



P.O. BOX 5096, JONESTOWN, TEXAS 78645

PHONE: (512) 267-7144

## JONESTOWN WATER SUPPLY CORPORATION

# Annual Water Quality Report for 2023

PWS ID: 2270011





## A Message From Your General Manager

Dear Community,

This is your annual report about your drinking water quality, also called a Consumer Confidence Report or CCR. Having clean, safe water is one of the most important services we provide, and we want you to be as informed as possible about your drinking water.

This report is intended to provide peace of mind and confidence in your drinking water. Here we explain where your water comes from, the results of sampling that we have performed, and what we are doing to protect you and your family. We are proud to report that the water we provide to you has met all federal and state requirements in 2023.

If upon reading this report, you have any questions, or don't feel that peace of mind, please reach out. You may contact us at (512) 267-7144 and [info@jonestownwsc.org](mailto:info@jonestownwsc.org).

Sincerely,

**John M Tichi, General Manager**

*P O Box 5096, Jonestown, TX 78645*

*(512) 267-7144*

[john@jonestownwsc.org](mailto:john@jonestownwsc.org)

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# About Your Water



## Where Your Drinking Water Comes From

Most drinking water in the United States comes from a river, a lake, or from an underground well. The water we provide to you comes from Lake Travis, which is surface water and is located in Travis County, TX.

## We Protect the Source

Making the water safe to drink starts by protecting the place it comes from. We work with state scientists to take samples of water at its source to look for possible pollutants. This is called a Source Water Assessment. The most recent one was completed in 2022. Please contact us at (512) 267-7144 or [info@jonestownwsc.org](mailto:info@jonestownwsc.org) if you would like more information about the assessment or view it here: [TCEQ - Drinking Water Watch \(texas.gov\)](https://www.tceq.texas.gov/DrinkingWaterWatch).

## What Is in 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which 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 which 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

## **Sampling and Testing**

We take 6 samples per month across our water system. We're looking for bacteria, metals, and chemicals to make sure the water continues to be safe to drink.

### **Bacteria**

We look for bacteria regularly, as required by law, and there are 20 locations in the water system where we take samples for analysis. More thorough testing, evaluation, and action is required if bacteria is found in even a small percentage of tests.

### **Disinfection by-products (Trihalomethane (THM) or Haloacetic Acids (HAA))**

Every quarter we look for byproducts of the disinfection process. When chloramines, the disinfectant we use to protect the water against bacteria and viruses, starts to break down in the water, it can form new compounds. These compounds, trihalomethanes (THM) and haloacetic acid (HAA), have been known to cause cancer at high levels. The legal limit for drinking water is 80 parts per billion and 60 parts per billion respectively. We test for these compounds at 3 different locations in the water system.

### **Lead and Copper**

We take water samples from twenty (20) different homes in our system every three (3) years to test them for lead and copper. The last lead and copper sampling was performed in 2021. The next sampling will occur in 2024. More information about lead and copper can be found on page 8.

## Your Water Meets All Standards

Here, we would like to highlight a few substances that we pay close attention to in our water because of their potential effects on public health:

<b>Lead</b> <i>Tested throughout the JWSC system. Testing is done every THREE years. Most recent tests were done in 2021.</i>	
<b>Amount We Found</b>	<b>XX ppb</b>
Ideal Goal (MCLG)	0.0 ppb
90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	3.2 ppb
Action Level	15 ppb
Source	Residences
<b>Violation</b>	<b>No</b>

<b>Copper</b> <i>Tested throughout the JWSC system. Testing is done every THREE years. Most recent tests were done in 2021.</i>	
<b>Amount We Found</b>	<b>XX ppm</b>
Ideal Goal (MCLG)	1.3 ppm
90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	0.53 ppm
Action Level	1.3 ppm
Source	Residences
<b>Violation</b>	<b>No</b>

<b>Total Trihalomethanes<sup>1</sup></b> <i>Tested throughout the JWSC system. Samples collected throughout the service area quarterly</i>	
<b>Amount We Found</b>	<b>XX ppb</b>
Ideal Goal (MCLG)	No goal for the total
Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	80 ppb
Lowest Amount Detected	42 ppb
Highest Amount Detected	55 ppb
Source	Sample sites
<b>Violation</b>	<b>No</b>

<b>Total Haloacetic Acids</b> <i>Tested throughout the JWSC system. Samples collected throughout the service area quarterly</i>	
<b>Amount We Found</b>	<b>XX ppb</b>
Ideal Goal (MCLG)	No goal for the total
Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	60 ppb
Lowest Amount Detected	10.4 ppb
Highest Amount Detected	14 ppb
Source	Sample sites
<b>Violation</b>	<b>No</b>

<sup>1</sup> Compliance is based on the running annual average at each location (LRAA). The Highest LRAA reflects the highest average at any location and the Range Detected reflects all samples used to calculate the running annual averages.

*MCLG: 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.*

*MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level: This is the highest level allowed of a pollutant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as possible to the goal using the best available technology.*

*PPM: Part Per Million = 1 drop of water in a hot tub*

*PPB - Part Per Billion = 1 drop of water in an Olympic size swimming pool*

## Stay Informed About Your Water

### Monthly Board Meetings

We need your understanding and support to be successful, so we hope you will get involved with us all the ways you can on projects, programs, and policies. You are welcome to attend our Board meetings. We meet on the **2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm at 10700 Crestview Drive, Jonestown, TX.** A meeting agenda is posted at our office and on our website before each meeting. We always make time to **hear** from our members so please join us to learn more about what we're working on. Your input is important to us!

Contact us at (512) 267-7144 or [info@jonestownwsc.org](mailto:info@jonestownwsc.org).

## Your Role in Water Quality

### Check Your Home or Business' Plumbing for Lead and Copper

We work hard to provide high quality water when it arrives on your property. Once the water we provide passes through the meter on your property, however, it is exposed to a whole new environment in your home that we have no control over. But you do.



Some of the things that can change the water quality on your property include your plumbing and pipe material, how long you go without running the water, and whether or how you connect outdoor hoses to your home's water supply. 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 Jonestown Water Supply Corporation is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking

steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## Run Water After Vacation

Another factor that affects water quality in your home is how “stale” the water is. When you leave your home or business for a long time, as you may when you take a vacation, the water in the pipes and plumbing doesn’t move. When water has been sitting in the pipes for days, bacteria can grow, and if you have lead or copper plumbing, those metals can start to seep into the water. The best thing to do when you get back from being away after a long time is to run the water on full blast for 30 seconds to two minutes before using it for drinking or cooking. **And always use cold water for cooking, to draw in fresh water from the outside.**



## Safely Connect Outdoor Hoses

A third factor that can influence water quality in your home are connections to your water outside your home. The outdoor spigot connection to a hose provides a potential way for pollutants to enter your plumbing. If you use the hose to spray chemicals on your yard by connecting the nozzle to a spray bottle, or if you have a sprinkler system connected, there is the potential for chemicals from the bottle or the lawn to be accidentally sucked back into your internal plumbing.

To prevent this from happening, the Jonestown Water Supply Corporation requires that you have a device – a hose bib vacuum breaker - installed on all outdoor hose bibs to prevent that from happening.

## Look Out for Special Populations

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

## Additional Resources

- Information on lead in drinking water: [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead)
- Requirements of the Water Quality Report (also known as the Consumer Confidence Report): [http://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/201405/documents/guide\\_qrg\\_ccr\\_2011.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/201405/documents/guide_qrg_ccr_2011.pdf)
- The Safe Drinking Water Act: [www.epa.gov/sdwa](http://www.epa.gov/sdwa)
- CDC Guide to Understanding your CCR: [http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/public/understanding\\_ccr.html](http://www.cdc.gov/healthywater/drinking/public/understanding_ccr.html)
- American Water Works Association: <http://www.awwa.org>
- Water Environment Federation: <http://www.wef.org>
- Groundwater Information: <https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis> and <http://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/>
- Texas State health department: [Texas Department of State Health Services \(DSHS\)](http://www.dshs.texas.gov)



# Information about Source Water for 2023

ALL SAMPLES WERE TAKEN IN 2023 UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

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 are 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 the Jonestown Water Supply Corporation at (512) 267-7144.

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and younger 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>.

**Lead and Copper – Tested throughout the JWSC system. Testing is done every three (3) years. Most recent tests were done in 2021.**

Item Detected	EPA's AL - for a representative sampling of customer homes	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	90% of customers' homes were less than	Violation	Source
Lead	15	0 ppb	3.2 ppb	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (from our source)	1.3	1.3 ppm	0.53 ppm	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

*MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level: This is the highest level allowed of a pollutant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as possible to the goal using the best available technology.*

*MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: The goal level of a pollutant in drinking water. Below this amount, there is no known or expected health effect.*

*PPB - Part Per Billion = 1 drop of water in an Olympic size swimming pool*

*PPM - Part Per Million = 1 drop of water in a hot tub*

## Inorganic Chemicals (IOC) – JWSC monitors for IOC more often than required by EPA.

Chemicals Detected	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Highest Result	Range of Test Results for the Year	Violation	Source
Arsenic	2 ppb	0 ppb	10 ppb	2 - 2 ppb	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	2 ppm	2 ppm	0.0625 ppm	0.0625 -0.0625 ppm	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide	200 ppb	200 ppb	30 ppb	30 - 30 ppb	NO	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories
Fluoride	4.0 ppm	4 ppm	0.2 ppm	0.22 – 0.22 ppm	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer an aluminum factories
Nitrate	10 ppm	10 ppm	0.15 ppm	0.15 – 0.15 ppm	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits

Radioactive Contaminants - Collection date: 2021	Highest Level Allowed (MCL)	Ideal Goal (MCLG)	Highest Result	Range of Test Results for the Year	Violation	Source
Beta/photon emitters	50 pCi/L*	0	4.6	4.6 – 4.6	NO	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
*EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.						
Combined Radium 226/228	5 pCi/L*	0	1.5	1.5 – 1.5	NO	Erosion of natural deposits

**MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level:** This is the highest level allowed of a pollutant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as possible to the goal using the best available technology.

**MCLG - Maximum Contaminant Level Goal:** The goal level of a pollutant in drinking water. Below this amount, there is no known or expected health effect.

PPB - Part Per Billion = 1 drop of water in an Olympic size swimming pool

PPM - Part Per Million = 1 drop of water in a hot tub

## Disinfectant Residual – We use chloramines as our method of disinfectant.

Disinfectant Residual	Average level	Range of Levels Detected	MRDL	MRDLG	Unit of measure	Violation	Source
Distribution	2.2	1.1 – 2.9	4	4	ppm	NO	Water additive used to control microbes

PPM - Part Per Million = 1 drop of water in a hot tub

**Total Organic Carbon** – The percentage of Total Organic Carbon (TOC) removal was measured each month and the system met all TOC removal requirements set, unless a TOC violation is noted in the violations section.

**Turbidity** – A measurement of the cloudiness of the water caused by suspended particles. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality and the effectiveness of our filtration system and disinfectants.

	Level detected	Limit (Treatment Technique)	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Highest single measurement	0.27 NTU	1 NTU	NO	Soil runoff.
Lowest monthly % meeting limit	100%	0.3 NTU	NO	Soil runoff.

NTU - Nephelometric Turbidity Units: Turbidity is measured with an instrument called a nephelometer. Measurements are given in nephelometric turbidity units.

## Disinfection By-products

	Highest Level Allowed (MCL) - One Year Average	Maximum Locational Running Annual Average (Year)	System Wide Range of Results	Violation	Source
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs)	80 ppb	56 ppb	45.8 – 55.9 ppm	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Haloacetic Acids (THAAs)	60 ppb	14 ppb	10.6 – 15.8 ppb	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection

TTHMs - Total Trihalomethanes

THAAs - Total Haloacetic Acids

MCL - Maximum Contaminant Level: This is the highest level allowed of a pollutant in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as possible to the goal using the best available technology.

PPB - Part Per Billion = 1 drop of water in an Olympic size swimming pool

PPM - Part Per Million = 1 drop of water in a hot tub

## Definitions

ACRONYMS	DEFINITIONS
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.
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.
TT	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal: This is the lowest amount of cleaning chemical drinking water should have, because it is the lowest amount needed to make sure bacteria and viruses can't live.
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.
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.
mg/L	Number of milligrams in one liter of water
pCi/L	Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
NA	Not applicable
ND	Not detected
NR	Monitoring not required, but recommended
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units: Turbidity is measured with an instrument called a nephelometer. Measurements are given in nephelometric turbidity units.
PPM	Part Per Million= 1 drop of water in a hot tub
PPB	Part Per Billion = 1 drop of water in an Olympic size swimming pool
PPT	Part Per Trillion (ppt) = 1 drop of water in a lake that's 6 square acres

## En español

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre éste informe en español, contáctenos por correo electrónico a [info@jonestownwsc.org](mailto:info@jonestownwsc.org) o por teléfono al (512) 267-7144.

# APPENDIX:

## **Not All Substances in the Water Have Official Health Limits**

In this report, we share the data for all the substances we monitor as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). The law doesn't specify a limit for every potential substance that could be found in the water, so the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is constantly studying new potential pollutants (they call them unregulated contaminants) to determine what their effects are on our health, and at what levels, to determine where to set limits for them.

## **VIOLATIONS – The JWSC had no violations in 2023.**

### **Information on specific contaminants Cryptosporidium, Radon, Arsenic, Nitrate and TTHMs**

#### **Cryptosporidium**

Cryptosporidiosis or “Crypto” is a disease that causes mild to severe diarrhea. It comes from a microscopic parasite, Cryptosporidium, that can live in the intestine of humans and animals and be passed in the stool of an infected person or animal. The parasite is protected by an outer shell, an oocyst, that allows it to survive outside the body for long periods of time. This makes it very resistant to the type of disinfectant we use to clean the water. During the past two decades, Crypto has become recognized as one of the most common causes of waterborne disease (recreational water and drinking water) in humans in the United States. The parasite is found in every region of the United States and throughout the world.

There are currently no accurate ways for detecting Crypto in the water supply at the very low levels that cause sickness. Therefore, EPA does not require testing for the Crypto parasite unless concentrations in the water before treatment exceed 10 oocysts per liter.

Symptoms of a Crypto infection include nausea, diarrhea, and stomach cramps. Most healthy people are able to recover from the disease within a few weeks. However, some immunocompromised people (such as those with AIDS, undergoing chemotherapy or recent organ transplant recipients) are at a greater risk of developing a severe, life-threatening illness. Immunocompromised persons should contact their doctor to learn about appropriate precautions to prevent infection.

**Radon** is a naturally occurring gas present in some groundwater. Radon may pose a risk to your health if you inhale it once it is released from water into the air. This could occur during showering, bathing, washing dishes, or washing clothes. The radon gas released from drinking water is a relatively small part of the total radon naturally found in air. One major source of radon gas is from the soil, where the gas can seep through the foundations of homes. It is not clear whether ingested (i.e., taken through the mouth) radon contributes to cancer or other adverse health conditions. If you are concerned about radon in your home, tests are available to

determine the total exposure level. For additional information on home testing, contact State Radon Officer Ruben Cortez with the Texas Department of State Health Services at (800) 293-0753 or (512) 834-6672.

**Arsenic** is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health issues, such as skin damage and circulatory problems. While your drinking water meets EPA's standard 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.

**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.

**Trihalomethanes** are compounds that can form in water over time when the chlorine used for disinfectant breaks down. 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.