

PUBLIC NOTICE MANDATORY
Tier 2 violation/Non-acute

Surface Water Treatment Technique Violation

SURFACE WATER TREATMENT TECHNIQUE: NON-ACUTE

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) sets minimum water quality standards for public drinking water. These standards include enforceable treatment technique requirements for drinking water. Inadequately treated water may contain disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

The **CITY OF MIDLAND WATER PURIFICATION PLANT** , PWS ID **TX1650001** , failed to meet the minimum treatment technique requirements for the months of **JANUARY 2026 and February 2026** . Specifically, our water system had

Violation List:

- combined filter effluent turbidity readings above 1.0 NTU. (**January 2026**)
- More than 5% of the combined filter effluent turbidity readings were above 0.3 NTU for the months of **January & February 2026** .

Turbidity is a measure of water clarity or cloudiness, caused by the concentration of suspended particles in the water column

The Midland Water Purification Plant (PWS 1650001) experienced a significant spike in manganese levels during the latter part of January 2026. This increase was initially caused by a pump failure and was further exacerbated by freezing conditions during that same period.

As a result, turbidity levels throughout the facility temporarily exceeded regulatory requirements established by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for water clarity. While manganese is regulated under secondary standards by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and does not pose a public health risk at the levels detected, concentrations above 0.05 ppm may cause discoloration of water.

The Utilities Department has implemented immediate and long-term corrective measures to protect the treatment facility and its chemical feed systems. As part of these efforts, the manganese-contributing storage reservoir is undergoing a full cleanout in conjunction with the plant's winter maintenance program. Cleanout operations began on February 19, 2026, and are anticipated to be completed by mid- to late March 2026.

In the interim, water sources have been rerouted to an auxiliary supply to prevent further infiltration of residual manganese from the affected reservoir. As the system clears, customers may notice temporary yellow discoloration in toilet tanks, plumbing fixtures, or hot water heaters. This condition is expected to be short-term as manganese is flushed from the plant and distribution system.

We appreciate your patience as we complete these corrective actions and remain committed to maintaining safe and reliable water service.

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 **Raymond Saddler, Operations Manager**, at **(432) 681-7606** .

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