secretary's Office at (903) 237-1080 or visit our website at [www.cityoflongview.com](http://www.cityoflongview.com) for agenda information.



## What's In the Water?

We are pleased to report that during the past year, the water delivered to your home or business complied with, or did better than, all state and federal drinking water requirements. We analyze water samples for bacteria, turbidity, inorganic contaminants, lead and copper, nitrate, volatile organic contaminants, total trihalomethanes, haloacetic acids, and synthetic organic contaminants. For your information, the tables inside list substances that were detected in our drinking water during the year. Although all of the substances listed are under the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) set by U.S. EPA, we believe it is important that you know exactly what was detected and how much of the substance was present in the water.

## 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, inorganic contaminants, pesticides and herbicides, and organic chemical contaminants. 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. 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.

## 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).

Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en espanol, favor de llamar al telefono (903) 237-1063.

## Contact Us for More Information

- Questions or concerns about water quality: (903) 663-7641
- To request information on water conservation or a speaker for your group: (903) 237-1034
- Questions about your water bill: (903) 237-1030
- Water and sewer emergency line: (903) 236-3030
- To report water pollution: (903) 753-4870
- To report suspicious activity: (903) 236-3030 or Local Emergency Response: 911
- E-mail: [wpurification@ci.longview.tx.us](mailto:wpurification@ci.longview.tx.us)

## REGULATED SUBSTANCES

Year	Constituent	Average	Range of Detected Levels	MCL	MCLG	Source of Contaminant
2003	Barium (ppm)	0.049	0.046 – 0.051	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
2003	Fluoride (ppm)	0.76	0.67 – 0.85	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth.
2003	Nitrate (ppm)	0.09	0.08 – 0.10	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
2003	Dinoseb (ppb)	ND	ND – 1.8	7	7	Runoff from herbicide used on soybeans and vegetables.
2003	Total Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	19.4	6.1 – 47.7	60	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
2003	Total Trihalo-methanes (ppb)	43.9	25.3– 83.6	80	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

Year	Constituent	The 90th Percentile	# of Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level	Source of Contaminant
2003	Lead (ppb)	0.8	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
2003	Copper (ppb)	0.029	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. The results listed above are distribution samples taken from customers' taps. Lead and copper have not been detected in water leaving the water treatment facilities. The source of lead and copper is corrosion of household plumbing systems.

Year	Constituent	Highest Single Measurement	Lowest Monthly % of Samples Meeting Limits	Turbidity Limit	Source of Contaminant
2003	Turbidity (NTU)	0.28	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).

## TABLE DEFINITIONS

### 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 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.

### 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.

### 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 detectable at testing limits.

## UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES: Disinfection By-Products

Year	Constituent	Average	Range	Source of Contaminant
2003	Chloroform (ppb)	22.7	4.9 - 61.8	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
2003	Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	12.6	8.0 - 18.7	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
2003	Chlorodibromomethane (ppb)	7.8	2.5 - 12.2	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

All three of these substances constitute the total trihalomethanes parameter listed above in the regulated contaminants. Total trihalomethanes are a by-product of chlorination and have an MCL of 80 ppb.

2003	Dichloroacetic (ppb)	11.7	3.6 - 31.5	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
2003	Trichloroacetic acid (ppb)	4.8	1.0 - 14.6	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
2003	Dibromoacetic acid (ppb)	3.0	1.4 - 4.9	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

All three of these substances constitute the total haloacetic acid parameter listed above in the regulated contaminants. Total haloacetic acids are a by-product of chlorination and have an MCL of 60 ppb.

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.

### City of Longview Distribution System

Under normal operating conditions, the Lake Cherokee, Sabine River, and Lake O' the Pines Water Treatment Plants treat and distribute water to elevated and ground storage tanks throughout the city. The east and southeast regions of Longview typically receive water from the Cherokee Water Treatment Plant. The west and southwest regions of Longview receive 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.

### Longview's Sources of Drinking Water

Longview uses surface water from three sources: Lake Cherokee, the Sabine River, and Lake O' the Pines. A source water assessment has been completed, and the report is available. It allows us to focus on our source water protection activities. To monitor water quality in local rivers, streams, and reservoirs, 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, and local industries to monitor the water quality.

### Best in Texas

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality rates Longview's water a "Superior Public Water Supply," the highest rating given by the State of Texas. On March 8, 2004, the Texas Water Utilities Association selected water from the Cherokee Water Treatment Plant as the best tasting surface water in the state. Longview has received numerous awards at the regional level and the "Best in Texas" award for drinking water five times in the last 11 years.



### Longview Continues To Improve Water Quality & Service

The City of Longview continually strives to improve water quality and service. A Vulnerability Assessment was completed in December as required by the Public Health Security and Bioterrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002. Modifications are currently being made to the Emergency Response Plan that will establish guidelines for water utility emergency planning and response.

Current capital improvement projects planned for the next year include the addition of a raw water reservoir at the Lake O' the Pines Water Treatment Plant, construction of a 1-million gallon elevated storage tower located on Loop 281 at Eastman Road, and distribution system improvements and modifications that will allow delivery of water from the Lake O' the Pines Water Treatment Plant to a broader section of the city.