

Table 1					
Rainwater compared to EPA compared to Municipal Waters					
2011 - 2012					
	RAINWATER (*)	EPA Drinking Water	City of Austin, Tx	City of San Antonio, Tx.	City of Houston, Tx.
	2011 - 2012	2012	2011	2012	2011
PARAMETER:					
Total Coliform	Present (***)Absent (***)	(****)	Absent	highest monthly: 0.59%	"highest monthly 0.9%"
Aluminum	0.0449 ppm	0.05 - 0.2	0.01 ppm	below 0.00127 - 0.0109 ppm	
Copper	0.15 ppm	1.0 ppm	below 0.02 ppm	0.00116 - 0.109 ppm	90% below 0.09 ppm
Chloride	1.20 ppm	250 ppm	42.5 ppm		
Iron (Fe)	.12 ppm	0.3 ppm		below 0.05 - 0.153 ppm	
Lead (at tap)	less than 0.00100 ppm	0 ppm (****)	below 0.58 ppb	below 0.0010 - 0.00145 ppm	90% below 3.4 ppb
Manganese	less than 0.01 ppm	0.05 ppm			
Nitrate	0.01 ppm	10 ppm (****)	0.09	below 0.05 - 2.4 ppm	0.2 ppm
Sulfate	2.0 ppm	250 ppm	33 ppm	10.4 - 53.6 ppm	
TDS	160 ppm	500 ppm		242 - 356	
Zinc	0.69 ppm	5 ppm		below 0.004 - 0.131 ppm	
Odor	below 0 TON	3 TON			
Turbidity	4.3 NTU	5 NTU	below 0.3 NTU	0.08 NTU (***)	below 0.3 NTU
Hardness	2 grains	"0 grains = 'soft' water"	5.7 grains	10.5 - 18.1 grains	
pH	5.5	7.0 is neutral	9.7	7.4 - 7.9	

(*) values shown are the "lowest-quality" results reported for rainwater samples combining ELS lab, AgriLife Extension lab and TWS field test data

(**) "Bacteria present" denotes "no treatment cistern or from cistern" ;

(***) "Bacteria absent" denotes "after filtration or having a treatment system"

(****) "No more than 5.0% samples total coliform positive in a month. Every sample that has total coliforms must be analyzed for fecal coliforms; no fecal coliforms are allowed

(*****) MCLG - all other EPA values are "Secondary Drinking Water Regulations" values

Source: Environmental Laboratory Services (2012) and Texas Water Savers Co. (2011-2012)