



## City of Big Sandy

903.636.4343 | [publicworks@bigsandytx.gov](mailto:publicworks@bigsandytx.gov)

### 2025 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) - PWS #2300001

June 26, 2026

This is your water quality report for January 1 to December 31, 2025. As part of our commitment to providing quality drinking water, we have prepared this Water Quality Report (also known as the consumer confidence report) for our customers and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). This report contains drinking water data from the 2025 calendar year (Jan 1, 2025 - Dec. 31, 2025) and informs you about the quality of your drinking water.

**For more information regarding this report, please contact the Public Works Utility Department at 903.636.4343.** Este reporte incluye informacion importante sobre el agua para tomar. Para asistencia en español, favor de llamar al telefono 903.636.4343.

#### WATER SOURCE

The City of Big Sandy uses **groundwater** from **three wells** that draw from the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer, which is a major aquifer extending from the Louisiana border to the border of Mexico in a wide band adjacent to and northwest of the Gulf Coast Aquifer.

#### WATER STORAGE

The City of Big Sandy has the following water storage capacity:

- One (1) elevated tank built in 1935, capacity 50,000 gallons
- One (1) elevated tank built in 1989, capacity 200,000 gallons
- One (1) ground storage tank built in 2005, capacity 87,000 gallons
- One (1) ground storage tank built in 2015, capacity 100,000 gallons

The safe limit on water demand is 330,000 gallons per day. If this amount is exceeded, then a water conservation plan is put into effect.

#### WATER DISTRIBUTION

The City of Big Sandy water distribution system consists of five (5) high-lift service pumps and miles of 2" through 8" size water lines. The City of Big Sandy water lines are a combination of PVC, galvanized, asbestos cement and cast iron. Service lines from the water main to the customers consist of PVC, copper & galvanized pipe. The City's service line inventory can be viewed at <https://www.bigsandytx.gov/page/Utilities-Service%20Line%20Inventory>.

#### DISINFECTANT

The only treatment the city is required to do is the addition of chlorine. We are required to maintain at least a 0.2 ppm (parts per million) free chlorine residual at the furthestmost point of our system.

#### TOTAL PUMPAGE

The total gallons pumped in 2025 were 66,918,000. The city has about 750 customer connections.

#### CERTIFICATION

Water systems must employ persons with state certifications. The City of Big Sandy has two state-certified operators: Arlin Braun, who has Class C Groundwater and Class A Wastewater Licenses and Paul Conrads, who has Class C Groundwater and Class A Wastewater Licenses.

**Public Works Telephone Number:**

City Hall 903.636.4343

**After Hours Emergency Telephone Number:**

Police Dept. 903.636.4200

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please email the Public Works Dept. at [utilityclerk@bigsandytx.gov](mailto:utilityclerk@bigsandytx.gov). If you have any health concerns related to the information in this report, we encourage you to contact your health care provider.

## Information about your 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: 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, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants: can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining.

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.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. 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.

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 (800-426-4791).

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The City of Big Sandy is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter, certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead, is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling water does not remove lead from water. Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact CITY OF BIG SANDY at 903-636-4343. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

In the tables below, you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided you with the following definitions:

## ABBREVIATIONS & DEFINITIONS OF TERMS

Abbreviation	Term	Definition
AL	Action Level	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirement for a system.
ALG	Action Level Goal	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALG's allow for a margin of safety.
AVG	Average	Regulatory compliance with some MCL's is 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 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.
LRAA	Locational running annual average	
MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. Allows for a margin of safety.
MFL	Million Fibers per Liter	A measure of asbestos.
MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. Does not reflect use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water.
MREM/year	Millirems per Year	A measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
NA	Not Applicable	Not applicable.
ND	Not Detectable	Not detectable at testing limits.
NTU	Nephelometric Turbidity Units	A measure of turbidity.
pCi/L	Picocuries per Liter	A measure of radioactivity.
ppb	Parts per Billion	Micograms per liter (ug/l)
ppm	Parts per Million	Milligrams per liter (mg/l)
ppq	Parts per Quadrillion	Picograms per liter (pg/l)
ppt	Parts per Trillion	Nanograms per liter (ng/l)
RAA	Running Annual Average	
TT	Treatment Technique	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
	Variances and Exemptions	State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.

## 2025 WATER QUALITY RESULTS

### Disinfectant Residual

All public water systems in Texas are required to disinfect drinking water to ensure control of microbial contaminants. Disinfectants are water additives used to control microbes.

Disinfectant Residual	Year	Average Level	Range of Levels Detected	MRDL	MRDL G	Unit of Measure	Violation
Chlorine Free	2025			4	4	ppm	N

### Regulated Contaminants

In the tables below, we have shown the regulated contaminants that were detected. Chemical sampling of our drinking water may not be required on an annual basis; therefore, information provided in this table refers back to the latest year of chemical sampling results.

Lead and Copper	Date Sampled	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Copper</b>	2021-2023	1.3	0.289	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
<b>Lead</b>	2021-2023	15	0	0	Ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection By-Products	Sample Point	Date Sampled	Highest LRAA	Range of Individual Samples	Units	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)</b>	Hwy 155 River Road	2025	2	2.7-2.7	ppb	60	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
<b>Total Trihalomethanes</b>	Hwy 155 River Road	2025	9	8.14 – 8.14	ppb	80	0	By-product of drinking water disinfection.

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Individual Samples	Units	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Barium</b>	5/13/2024	0.12	0.076 - 0.12	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Dibromochloromethane</b>	7/24/2025	1.97	0.000-1.97	UG/L	0	0.06	
<b>Fluoride</b>	5/13/2024	0.13	0.125 – 0.13	ppm	4.0	4	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
<b>Nitrate</b>	07/24/2025	0.0666	0.0313-0.0666	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level	Range of Individual Samples	Units	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Combined Radium 226/228</b>	5/13/2024	1.5	1.5 – 1.5	pCi/L	5	0	Erosion of natural deposits

## Violations

Violation Type	Violation Period	Analyte	Violation Explanation
Notification, Known or Potential Lead Service Line	07/02/2025 – 04/06/2026	Lead and Copper Rule Revisions	In July of 2025, we notified our water customers of any known or potential lead service lines. We send proof of this notification to TCEQ. We mailed this notice to TCEQ in June of 2025, but the post office failed to deliver it. When TCEQ notified the city on April 6, 2026 that they had not received it, we resent the proof of notification.

There are no additional required health effects notices.

There are no additional required health effects violation notices.

### **Big Sandy's Sources of Drinking Water and Distribution System**

Big Sandy uses ground water from three wells that draw from the Carrizo-Wilcox Aquifer. A source water assessment has been completed by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for all the water sources and the report is available to review by calling us at 903.636.4343 or emailing us [utilityclerk@bigsandytx.gov](mailto:utilityclerk@bigsandytx.gov).

The City of Big Sandy is focused on source water protection activities since some of our sources are susceptible to contaminants. The water sampling requirements for our water system are based on this susceptibility and previous sample data. Any detection of these contaminants will be found in this report. To monitor water quality in local rivers, streams, and reservoirs, the City of Big Sandy has a Watershed Management Program. We work closely with the Sabine River Authority, Northeast Texas Municipal Water District, Texas Railroad Commission, TX Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), TX Parks and Wildlife Commission, American Water Works Association, TX Water Utilities Association and local industries to monitor and maintain a high level of water quality.

The City of Big Sandy continues its water conservation plan of asking all residents to follow this year-round watering schedule: if a customer's physical street address ends in an odd number (1, 3, 5, etc.), they water on Wednesday, Friday, & Sunday. If a customer's street address ends in an even number (2, 4, 6, etc.), they water on Tuesday, Thursday & Saturday.

### **Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program**

Watersheds may be susceptible to contamination resulting from flood, erosion, and pollution; also referred to as storm water runoff. The City of Big Sandy has incorporated a program to help manage Storm Water Pollution.

Storm water pollution is being reduced from the monitoring and modification of the City's operations through good municipal housekeeping. Our program also works to control construction runoff resulting in less sediment, the number one pollutant in our watersheds.

Finally, one of the most important parts of this program is the education and involvement of the public and citizens of Big Sandy regarding watersheds and storm water pollution.



### **Guidelines to Help Prevent Storm Water Pollution**

1. Use fertilizers sparingly
2. Sweep up driveways, sidewalks, and gutters
3. Never dump, blow, sweep, or wash anything down storm drains
4. Don't leave bare spots in your yard
5. Compost wastes
6. Use less toxic pesticides, follow labels, and learn how to prevent pest problems
7. Direct downspouts away from paved surfaces; consider a rain garden to capture runoff
8. Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in the driveway
9. Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil
10. Pick up after your pet



Thank you for reading through the City of Big Sandy Water Quality Report for 2025. The public works department and the service we provide to you is continually improving. We welcome your comments, suggestions and/or questions.

City of Big Sandy Public Works Department			
Public Works	Rocky Ware, Director Gustavo Garcia	903.636.4343	<a href="mailto:publicworks@bigsandytx.gov">publicworks@bigsandytx.gov</a>
Utility Clerk	Sarah Strub	903.636.4343	<a href="mailto:utilityclerk@bigsandytx.gov">utilityclerk@bigsandytx.gov</a>
City Administrator City Secretary	Laura Rex	903.636.4343	<a href="mailto:cityadministrator@bigsandytx.gov">cityadministrator@bigsandytx.gov</a>

City of Big Sandy Elected Officials			
Mayor	Linda Baggett	2025-2027	<a href="mailto:lbaggett@bigsandytx.gov">lbaggett@bigsandytx.gov</a>
Mayor Pro Tem	David Fonteno	2026-2028	<a href="mailto:dfonteno@bigsandytx.gov">dfonteno@bigsandytx.gov</a>
Councilmember	Sally Allen	2025-2027	<a href="mailto:sallen@bigsandytx.gov">sallen@bigsandytx.gov</a>
Councilmember	Trey Beahm	2026-2028	<a href="mailto:tbeahm@bigsandytx.gov">tbeahm@bigsandytx.gov</a>
Councilmember	Rex Rozell	2025-2027	<a href="mailto:rrozell@bigsandytx.gov">rrozell@bigsandytx.gov</a>