Information About Lead

Lead is a heavy metal that occurs naturally in the environment. Lead can be inhaled or ingested. Your body cannot break down or get rid of lead in your body. Over time, lead poisons the body and can cause serious health problems, especially in young children.

Lead is a problem because:
- Lead can be harmful to anyone once absorbed into the blood. The longer lead is in the body, the more damage it can cause.
- Blood levels of lead can increase when lead is brought into the body. Lead exposure is called a cumulative process.
- Lead harms nearly every system in the body.

Source Water Information

Source water is the water Colorado Springs Utilities collects from its source waters, including surface water, groundwater and purchased water. Your water is from one of the following sources:

- Fryingpan River
- Fowlkes River
- Catamount Reservoir
- Monument Creek – Pikes Peak
- North and South Cheyenne Creeks
- South Platte River
- Peakbefore Water
- Rampart Reservoir
- Pueblo Reservoir
- Fountain Valley Authority

With no major water source nearby, much of our raw water collection system originates from nearly 100 miles away, near Aspen, Leadville, and Breckenridge. Almost 75 percent of our water originates from mountain streams. Water from these streams is collected and stored in numerous reservoirs along the Continental Divide. Collection systems in this area consist of the Homestake, Fryingpan-Arkansas, Twin Lakes, and Blue River systems.

The majority of this raw water is transferred to our city through pipelines that help to protect it from contamination, such as herbicides, pesticides, heavy metals, and other chemicals. After the long journey, water is stored locally at Rampart Reservoir and the Catamount reservoirs on Pikes Peak. Before it enters our treatment plants and delivered to your home or business.

In addition to our transmountain water supply, we use local surface and ground water sources:
- North and South Slopes of Pikes Peak
- North and South Cheyenne Creeks
- Fountain Creek
- Monument Creek – Pikeview Reservoir
- Northfield Watershed
- Four wells on the Arapahoe aquifer
- One well on the Denver aquifer
- One well on the Laramie-Fox Hills aquifer

Drinking Water Quality Report

This report was prepared and distributed to customers in accordance with federal and state regulations of the Safe Drinking Water Act, and more importantly, because Colorado Springs Utilities feels its customers have the right to know the quality of their drinking water.

This report was produced and mailed for $.37 each on recycled paper.

From the Chief Water Services Officer

Enclosed is our 2010 Water Quality Report providing you detailed information about your drinking water.

I’m pleased to report that Colorado Springs Utilities met or surpassed state and federal drinking water standards. We’re fortunate to have one of the finest sources of drinking water in the nation... the Rocky Mountains. Most of our water comes directly from high country springs and snowmelt, which means we are primarily first users of the water.

We take water quality very seriously. Our laboratory staff monitors source and finished water for quality; conducting 1,000 tests per month. With that in mind, the quality of your drinking water is what matters most. And nothing is more important than your health.

Colorado Springs Utilities’ water is a great value at just one penny for two gallons, served to you right at your tap.

If you have questions regarding this report, please call us at 719-668-4560.

Bruce McCormick
Chief Water Services Officer

Water Sources

Your water is blended from multiple sources, including surface water, ground water and purchased water. The water source you are served may vary throughout the year.
Colorado Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP)

The Colorado Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) program is a preventative approach to protecting public drinking water supplies. The Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment provided us with a Water Assessment Report for our water sources. This report included our surface water sources, our purchased water source (FVA) and our wells on the Widefield aquifer (which have not been in use since Sept. 2004).

Potential sources of contamination to our source water areas may come from:

- EPA Superfund Sites
- EPA Abandoned Contaminated Sites
- EPA Hazardous Waste Generators
- EPA Chemical Inventory/Storage Sites
- EPA Toxic Release Inventory Sites
- Permitted Wastewater Discharge Sites
- Aboveground, Underground and Leaking Storage Tank Sites
- Solid Waste Sites
- Existing/Abandoned Mine Sites
- Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations
- Other Facilities
- Commercial/Industrial Transportation
- High and Low Intensity Residential
- Urban Recreational Grasses
- Quarries/Strip Mines/Gravel Pits
- Agricultural Land (row crops, small grain pasture/hay, orchards, vineyards, fallow and other)
- Forest
- Septic Systems
- Oil/Gas Wells
- Road Miles

Colorado Springs Utilities is dedicated to protecting our source waters and ensuring quality finished water is delivered to our customers. The results of the source water assessment are not a reflection of our treated water quality, the water you receive at the tap, but rather a rating of the susceptibility of contaminants in your source water under the guidelines of the Colorado SWAP program.

To find source water assessment information or to download a complete report, visit the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment website at water.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/sw/swaphom.html.

Drinking Water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

However, 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 from their health care providers about drinking water.

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 other micro-biological contaminants, call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or visit www.epa.gov/safewater.

Bottled or Tap Water?
Both are what you drink, only your thirst and healthy. The differences are in cost, quality testing and disposal.

Bottled water costs on average $0.87 for 1 liter or 33.81 ounces (and many companies use municipal tap water). By comparison a gallon (128 ounces) of your local tap water costs less than a penny.

Also bottled water is considered a food product and is regulated by the Food and Drug Administration which only requires testing on an annual basis for most contaminants. Colorado Springs Utilities, on the other hand, continually monitors our drinking water quality.

Lastly, a glass of tap water does not have the hazardous waste of the plastic bottle. Did you know that over 2 million tons of plastic bottles reside in landfills across the country?

Drinking Water Contaminants - EPA's Position

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. Source water can also 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, can come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, urban stormwater runoff, mining or farming. These people should seek advice from their health care providers about drinking water.

- Inorganic chemicals, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and natural phenomena, may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

- Pesticides and herbicides that may be present in the soil or water and may come from human activity.

- Contaminants that may be present in the soil or water and may come from human activity.

- Immunocompromised Persons Advisory

- Aboveground, Underground and Leaking Storage Tank Sites
- Solid Waste Sites
- Existing/Abandoned Mine Sites
- Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations
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Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Regulation 2 (UCMR2)

The 1996 amendments to the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) required that EPA establish criteria for a program to monitor unregulated contaminants and to identify no more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored every five years. Unregulated contaminants are those that do not have a drinking water standard established by EPA. The purpose of UCMR2 is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. UCMR2 required monitoring for 25 contaminants. Of those 25, Springs Utilities detected only N-Nitrosodimethylamine (as table below).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Detected Contaminant Table</th>
<th>Colorado Springs Utilities (PWSID CO0121150)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>Units</th>
<th>Level Detected (Range)</th>
<th>MCL Violation</th>
<th>Sample Dates</th>
<th>Possible Source(s) of Contamination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barium</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>0.043 (0.015-0.043)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Aug 2009</td>
<td>Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bromochlorodimethane</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>pbp</td>
<td>6.94 (6.5-6.94)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Jun 2009</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorodibromomethane</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>pbp</td>
<td>1.95 (ND-1.95)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Jun 2009</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chlorofluoromethane</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>pbp</td>
<td>23.8 (23.3-23.8)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Jun 2009</td>
<td>By-product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>1.75 (0.21-1.75)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Aug 2009</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hexachlorocyclopentadiene</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>0.3 (ND-0.1)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>May, Jul, Oct 2008</td>
<td>Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate (as Nitrogen)</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>0.20</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>ND-0.20</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Aug 2009</td>
<td>Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Radium, Combined 226, 228</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>pC/L</td>
<td>ND-2.2</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Feb, May, Aug, Nov 2005</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>411 (7.34-411)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Aug 2009</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Organic Carbon</td>
<td>TT</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Running Annual Average</td>
<td>Naturally present in the environment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turbidity</td>
<td>TT = 1 NTU</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>0.84</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Jan-Dec 2009</td>
<td>Soil runoff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uranium</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>ND-0.8</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Feb, May, Aug, Nov 2005</td>
<td>Erosion of natural deposits</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Monitored in the Distribution System

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>MRDL</th>
<th>MRDLG</th>
<th>ppm</th>
<th>Sample Dates</th>
<th>MCL Violation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chlorine</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>0.50</td>
<td>(ND-0.1)</td>
<td>Jan-Dec 2009</td>
<td>Water additive used to control microbes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haloacetic Acids 5 (HAAS)</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>(25.5-54.2)</td>
<td>Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct 2009</td>
<td>By product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Trihalomethanes (THM)</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>(27.9-65.8)</td>
<td>Jan, Apr, Jul, Oct 2009</td>
<td>By product of drinking water disinfection</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Coliform</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>ND</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>Jan-Dec 2009</td>
<td>Naturally present in the environment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.Coli</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>Jan-Dec 2009</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Monitored at Customer’s Tap

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>AL</th>
<th>ppm</th>
<th>Sample Dates</th>
<th>MCL Violation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Copper</td>
<td>Al=1.3</td>
<td>1.3</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead</td>
<td>Al=15</td>
<td>4.4</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 The Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule provides several alternative compliance criteria besides the TOC removal ratios. We did not report TOC removal ratios because we used an alternative compliance criteria that we use is 40CFR §141.155(a)(2)(ii). Our treated water TOC levels are <0.2ppm calculated quarterly as a running annual average.
2 Turbidity is a measure of cloudiness of the water. We monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.
3 This result indicates one (1) positive test for the year. This is not a MCL violation. Repeat sampling did not confirm the presence of E.Coli.
4 We exceed the Action Level for either Copper or Lead, out of 52 sites sampled.

Information About Fluoride

Fluoride is a compound found naturally in many places, including in food, plants, and animals and the human body. It is also found naturally at varying levels in all Colorado Springs’ water sources. Colorado Springs Utilities does not add additional fluoride to our drinking water. Any fluoride in the drinking water results from what occurs naturally in our source waters.

Definitions

Some of the terms, abbreviations and symbols contained in this report are unique to the water industry and might not be familiar to all customers.

- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements a water system must follow.
- **Contaminant:** A potentially harmful physical, biological, chemical or radiological substance.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
- **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 (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 Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a disinfecting 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.
- **Running Annual Average (RAA):** Based on the monitoring requirements, the average of 12 consecutive monthly averages or the average of 4 consecutive quarters.
- **N/A:** Not applicable.
- **Nephlometric Turbidity Unit (NTU):** A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.
- **Non-detect (ND):** Laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.
- **Parts per billion (ppb):** One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or one penny in $10,000,000.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** A measure of radioactivity in water.
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** A treatment technique is required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. The treatment technique must be either be eliminated or the monitoring frequency can be reduced.
- **Waiver:** A reduction of a monitoring requirement. The monitoring requirement can either be eliminated or the monitoring frequency can be reduced.

Detected Contaminant Table Notes

We are required to monitor for certain contaminants less than once a year because the concentration of the contaminants do not pose sufficient health risk to be considered a contaminant. Some of the data, though representative, may be more than one year old.

Springs Utilities and our purchased water system (FWA) have been issued waivers for asbestos, cyanide, dioxin, glyphosate, nitrate and all unregulated inorganic contaminants.

The table shows the combined results of our monitoring for six water treatment plants for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2009, unless otherwise noted.