



Cottonwood
Water & Sanitation District

Cottonwood's Water Quality

2015 Water Quality Consumer Confidence Report

Public Water System ID: CO0118020

Esta es información importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzca.

What is a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)?
This CCR is our annual water quality report that all community water systems are required to provide to their customers. It is based on the 1996 Amendments to the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act and the right-to-know provisions of that Act. As a customer of the Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District, it gives you the opportunity to review your water quality annually. It also is provided to help you make informed choices about the water you drink. The report lets you know what, if any, contaminants are in the drinking water, and how they may affect your health.

of the most qualified, highly credentialed water treatment operators in the State of Colorado. Testing and treating the drinking water is ongoing. At least twice a year we test for metals and perform ten bacteriological samples per month. We also test water quality at the faucets within a number of Cottonwood homes on a scheduled basis.

You can call us at the main office during business hours at 303-792-9509, email us at Info@CottonwoodWater.org, or stop by 2 Inverness Drive East, Suite 200, Englewood and speak to us in person.

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.

All of us serving on the Cottonwood Water and Sanitation District Board are property owners that have been elected by a majority of the registered voters living in Cottonwood. Along with our management team, we are all dedicated to helping ensure the quality of our drinking water, reliability of wastewater services, protecting the environment and providing a sustainable water supply. That's why we are pleased to present this 2015 water quality report (CCR) that reveals our water quality continues to meet and/or exceed all the EPA's strict water quality standards. Visit www.CottonwoodWater.org to read the board member's bios.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact our management's office at 303-792-9509.

What Does the Cottonwood Water CCR Reveal?
Since our existence, the drinking water provided to the residents of Cottonwood has met and/or exceeded the EPA's strict water quality drinking standards. Water quality is important to us, which is why Cottonwood Water employs some

Cottonwood's
Water
Quality




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Detected Contaminants

COTTONWOOD WSD routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table(s) show all detections found in the period of January 1 to December 31, 2014 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the next section of this report. Informed about the services we provide and the quality water we deliver to you every day.

Note: Only detected contaminants sampled within the last 5 years appear in this report. If no tables appear in this section then no contaminants were detected in the last round of monitoring.

Lead in Drinking Water

If lead is present, elevated levels 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. COTTONWOOD WSD is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. 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 (800-426-4791) or at <http://water.epa.gov/drink/info/lead>.

Our Water Sources			
Source	Source Type	Water Type	Potential Source(s) of Contamination
D4A WELL	Well	Groundwater	Above and Below ground storage tanks, auto repair facilities, autobody painting, hazardous waste generators and manufacturing facilities.
D-11 WELL	Well	Groundwater	SAME AS ABOVE
PURCHASED FROM JWPP CO0103418	Consecutive Connection	Groundwater	SAME AS ABOVE
D1 WELL	Well	Groundwater	SAME AS ABOVE
D3 WELL	Well	Groundwater	SAME AS ABOVE
D2 WELL	Well	Groundwater	SAME AS ABOVE

Lead and Copper Sampled in the Distribution System								
Contaminant Name	Time Period	90th Percentile	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	90th Percentile AL	Sample Sites Above AL	90th Percentile AL Exceedance	Typical Sources
Copper	07/26/2012 to 08/14/2012	0.21	30	ppm	1.3		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	07/26/2012 to 08/14/2012	10	30	ppb	15		No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts Sampled in the Distribution System										
Name	Year	Average	Range Low-High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Highest Compliance Value	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2014	1.35	1.3 to 1.4	2	ppb	80	N/A		No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Radionuclides Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System										
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low-High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources	
Gross Alpha	2011	1.2	0 to 6	5	pCi/L	15	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Combined Radium	2011	1.08	0.4 to 2	5	pCi/L	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
Gross Beta Particle Activity	2011	5	0 to 10	5	pCi/L*	50	0	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	

*The MCL for Gross Beta Particle Activity is 4 mrem/year. Since there is no simple conversion between mrem/year and pCi/L EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for Gross Beta Particle Activity.

Did you know...

Tap water is regulated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), while U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulates bottled drinking water. Each year, as required by Federal Law, tap water providers, must conduct on-going water testing by certified laboratories and must also provide an annual water quality test report called a Consumer Confidence Report.

Because the FDA regulates bottled water as a food, it cannot require certified lab testing or violation reporting. Furthermore, FDA does not require bottled water companies to disclose to consumers where the water came from, how it has been treated, or what contaminants it contains.

Where does our water come from?

All of Cottonwood's water currently comes from deep groundwater wells. The deep wells, however, are a non-renewing source of water and thus don't benefit from snow and rainfall that replenish our streams and rivers. Once the deep well water is used, it is gone. So, as the demand for water in the South Metro Area continues to increase, the water in the deep wells is being depleted more rapidly. Here's the good news. Cottonwood has water rights in Cherry Creek and has invested in the WISE project.

About fifty percent of Cottonwood's water will continue to come from wells (while we can still produce it), the rest will be from Cherry Creek and WISE. It marks the beginning of the District's transition to surface water. Visit our website to learn more.

Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low-High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Antimony	2013	0.17	0 to 0.85	5	ppb	6	6	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Barium	2013	0.11	0.08 to 0.16	5	ppm	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2013	1.18	1 to 1.4	5	ppm	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

Synthetic Organic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low-High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Hexachlorobenzene	2013	0	0 to 0.01	10	ppb	1	0	No	Discharge from metal refineries and agricultural chemical factories

Violations, Significant Deficiencies, and Formal Enforcement Actions									
Violations									
No Violations or Formal Enforcement Actions									

General Information

All 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or by visiting <http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants>.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and microbiological contaminants call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (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 include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which 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 also may come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP)

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has provided us with a Source Water Assessment Report for our water supply. For general information or to obtain a copy of the report please visit <http://wqdc.compliance.com/ccr>. The report is located under "Source Water Assessment Reports", and then "Assessment Report by County". Select DOUGLAS County and find 118020; COTTONWOOD WSD or by contacting KELLY CONOVER at 303-649-9857. The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that could occur. It does not mean that the contamination has or will occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan. Potential sources of contamination in our source water area are listed on the next page.

Please contact us to learn more about what you can do to help protect your drinking water sources, any questions about the Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report, to learn more about our system, or to attend scheduled public meetings. We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about the services we provide and the quality water we deliver to you every day.

Required Definitions

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must comply with.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - 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 contaminants.

Violation (No Abbreviation) - Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.

Formal Enforcement Action (No Abbreviation) - Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.

90th Percentile: 90% of samples are equal to or less than the number in the chart.

Variance and Exemptions (V/E) - Department permission not to meet a MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions.

Gross Alpha (No Abbreviation) - Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon 222, and uranium.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - Measure of the radioactivity in water.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.

Compliance Value (No Abbreviation) - Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values are the 90th Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA).

Average (x-bar) - Typical value.

Range (R) - Lowest value to the highest value.

Sample Size (n) - Number or count of values (i.e. number of water samples collected).

Parts per million = Milligrams per liter (ppm = mg/L) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion = Micrograms per liter (ppb = ug/L) - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion = Nanograms per liter (ppt = ng/L) - One part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion = Picograms per liter (ppq = pg/L) - One part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Not Applicable (N/A) - Does not apply or not available.

Learn more

Visit our website at www.CottonwoodWater.org and discover a lot of information about your water quality. And be sure to check out our new "KIDS" page where kids of all ages can learn about water, how we use it everyday, how to conserve water, be resourceful and have fun while learning.

Remember, you are always welcome to attend any of our Board meetings held in our neighborhood at: 8334 Sandreed Circle. Unless otherwise posted, the meetings are held the third Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m.