

Notice of Acute Surface Water Turbidity Violation

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sets minimum water quality standards for public drinking water. One of these standards is a turbidity limit. Turbidity by itself has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may also indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches. These symptoms can be particularly severe in people who are not as resistant to infections as most of the population. If you experience severe symptoms, please consult with your doctor to determine what actions you should take.

The City of Marshall, Texas Water Treatment Facility failed to meet the minimum treatment technique requirements on November 13th, 14th, and 15th. Specifically, the turbidity level of our treated water was above 1.0 Nephelometric Turbidity Unit.

If you want more information about the nature and significance of this violation, you may contact Nancy Pasel, Water Treatment Superintendent or J.C. Hughes, Water Utilities Director at the City of Marshall Texas, Water Treatment Plant at 903-935-4485.

*As stated by the TCEQ herein above, exceeding allowable Turbidity Levels could result in inadequately treated water, but at no time during this event, did the City of Marshall discover any evidence of inadequately treated water, nor bacteria, nor viruses, nor parasites as a result of our mandated daily water tests throughout our water distribution system. In addition, required testing also confirmed that we maintained a safe and acceptable disinfectant level throughout the water system and our water was safe for consumption.

The treatment issue was caused by poor water quality from Big Cypress because of lower water flow from Lake O the Pines, and higher water flows from Little Cypress and Black Bayou.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, 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.

Notice published by:

The City of Marshall
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