

2009 Water Quality Report



Community Water Company is pleased to present this annual Water Quality Report to our customers. Our water met or surpassed all primary federal and state standards for drinking water during 2009.

Eleven years ago municipal water systems nationwide began providing their customers with an annual water quality report. This report is designed to help you, the water user, make informed decisions regarding your drinking water.

We think you will find this Water Quality Report informative and enlightening. Above all, we want to maintain your confidence in our efforts to provide you safe drinking water. Within this report, you will find information about:

- ◆ Community Water Company;
- ◆ Where your water comes from;
- ◆ The Source Water Assessment report for our service area;
- ◆ Sources of contaminants in drinking water, and ways you can help protect this precious resource;
- ◆ The effects of contaminants on those with special health needs;
- ◆ A summary of water sampling results for 2009 required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ);
- ◆ Hard water, sodium and sulfates in your water; and
- ◆ How you can contact us for more information.

Community Water Company of Green Valley

Community Water Company is a member-owned, non-profit water utility located in unincorporated Pima County and in the Town of Sahuarita. In 2009 we served an average of 2.48 million gallons of water per day to more than 22,000 people. Our service area is approximately eight square miles, located roughly between Anamax Road to the north, the Santa Cruz River to the east, Freeport-McMoRan mine to the west, and Mission Twin Buttes Road to the south.

We currently have eighteen full-time and three part-time employees. Their primary responsibility is to provide reliable delivery of drinking water which meets all applicable standards.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Introduction	1
Our Water Source	2
Source Water Assessment Report	2
Ways to Protect Our Water Source	2
Water Quality and Substances Contained in Source Water	3
Definitions	3
Information for Those With Special Health Needs	4
Summary of Sample Results	4
Detected Contaminants	5
Water Quality Questions	6
Public Notification of Monitoring and Reporting Violation	6
Contaminants Tested for but Not Detected	7
How You Can Get More Information	7
How to Contact us	8

Community Water Company of Green Valley, providing reliable delivery of drinking water to our community since 1977.

Our Water Source

Community Water Company's water source is groundwater from the Tucson Basin Aquifer. An aquifer is a saturated permeable geologic unit that can transmit groundwater. This same aquifer is the water supply source for all of Green Valley, part of Tucson, and surrounding communities. In our region, water is withdrawn from the aquifer by private wells and municipal, agricultural and industrial users.

Community Water Company pumps groundwater from the aquifer and stores the water in two- three hundred thousand gallon reservoirs, three-one million gallon reservoirs and one-two million gallon reservoir. To protect against bacteriological contamination the water is chlorinated before it is delivered to the community through our water distribution system. You may receive water from any one of our wells or from a combination of wells.

Source Water Assessment Report

The Source Water Assessment Program ("SWAP") provides a screening level evaluation of potential contamination that could occur in specific service areas. It does not mean the contamination has or will occur. We use this information to evaluate well placement and plan for future treatment needs. Source Water Assessments are on file with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality and are available for review. To obtain a copy contact the Arizona Source Water Coordinator at (602) 771-4641.

Ways to Protect Our Water Source

Proper disposal of household chemicals and automotive waste can help minimize the risk of groundwater contamination by reducing the potential for runoff and leaching. For more information call 744-6173 for Pima county landfills or 791-3175 for city of Tucson landfills.

A hazardous waste collection occurs in Green Valley, periodically each year. The *Green Valley Community Coordinating Council* typically announces the date, time, and location of the scheduled collections. Call 648-1936 for more information.



Community Water Company's #10 well arsenic treatment plant was put into service in December of 2006

Water Quality and Substances Contained in Source Water

To ensure tap water is safe to drink, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality regulates the amount of certain contaminants which may be present in water delivered by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration establishes limits for contaminants in bottled water to provide similar protection for public health.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances naturally occurring or man-made sources. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves natural minerals and radioactive materials, and can be contaminated by substances resulting from animal or human activity. Contaminants which may be present in source water include the following:

- microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that come from wastewater treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife;
- organic contaminants, which include decomposing vegetation, synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes or come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems;
- inorganic contaminants, such as salts and minerals, that occur naturally or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, mining, or farming;
- pesticides and herbicides, arising from many sources including urban storm water runoff and agricultural and domestic uses;
- radioactive contaminants occurring naturally or resulting from oil and gas production or mining.

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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791. Information about bottled water can be obtained from the Food and Drug Administration at (888) 723-3366.

Definitions

The following definitions are provided to help you understand the following water quality information :

- **Action Level (AL)** - *The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.*
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - *The MCLG is the level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.*
- **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.*
- **Non-Detects (ND)** - *The laboratory analysis indicates that a contaminant is not present in detectable quantities.*
- **Not Tested (NT)** - *Non-regulated contaminant that was not tested.*
- **Parts Per Million (ppm) or Milligrams Per Liter (mg/l)** - *one Part Per Million or one Milligram per Liter roughly correspond to one minute in two years, or a single penny in \$10,000.00.*
- **Parts Per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms Per Liter (µg/l)** - *one Part Per Billion or one Microgram per Liter roughly correspond to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.00.*
- **Entry Point to the Distribution System (EPDS)** - *The point where the well water enters the distribution system. This term is used to identify sampling points.*

Information for Those With Special Health Needs

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care providers about drinking water .

The EPA and Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Summary of Sampling Results

Our water met all primary federal and state standards for drinking water during 2009.

We routinely monitor for contaminants in drinking water according to federal and state laws and are required to test the water for more than 100 constituents at intervals determined by the state. These intervals, or compliance periods, differ depending on the type of contaminant and the likelihood of variation in sample results from year to year. Regulated synthetic organic chemicals, volatile organic chemicals, and inorganic chemicals are sampled every three years. Samples for radiochemicals are required every four years. Samples are required for lead and copper every three years. Asbestos samples are required every nine years. Sampling for coliform bacteria occurs twice a month.

Table 1 on the following page identifies substances that were detected during the required compliance period. Please remember the mere presence of a substance in drinking water does NOT necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. All of the substances in *Table 1* were detected at levels that are within federal and state standards for drinking water. As noted in *Table 1*, some data is from the most recent compliance period, so the data may have been obtained from sampling that occurred before 2009.

Table 1 also includes a list of unregulated inorganic contaminants detected in our water. These inorganic substances do not have an MCL and are not regulated by the EPA, but are measured voluntarily because they may affect the taste, odor, or appearance of drinking water or may have health effects under certain conditions. Most of these substances are found naturally in the soil. Most of these unregulated contaminants were detected at low levels.

Table 2 on page 7 lists the dozens of regulated and unregulated contaminants that were not detected in water from our wells.



**YOUR LOCAL FIRE STATIONS NOW HAVE
DROP BOXES FOR DISPOSAL OF UNUSED
MEDICATIONS.**

**THEY ARE LOCATED IN THE LOBBIES AND
ARE SAFE, CONVENIENT AND SECURE.**

**YOU CAN DO YOUR PART TO PROTECT
OUR WATER SOURCE BY DISPOSING OF
UNUSED MEDICATIONS PROPERLY SO
THEY DON'T END UP IN THE GROUND-
WATER.**

Table 1—Detected Contaminants

Contaminant	MCLG	MCL	Unit Measure	Detected Measure	Violation Yes/No	Likely Source of Contamination	
Microbiological Contaminants							
<i>Compliance testing occurs twice monthly.</i>							
Coliform	Presence of coliform bacteria in no more than one (1) monthly sample	-	-	Presence of coliform bacteria two different months each with one (1) sample.	No	Naturally present in the environment.	
Inorganic Contaminants							
<i>Next compliance testing occurs in 2010.</i>							
			Highest	Range			
Arsenic (tested quarterly)	10	10	ppb	9.8	4.8-9.8	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (tested every three years)	2.00	2.00	ppm	0.09	< 0.01 - 0.09	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (tested every three years)	2.0	4.0	ppm	0.9	0.28 - 0.9	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (tested yearly)	5.00	10.00	ppm	1.67	0.42 - 1.67	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethane / Haloacetic Acids (Disinfection By Products/DBPs)							
<i>Next compliance testing occurs in 2010.</i>							
			Highest	Range			
TTHM	NONE	80.0	ppb	3.8	<0.5 - 3.8	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
HAA5	NONE	60.0	ppb	<2.0	<2.0	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Radioactive Contaminants							
<i>Next compliance testing occurs in 2010.</i>							
			Highest	Range			
Gross Alpha	0	15.0	pCi/L	6.5	5.4 - 6.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226	0	5.0	pCi/L	<0.4	<0.4	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Uranium	NONE	NONE	µg/L	5.4	3.2 - 5.4	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Inorganic Contaminants							
<i>Tested at various times.</i>							
			Highest	Range			
Aluminum	NONE	NONE	ppm	.23	<.20 - .23	No	Present in the environment/industry
Acidity & Alkalinity	NONE	NONE	pH	7.4	6.9 - 7.4	No	
Chloride	NONE	NONE	ppm	50.9	10.7 - 50.9	No	
Hardness	NONE	NONE	ppm	347	75 - 347	No	
Iron	NONE	NONE	ppm	.23	<.02 - .23	No	
Magnesium	NONE	NONE	ppm	17	2 - 17	No	
Sodium	NONE	NONE	ppm	50	44 - 50	No	
Sulfate	NONE	NONE	ppm	52.6	45.9 - 52.6	No	Possible discharge from mine tailings; erosion of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	NONE	NONE	ppm	218	211 - 218	No	
Lead & Copper							
<i>Next compliance testing occurs in 2011.</i>							
			90th percentile Value	Range			
Lead (2008 data)	Action Level (AL)	Samples Exceeding AL	ppb	-0-	0 - 5.0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (2008 data)	1.30	0	ppm	0.183	0.013 - 0.183	No	

Water Quality Questions:

The following sections provide information on water quality issues affecting Community Water Company and its customers.

What is the hardness level of the water?

Hardness is a measure of the amount of calcium and magnesium in the water. Hardness is generally reported in parts per million, see *Table 1*, but users of water softeners who test for hardness may be more familiar with the measure of grains per gallon. They should multiply parts per million by .0584. Water hardness delivered to our customers can range from about 4 to 20 grains per gallon.

What is the sodium content of the water?

Sodium levels in 2007 ranged between 44 and 50 milligrams per liter (mg/L), which is approximately 10 to 12 milligrams of sodium in an 8-ounce glass of water. One liter is approximately equal to 33.82 ounces. To reduce sodium intake from drinking water, some of our customers with low sodium diets who also utilize water softeners have chosen to use potassium chloride as a substitute for sodium chloride in their brine tanks. Next compliance testing occurs in 2010.

Public Notification of Monitoring and Reporting Violation

Community Water Company is required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During the 3rd quarter of 2009, we “did not monitor or test” for arsenic and therefore cannot be sure of the water quality during that time. Previous and subsequent samples have shown us to be below the MCL for arsenic. We monitored for arsenic in all three other quarters. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. Even though this was not an emergency we believe our customers have the right to know what happened and what steps were taken to correct this situation. There is nothing you need to do at this time.

During this period arsenic treatment facilities were operational. We again started monitoring quarterly as soon as we were notified of our violation. As a result, we are no longer in violation. Please share this information with other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, 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. Please contact John Meyer of Community Water Co. at 1501 S. La Canada Dr. Green Valley, AZ 85622 or (520) 625-8409 if you have any questions.

**Table 2
Contaminants Tested for, But Not Detected to EPA Minimum Standards**

Most Recently Tested Regulated Contaminants (Next compliance sampling occurs in 2010)			
Inorganic Contaminants	Volatile Organic Contaminants	Synthetic Organic Contaminants	
Antimony Asbestos Beryllium Chromium Cyanide Nickel Nitrite Selenium Manganese Thallium	Benzene Carbon Tetrachloride cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene Dichloromethane 1,2-Dichloroethane 1,1-Dichloroethylene 1,2-Dichloropropane Ethylbenzene Monochlorobenzene o-Dichlorobenzene Para-Dichlorobenzene Styrene Tetrachloroethylene Toluene trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene 1,1,1-Trichloroethane 1,1,2-Trichloroethane Trichloroethylene Vinyl Chloride Xylenes (total)	Alachlor Atrazine Benzo(a)pyrene Carbofuran Chlordane Dalapon 1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane Di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate Dinoseb Diquat 2,4-D Endothall Endrin Ethylene Dibromide Dimethoate	Heptachlor Heptachlor Epoxide Hexachlorobenzene Hexachlorocyclopentadiene Lindane Methoxychlor Oxamyl Picloram Polychlorinated Biphenyls Pentachlorophenol Simazine Toxaphene 2,4,5-TP (Silvex)
Unregulated Contaminants (Tested at various dates)			
Acetochlor Aldicarb Aldicarb Sulfone Aldicarb Sulfoxide Aldrin Aroclor Screening Butachlor Carbaryl Dicamba Dieldrin 3-Hydroxycarbofuran Manganese Methomyl 2,2',4,4',5-Pentabromo Diphenyl ether 2,2',4,4',6-Pentabromo Diphenyl ether Terbufos-sulfone	Metolachlor Metribuzin Molybdenum Propachlor Bromobenzene Bromodichloromethane Bromoform Bromomethane Chlorodibromomethane Chloroethane Chloroform Chloromethane o-Chlorotoluene 2,2',4,4'-Tetrabromo Diphenyl ether 1,3-Dinitrobenzene RDX (Hexahydro-1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazine)	p-Chlorotoluene Dibromomethane m-Dichlorobenzene 1,1-Dichloroethane 2,2-Dichloropropane 1,3-Dichloropropane 1,1-Dichloropropene 1,3-Dichloropropene Silver Sodium 2,4-Dinitrotoluene 2,4-Dinitrotoluene 4,4'-DDE 2,2',4',5,5'-Hexabromo Biphenyl 2,2',4',5,5'-Hexabromo Biphenyl ether	DCPA acid metabolites EPTC Molinate MTBE Nitrobenzene Perchlorate Terbacil 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane 1,2,3-Trichloropropane Zinc TNT (2,4,6-Trinitrotoluene)

Table 2 Notes:

In 2004, the Company received waivers from testing for Dioxin and Glyphosate. ADEQ granted the waiver based on a risk assessment indicating that these substances were not likely to be found in our source water.



How You Can Get More Information

We would be glad to answer any water quality questions you may have about this report. Please contact John Meyer, (520) 625-8409, Monday through Friday, during regular business hours.

For additional information about Community Water Company of Green Valley please visit our website:

<http://www.communitywater.com>

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**Community Water Company
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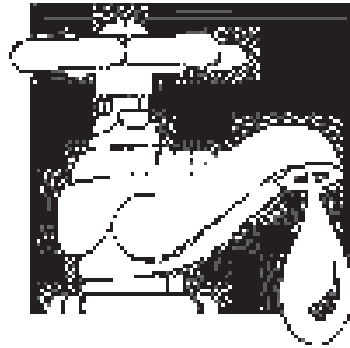
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REMEMBER: SAVING WATER EQUALS SAVING MONEY

**Community Water Company
of Green Valley**

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