JAN. 1 - DEC. 31
2024

WATER QUALITY REPORT

GEORGETOWN TEXAS

2024 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report
City of Georgetown Water Utility - PWS ID TX2460001

The City of Georgetown is committed to providing safe drinking water to our customers. Some of the efforts we have undertaken to meet that commitment include water conservation efforts and capital improvement projects in the community.

Special Notice

You may be more vulnerable than the general population to certain microbial contaminants, such as Cryptosporidium, in drinking water. Infants, some elderly, or immune-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 at 800-426-4791.

En español

Este reporte incluye información importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, por favor llame al 512-930-3640.

About Georgetown's Water

Where your drinking water comes from.

Georgetown Water customers receive their drinking water from both surface water and ground water sources. Our surface water is primarily supplied through a contract with the Brazos River Authority (BRA) and comes from Lake Georgetown and Lake Stillhouse.

Georgetown Water Utility also contracts water from other utilities and sources. We'd like to provide transparency into those water sources.

- Water contracted from Lake Travis through the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) is treated by the City of Leander and the City of Round Rock prior to interconnecting with Georgetown Water Utility.
- Water from Lake Georgetown is also treated by the City of Round Rock prior to interconnecting with Georgetown Water Utility.

Treatment Reliability

Our drinking water meets or surpasses all Federal (EPA) drinking water requirements. This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide customers. The analyses were made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required tests. The City of Georgetown Water Utility sets treatment goals and quality standards that are beyond the minimum state and federal regulatory requirements to provide superior drinking water.

Protecting Your Drinking Water

The City of Georgetown Water Utility's highest priority is providing safe drinking water to our customers. We collect and test samples at our treatment plants and across our water system multiple times a day, every day, for bacteria and chemicals that could pose a risk to our customers. Additional efforts we have undertaken to meet our commitment to provide safe drinking water include:

Water Conservation Efforts

Conservation in the summer months continues to be especially important for Georgetown Water Utility customers due to on-going drought in the region. The use of drinking water for irrigation on turf grass is an unsustainable practice. The City of Georgetown water conservation team works year-round to educate water customers on sustainable water use practices such as planting native, drought-tolerant landscaping and grasses. They do this through education events, community engagement, and rebate incentives throughout the year and by assisting customers with rebate applications. The team also leads violation enforcement.

The City of Georgetown has adopted a watering schedule in accordance with our Water Conservation Plan. All City water customers are required to follow the adopted irrigation schedule based on the last digit of your address number. Watering with a hand-held hose or bucket can be done on any day.

Violations of these restrictions may result in fines. Learn more about the City's water conservation initiatives and capital improvement projects at georgetowntexas.gov/water.

No irrigation on Mondays

The City of Georgetown asks water customers to not use irrigation systems on Mondays. Refraining from irrigating on Mondays allows for vital system maintenance and recovery. This further ensures quality drinking water will be available to all customers.

Leak detection

Customers are encouraged to report water leaks in the community by contacting Customer Care at 512-930-3640. The City also can identify continuous usage with AMI meters to help customers resolve leaks within their systems.

Water loss

The American Water Works Association and Texas Water Development Board establish industry standards for water loss, known as the Infrastructure Leak Index or ILI. Water loss is a function of leakage from the mains and fixtures and a utility's ILI is scaled to take into account the number of connections and the miles of mains in the system. ILI is not affected by water use or population, which varies from city to city. For a utility the size of City of Georgetown Water, an ILI of between 3 and 5 is considered appropriate. Georgetown Water's ILI for 2024 was 1.45. Contact customer care 512-930-3640 or by emailing customercare@georgetowntexas.gov for more information.

Finished drinking water testing

Annual maintenance is conducted on every fire hydrant in the city, as well as other service points, to flush and cycle water throughout the system, so water remains fresh at all points in our service area.

Backflow prevention

The use of drinking water in many industrial processes requires the use of a functioning and properly tested backflow-prevention device. These devices prevent the inadvertent introduction of hazardous materials into the drinking water system by preventing flow of material in the reverse direction. Each device must be tested at least annually with the test results reported to the City of Georgetown Water Utility.

Drinking Water: Understanding Potential Contaminants

The sources of drinking water nationwide (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 before treatment include microbes, inorganic contaminants, pesticides, herbicides, radioactive contaminants, and organic chemical contaminants.

Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Turbidity, which has no health effects, can interfere with disinfection, and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, and farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential use.
- Radioactive contaminants, which are naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations that limit certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration 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 cause 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.

Substance (Sampled in 2024 unless noted differently)	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)	City of Georgetown Drinking Water			Ideal Goals (EPA's MCLG)	Possible Sources
		Low	High	Average		
Barium (ppm) (2024)	2	0.0352	0.0556	0.043	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide (ppb) (2024)	200	0	100	42.7	200	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories.
Fluoride (ppm) (2024)	4	0.09	0.2	0.55	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm) (2024)	10	0.09	3.12	0.88	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Turbidity (NTU) (2024)	TT - 95% of monthly samples must be ≤ 0.3 NTU & no sample can be > 1 NTU	0.02	0.14	0.06	Not applicable	Soil runoff.
Disinfection By-Products						
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb) (2024)	60	3.8	25.8	15.4	Not applicable	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
		Highest LRAA* = 21				
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb) (2024)	80	21.9	56.5	45.3	Not applicable	
		Highest LRAA* = 51				

*LRAA = Locational Running Annual Average
**The value in the Highest Level or Average Detected column is the highest average of all TTHM sample results collected at a location over a year

Bacteria						
Coliform (2024)	Total Coliform MCL		Total Coliform	Fecal Coliform		Naturally present in the environment.
	Presence in 5% or more of the monthly samples.		1.60%	0 positive of 120 samples		
Total Organic Carbon						
Source Water Total Organic Carbon (Surface/Ground) (ppm) (2024)	None established	3.09	3.73	3.35	Not applicable	Naturally present in the environment.
		0.91	1.24	1.02		
Treated Water Total Organic Carbon (Surface/Ground) (ppm) (2024)	None established	2.42	3.3	2.91	Not applicable	Naturally present in the environment.
		0.86	1.05	0.99		
Synthetic Organic Contaminants						
Atrazine (ppb) (2024)	3	0	0.1	0.05	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops.
Radioactive Contaminants						
Uranium (mg/L) (2024)	0.03	0.0011	0.0011	0.0011	0	
Lead and Copper Rule - Testing is done at customer taps. Testing is done every 3 years.						
Copper (ppm) (2023)	AL = 1.3	90% of all samples tested were < 0.18. None exceeded 1.3		1.3		Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead (ppb) (2023)	AL = 15	90% of all samples tested were < 2.2. One sample exceeded 15.		0		Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

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 the following table. For additional information and data visit epa.gov or call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Substance (Sampled in 2023 unless noted differently)	Highest Level Allowed (EPA's MCL)	City of Georgetown Drinking Water			Ideal Goals (EPA's MCLG)	Possible Sources
		Low	High	Average		
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	Not Regulated Individually	4.9	21.5	14.8	0	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	Not Regulated Individually	7.4	19.4	15.2	60	
Chloroform (ppb)	Not Regulated Individually	2	16.8	8.7	70	
Bromoform (ppb)	Not Regulated Individually	2.4	12.3	6.6	0	
Dichloroacetic acid (ppb)	Not Regulated Individually	1.8	15	7.3	0	
Trichloroacetic acid (ppb)	Not Regulated Individually	1.1	5.4	3.3	20	
Monobromoacetic acid (ppb)	Not Regulated Individually	< 1	< 1	< 1	No MCLG	
Dibromoacetic acid (ppb)	Not Regulated Individually	2	9.9	5.5	No MCLG	
Bromochloroacetic acid (ppb)	Not Regulated	2.1	12.1	7.4	No MCLG	
Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule - UCMR5 (2023-2024)						
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid - PFOA (ppt)	4.0 ppt	0.0	4.9	0.2	0	PFAS are a group of synthetic chemicals used in a wide range of consumer products and industrial applications including: nonstick cookware, water-repellent clothing, stain resistant fabrics and carpets, cosmetics, firefighting foams, electroplating, and products that resist grease, water, and oil
Perfluorooctanoic acid - PFOS (ppt)	4.0 ppt	0.0	5.7	0.7	0	
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid - PFHxS (ppt)	10.0 ppt	0.0	4.7	1.9	10	
Perfluorohexanoic acid - PFHxA (ppt)	Not Regulated	0.0	10.1	2.0	N/A	
Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid - PFBS (ppt)	Not Regulated Individually	0.0	9.6	5.2	N/A	
Perfluorobutanoic acid - PFBA (ppt)	Not Regulated	0.0	33.8	7.1	N/A	
Perfluoropentanoic acid - PFPeA (ppt)	Not Regulated	0.0	18.7	4.9	N/A	
Lithium (ppb)	Not Regulated	0.0	17.4	6.8	N/A	

Table Key

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.

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
The highest permissible level of a contaminant in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's 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 health risk. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

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 contamination.

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

NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units.

TT = Treatment Technique
A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
MFL = million fibers per liter (a measure of asbestos)
ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l).
ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l).
ppt = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter.
ppq = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter.
pCi/L = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
N/A = not applicable.

Public Notice - Monitoring and Reporting Violation

SURFACE WATER MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR

The City of Georgetown, PWS ID 19012, has violated the monitoring and reporting requirements set by Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in Title 30, Texas Administrative Code (30 TAC), Section 290, Subchapter F. Public water systems that treat surface water and/or ground water under the direct influence of surface water are required to submit monthly operating reports with operational data of the treatment, disinfection and quality of the water provided to their customers.

We failed to monitor and/or report the following constituents _DIT was not triggered after two high turbidity readings within a 10 min period.

This/These violation(s) occurred in the monitoring period(s) 08/28/2024

Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water is safe. We did not complete all monitoring and/or reporting for surface water constituents, and therefore TCEQ cannot be sure of the safety of your drinking water during that time.

We are taking the following actions to address this issue: DIT was performed the following morning when the incident was first noticed. Samples were taken and analyzers monitored to ensure that no high turbidity water was sent into the distribution system. Additional training and coaching with staff on proper procedure for manual operation of microfiltration trains.

Please share this information with all people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (i.e., people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

If you have questions regarding this matter, you may contact the City of Georgetown Water Treatment division at 512-930-3565

Posted /Delivered on: April 28, 2025

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)

PFAS (Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances), are a group of man-made chemicals that have been used in a variety of industries for decades. They are known for their water and grease-resistant properties and have been found in numerous consumer products, as well as commercial and industrial products. These products can make their way into streams and groundwater and have been used in products since the 1950s.

Exposure to PFAS has been linked to deadly cancers, impacts to the liver and heart, and immune and developmental damage to infants and children. On April 10, 2024, the federal government issued the first-ever national drinking water standard to protect communities from exposure to harmful PFAS chemicals. This final rule represents the most significant step to protect public health under EPA's PFAS Strategic Roadmap. The final rule will reduce PFAS exposure for about 100 million people, prevent thousands of deaths, and reduce tens of thousands of serious illnesses.

The City of Georgetown is committed to complying with the new regulations and is following the guidelines provided by the EPA. As new technology becomes available, we will continue to test and work with TCEQ and design consultants to make any necessary adjustments to our water system. In April 2025, council authorized a contract with engineering firm Freese & Nichols to identify which treatment method best fits within our current infrastructure at the San Gabriel water treatment plant, along with some additional testing. The firm is expected to have a recommendation within the next year, after which the City will pilot the method to confirm its effectiveness.

The City of Georgetown began participating in the EPA's fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR 5) study in 2023 and began sampling for PFAS chemicals in June of that year.

Public water systems have five years (by 2029) to implement solutions that reduce PFAS chemicals if monitoring shows that drinking water levels exceed regulatory limits.

Public water systems must monitor for PFAS chemicals and have three years to complete initial monitoring (by 2027), followed by ongoing compliance monitoring. Water systems must also provide the public with information on the levels of PFAS chemicals in their drinking water beginning in 2027.

Our top priority is the safety and well-being of our customers. While these new regulations may require some adjustments to our operations, please rest assured that we are working diligently to maintain the quality and safety of our water supply.

Check your home or businesses' plumbing 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 Georgetown Water Utility is responsible for providing high quality drinking water. However, the Water Utility cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. A good strategy to protect against lead is to identify and replace potential sources of lead on private property. A plumber can advise on the type of pipes in your home or business. Some common sources of lead can include pipes, solder, brass plumbing fixtures, faucets, and pipe fittings. These lead sources are more likely to be found in homes and buildings built before 1986.

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 at 800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

The City finished a lead service line inventory in 2024. See more information below.

Growth in Georgetown

In 2022, the City began updating its long-term water and wastewater planning to address faster-than-anticipated growth, modify long-term needs, and recommend steps for securing the additional water sources necessary to meet those needs in the coming years and decades.

Finalized and released publicly in May 2023, the Integrated Water Resource Plan (IWRP) concluded the total baseline demand for water in Georgetown's more than 400-square-mile service area—including water used for irrigation—will exceed our current water supply by 2030.

The utility's current water sources are expected to continue to supply the city in the coming decades, but the population in our utility's service area is projected to grow significantly. Without a significant new supply, the utility will not run out of water in 2030, but it would most likely have to impose system-wide water restrictions on irrigation year-round with even tighter restrictions during periods of drought.

To prevent those types of restrictions, the City is actively working to acquire more water from multiple suppliers. This water will be sourced from the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer, one of the most prolific aquifers in Texas that is close to home.

The current water rates were adjusted Oct. 1, 2024. The City anticipates increasing rates annually for the next five years, primarily to pay for increasing costs and for additional treatment and supply capacity. For a detailed description of water rates, tier rates, and irrigation schedule, please visit georgetowntexas.gov/water.

Capital improvement: Investing in Our Future

Potential New Water Supply Projects

With little additional water supply available from the Edwards Aquifer and the local lakes that have traditionally supplied the majority of Georgetown's water, the City is pursuing potential long-term water supply agreements with two companies that could provide groundwater from the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer.

- **EPCOR**: In August 2023, the City entered into a two-year reservation agreement with EPCOR to reserve rights to water while the parties negotiate a water supply agreement. If the parties execute a water supply agreement, EPCOR would build an 80-mile pipeline to deliver water from the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer in Robertson County. The partnership contemplates Georgetown receiving about 32 million to 55 million gallons per day of treated groundwater (39,399-70,000-acre feet).
- **GateHouse**: In December 2024, the City entered into a 30-year agreement with GateHouse Water, LLC, to purchase 18,500-acre feet of groundwater per year from the Simsboro formation of the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer in Lee County. At the end of the initial term, the City will have the option to purchase the project at no cost or to extend the term at a reduced water price. The parties will jointly build the 36-mile pipeline from the GateHouse well field in Lee County to the City's service area, with the City to build 28 miles of pipeline and GateHouse to build the wellfield, collection lines, and 8 miles of pipeline to the interconnection point.

South Lake Water Treatment Plant

The City of Georgetown broke ground on the South Lake Water Treatment Plant on May 10, 2022. The new plant will double the treatment capacity of the water utility

with planned construction completion in two phases from 2025-2026. The new plant will be located on the south side of Lake Georgetown, near Cedar Breaks Park. The new treatment plant will allow Georgetown to continue to meet the water demands of a growing community.

North Lake Water Treatment Plant expansion

The $11.7 million expansion of the North Lake Water Treatment Plant was completed in spring 2024. The project increased plant capacity by 30 percent to 37.4 million gallons per day.

Southside Water Treatment Plant rehabilitation

The Southside Water Treatment Plant rehabilitation was completed in early 2024, adding 3.6 million gallons per day of treatment capacity to our water system.

Water service line inventory

In 2022-2024, Georgetown Water Utility staff assessed the water service lines for all water utility customers, which involved reviewing utility records and the age of homes. For more than 4,000 houses where the service line material status was not clear, utility staff conducted a physical inspection on both the City (public) and customer (private) sides of the meter by opening the water meter box to inspect water lines.

A map linked on our website shows the Georgetown Water Utility service area with an indication of the status of the material in the service line for each residence. Most were determined to have no lead in the water service line, and 165 houses were found to have water service lines with galvanized steel or with unknown material. All but two of the 165 houses are east of I-35. Notifications were mailed to the 165 property owners in late 2024. Learn more and access the map here.

Thanks to Our Customers

We'd like to say thank you to all our customers who provide valuable feedback, such as reporting leaks. If you see issues or areas where we can improve, please let us know at 512-930-3640 or by emailing customercare@georgetowntexas.gov.

Public Participation Opportunities

Learn more about your water utility at georgetowntexas.gov/water. Follow the City's Facebook page and subscribe to the City's Weekly Email Newsletter for regular news and updates on the Water Utility.