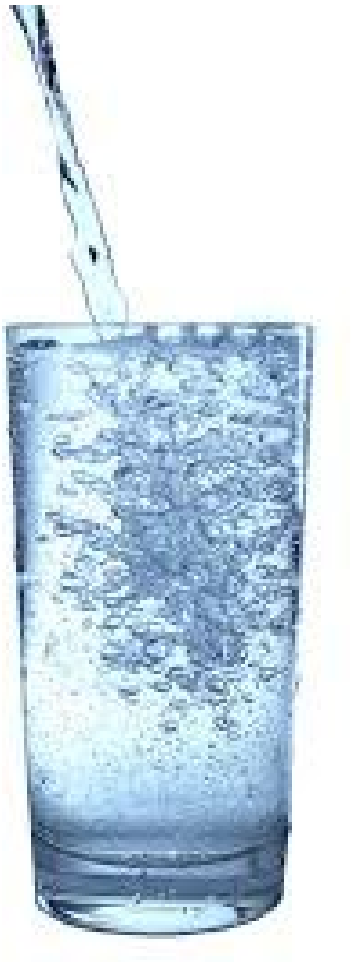
2023
Consumer Confidence Report
Annual Drinking
Water Quality Report



Bright Star-Salem
Special Utility District
903-765-2701

PWS ID: 2500015

Our Drinking Water Is Regulated

Bright Star-Salem Special Utility District is pleased to share this report with you. This report is a summary of the quality of water we provide our customers. The 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. The analysis covers January 1 through December 31, 2023, and was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

Bright Star-Salem SUD uses both surface water and ground water. In 2023 our water district pumped a total of 117,291,800 gallons of groundwater, and 47,699,000 gallons of surface water with a total annual water loss of 9.75%.

Source of Drinking Water

The sources of all 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 byproducts 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

We have two primary water sources. The first source is ground water. We have 10 active water wells approximately 350' deep located in the Carizzo Wilcox Aquifer. Our second source is surface water from Lake Fork Reservoir. It is treated by means of sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection to remove harmful contaminants. The Ground water supplies the Alba, Salem, Pleasant Ridge, Bright Star and Colony communities including US Hwy 69, State Hwy 182, and parts of FM Hwy 17 North. **Surface water is supplied to customers located in Steamboat Shores, Lake Fork Estates, Dream Hills, Bent Fork, The Ranch, Stonebriar, Lake Fork Marina, Paradise Forest, Little Mustang Cove, and all residents located off Rains County Road 3330 and Hwy 515. If you are unsure of your water source, please contact our office and we can tell you if you are receiving ground water or surface water. We do not mix or blend the two sources of water.**

All Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants

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. 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 in drinking water, please contact the system's business office.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Lead and Drinking Water

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. Bright Star-Salem Special Utility District 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 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 www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Cryptosporidium and Drinking Water

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; persons 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).

Unregulated Contaminants

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 the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. Any unregulated contaminants detected are reported in this table. For additional information and data visit http://www.epa.gov/safewater/ucmr/ucmr2/index.html or call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

For More Information About Bright Star-Salem Special Utility District

If you have questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Wanda Gaby, General Manager, by calling (903) 765-2701 or writing to: 238 N. Osborn, Alba, TX 75410. You may also send email to brightstarsud@yahoo.com. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. *You can attend public meetings on the fourth Monday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in the District Office. Find out more at our website: www.brightstarwater.com.*

2023 Monitoring Results

Year	Contaminant (Unit of Measure)	BRIGHT STAR SUD Highest	BRIGHT STAR SUD Range	MCL	MCLG	Source of Contaminant
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (NO VIOLATIONS REPORTED)						
2016	Antimony	0.29	0.29 – 0.29	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics, solder, test addition.
2023	Barium (ppm)	0.079	0.027 – 0.079	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
2021	Chromium (ppb)	4.1	1.2 – 4.1	100	100	Discharge from steel & pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits.
2023	Cyanide (ppb)	26.2	0 – 26.2	200	200	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories.
2023	Fluoride (ppm)	0.254	0.0328-0.254	4.0	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
2023	Nitrate (Measured as Nitrogen) (ppm)	0.145	0.0197-0.145	10	10	Run off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
2023	Nitrite (measured as Nitrogen) (ppm)	0.0254	254 – 0.0254	1	1	Run off from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
DISINFECTANTS AND DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS (NO VIOLATIONS) **The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all HAA5 sample results collected at a location over a year.**						
2023	Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	16	8.6 – 19.7	60	No Goal for the total	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.
2023	Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	54	25.8 - 66	80	No Goal for the total	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.
VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS (NO VIOLATIONS)						
2017	Ethylbenzene (ppb)	0.694	0 – 0.694	700	700	Discharge from petroleum refineries.
2021	Xylenes (ppm)	0.00051	0 – 0.00051	10	10	Discharge from petroleum factories. Discharge from chemical factories.
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS (NO VIOLATIONS) ***EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.)**						
3/22/2022	Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L)	1.5	1.5 – 1.5	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits.
2023	Beta/photon emitters (pC/L*)	5	5 - 5	50	0	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
LEAD AND COPPER (NO VIOLATIONS)						
9/12/2022	Lead (ppb) no violation	1.5 (90th percentile)	All sites below AL of 15		15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
9/12/2022	Copper (ppm) no violation	0.302 (90^{th}) percentile	All sites below AL of 1.3	0	1.3	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.

TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON

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

2023 Monitoring Result

MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL (Ground Water Only)

	Contaminant (Unit of Measure)	Bright Star SUD		MRDL	MRDLG	Source of Contaminant
		Average	Range			
2023	Chlorine Residual (Groundwater) (ppm) measured as free	1.07	0.45 – 2.01	4.0	<4.0	Disinfectant used to control microbes

MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL (Surface Water Only)

	Contaminant (Unit of Measure)	Bright Star SUD		MRDL	MRDLG	Source of Contaminant
		Average	Range			
2023	Chlorine and Ammonia Residual [Chloramines] (ppm) measured as total (Surface Water)	2.50	0.80 – 4.0	4.0	<4.0	Disinfectant used to control microbes

Synthetic Organic Contaminants (including pesticides and herbicides) (NO VIOLATIONS REPORTED)

Date		Bright Star SUD		Source of Contaminant
		Highest Level	Sample Range	
2020	Atrazine	0.1	0.1 – 0.1	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.
	Measured as ppb	MCLG - 3	MCL - 3	

MAXIMUM TURBIDITY (Surface Water Only) (NO VIOLATIONS REPORTED)

		Bright Star SUD		Source of Contaminant
		Limit	Level Detected	
2023	Highest Single Measurement	1 NTU	0.28 NTU	Soil Runoff.
	Lowest monthly % meeting limit.	0.3 NTU	100%	Soil Runoff

Turbidity is 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 process.

Source Water Assessment

TCEQ completed an assessment of your source water, and results indicate that some of our sources are susceptible to certain contaminants. The sampling for your water system is based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detections of these contaminants will be found in this Consumer Confidence Water Quality Report. For more information on source water assessments and protection efforts at our system please contact Wanda Gaby, General Manager at 903-765-2701. The information contained in the assessment allows us to focus source water protection strategies.

Further details about sources and source water assessments are available in Drinking Water Watch at the following URL: http://dww.tceq.texas.gov/DWW.

The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though accurate, is more than one year old.

VIOLATIONS

Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR

The Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) seeks to prevent waterborne diseases caused by E. coli. E.Coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Human pathogens in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a greater health risk for infants, and young children.

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation
Monitoring, Routine, Minor (RTCR)	07/01/2023	07/31/2023	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.

**** Each month we are required to submit 8 water samples from our distribution system for bacteriological testing. During the month of July 2023, we only submitted 7 water samples. This failure to submit the required number of samples requires this public notification. Since that time, we have submitted the correct number of samples each month, and have initiated a better checks and balance system to make sure the correct samples are submitted. We apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused.**

Ground Water Source Water Name

1 – CR 1540 / Salem	Ground Water	Active Well	Wood County
10 – RCR 3388 / Hass	Ground Water	Active Well	Rains County
11 – RCR 3380 / Shipp	Ground Water	Active Well	Rains County
13 – WCR 1570 / McKenzie	Ground Water	Active Well	Wood County
14 – FM 514 / Lynn	Ground Water	Active Well	Rains County
15 – FM 514 / Spinks	Ground Water	Active Well	Rains County
3 - Hwy 182 Front	Ground Water	Active Well	Wood County
4 – Hwy 182 Back	Ground Water	Active Well	Wood County
5 – Bright Star Main	Ground Water	Active Well	Rains County
6 – BS Booster Well	Ground Water	Active Well	Rains County

SURFACE WATER SOURCE

1 – Intake	Surface Water	Active Intake	Rains County

DEFINITIONS

We routinely monitor for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. In the tables on this page you might find terms and abbreviations you are not familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

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

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 is 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 a problem has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.*

Maximum Contaminant Level (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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (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.

MFL – million fibers per liter. (a measure of asbestos)

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 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.

N/A – not applicable.

Mrem: millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)
ND – not detected.
NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units.
Parts per billion (ppb) – micrograms per liter (µg/l) or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water.
Parts per million (ppm) – milligrams per liter (mg/l) or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water.
Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) – a measure of radioactivity
Parts per trillion (ppt) - or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
Parts per quadrillion (ppq) – or pictograms per liter (pg/L)
Treatment Technique (TT) – a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
90th Percentile – 90% of samples are equal to or less than the number in the chart.

En Español

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tiene preguntas o comentarios sobre éste informe en español, favor de llamar al tel. (903) 765-2701 – para hablar con una persona bilingüe en española