

2015 Tooele City Water Quality Report

ATENCIÓN! Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Is My Water Safe?

Last year, as in years past, your drinking water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State drinking water health standards. Tooele City vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and we are proud to report that our system has not violated a maximum contaminant level (MCL) or any other water quality standard. This report is a summary of last year's drinking water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to EPA and State standards.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Your drinking water during the reporting year 2015 came from 13 wells, with two additional wells anticipated to enter production during 2016, as well as 4 springs. The City controls the land around these wells and springs to restrict any activity that could contaminate them. The City also relies upon accepted Drinking Water Source Protection zones which have been approved and accepted by the State and which are protected by Land Use Ordinance. The water that comes out of these wells and springs is treated and disinfected to protect you against contaminants.

Why Are There Contaminants in My Drinking Water?

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or manmade. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. 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 at 1-800-426-479, or on their web page (<http://www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline>).

Nationally, sources of drinking water include rivers, lakes, streams, 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, radionuclides. Water can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in 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, can occur naturally or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, and/or farming.
- **Pesticides and herbicides** 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, are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radionuclides** can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **Disinfection byproducts**, derived as a result of chlorination and disinfection of the water.

In order to ensure that water is safe to drink, the EPA establishes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

TOOELE CITY WATER QUALITY DATA

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The EPA and/or the State do not require us to monitor for certain contaminants every year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently and have been demonstrated over time as meeting drinking water standards. The values shown in the table below reflect the highest reported level for the contaminants identified during the past year (2015), and are often much lower.

Terms and Abbreviations Used

- DL** (*Detection Limit*): The minimum contaminant limit which the testing laboratory is able to detect.
- MCL** (*Maximum Contaminant Level*): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
- MRL** (*Minimum Reporting Limit*): The contaminant limit which is required to report to the EPA as part of the Third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3).
- NR** Not Regulated.
- ppm** parts per million, or milligrams per liter.
- ppb** parts per billion, or micrograms per liter.
- pCi/L** picoCuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS

Contaminant	Units	MCL	DL	Your Water	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Total Trihalomethanes	ppb	80	0.5	2.9	8/26/15	No	Disinfection Byproducts

RADIONUCLIDES

Contaminant	Units	MCL	DL	Your Water	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Gross Alpha	pCi/L	15	-	3.7	12/01/15	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta	pCi/L	15	-	2.6	9/29/15	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	pCi/L	5	-	1.1	3/19/15	No	Erosion of natural deposits

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS AND METALS

Contaminant	Units	MCL	DL	Your Water	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Chromium	ppb	100	0.2	6.1	1/13/15	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Copper	ppm	1.3*	0.0010	0.0207	4/28/15	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	ppm	0.015*	0.0005	0.0019	4/28/15	No	Corrosion of Pipes, Solder, Fixtures and Faucets (brass), Fittings
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]	ppm	10	0.1	5.8	12/1/15	No	Runoff from Fertilizer Use; Leaching from Septic Tanks, Sewage; Erosion of Natural Deposits

* Regulated by Action Levels rather than a MCL. None of the samples for lead or copper exceeded the action level.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS (UCMR3)

Contaminant	Units	MRL**	Your Water	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Chlorate	ppb	20	80	1/12/15	No	Disinfection Byproducts
Molybdenum	ppb	1.0	1.4	7/7/15	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Strontium	ppb	0.3	900	1/13/15	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Vanadium	ppb	0.2	2.1	1/13/15	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits

** Please note that for the UCMR3 unregulated contaminants, the MRL is a reporting level for EPA data collection purposes, and is **not** a contaminant exceedance limit.

EPA requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants according to a sampling schedule established by the State Division of Drinking Water and as noted above. In addition to the regulated drinking water standards, the City also sampled for unregulated contaminants as part of the UCMR3. Under the 1996 amendments to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is required once every five years to issue a new list of up to 30 unregulated contaminants for which public water systems must monitor. The intent of the UCMR3 rule is to provide baseline occurrence data that the EPA can combine with toxicological research to make decisions about potential future drinking water regulations. *As such, the minimum reporting level values shown in the Unregulated Contaminant I(UCMR3) table shown are not to be interpreted as water quality limits or indication of poor water quality. They are only data collection levels.*

Those contaminants listed in the above tables are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water for the year 2015, and represent the highest contaminant level reported for the year.

All water utilized for culinary purposes within Tooele City was tested by methods in accordance with State Standards, and meets Federal and State requirements.

How Can I Get Involved?

The best way to get involved in helping protect your water from contamination is pollution prevention. Your water sources can be affected by chemicals and pollutants that are not handled properly. Some of the most common sources of contamination include: dry cleaning chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides, oil and gasoline, paints, solvents, and garbage. Fertilizers and pesticides should be applied in accordance with manufacturer's label instructions. It is also very important to store and dispose of these materials and any other potential contaminant in a proper and safe manner. Just one gallon of gasoline can pollute 600,000 gallons of water. Once a water source is polluted it could take decades and millions of dollars to be able to use it again. Get involved by doing your part to protect our water resources.

Monitoring and Reporting Violations

No monitoring and reporting violations were found.

Important Health Information

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, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

Lead: If present, elevated levels of lead 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. Tooele City 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

For more information Contact:

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