

# 2021 Tooele City Water Quality Report

UPDATED June 29, 2022

ATENCION! Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo 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 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 test data. 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 2021 came from twelve (12) wells and two (2) 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 both City and County Land Use Ordinance. The water that comes out of these wells and springs is 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 1-800-426-4791, or at the following link:

# https://www.epa.gov/home/epa-hotlines#drinking.

Locally, sources of drinking water include 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 State and the EPA establish regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

# **Tooele City Water Quality Data**

The EPA requires monitoring of more than 80 drinking water contaminants according to a sampling schedule established by the State Division of Drinking Water. The table below lists all of the required drinking water contaminants that were detected during the calendar year of this report, as well as the most recent water quality data of other contaminants within the past 5 years. 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, and are often much lower.

# Terms and Abbreviations Used

- AL (Action Level): The level of a contaminant which, if exceeded, requires treatment or additional monitoring.
- 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.
- MCLG (*Maximum Contaminant Level Goal*): The maximum level of a contaminant in drinking water at which no known or anticipated adverse effect on the health of persons would occur, allowing an adequate margin of safety.
- MRL (Minimum Reporting Level): The contaminant level which is required to report to the State.
- NA (Not Applicable): No contamination level established
- ND (*Non Detected*): Laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.
- NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Unit): NTU is a measure of the clarify of water.
- ppm parts per million, or milligrams per liter.
- ppb parts per billion, or micrograms per liter.

### Coliform and E. Coli

Contaminant	Year Sampled	Positive Sample Count	MCLG	MCL	Violation	Typical Source
Coliform Bacteria	2021	1	0	5	No	Naturally Present in the Environment
E. Coli	2021	0	NA	None	No	Human and Animal Fecal Waste

# **Lead and Copper**

Contaminant	Year Sampled	Level Level	Highest Level	MCGL	MCL	Units	Violation	Typical Sources
Lead	2020	ND	5.3	0	15	ppb	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper	2020	0.019	0.173	1.3	1.3	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; Corrosion of household plumbing systems

# **Disinfection Byproducts**

Contaminant	Year Sampled	Level Level	Highest Level	MCGL	MCL	Units	Violation	Typical Sources
Total Trihalo- methanes	2021	ND	5.3	0	80	ppb	No	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.

# **Inorganic Contaminants**

Contaminant	Year Sampled	Level	Highest Level	MCGL	MCL	Units	Violation	Typical Sources
Arsenic	2019	0.5	1.4	0	10	ppb	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes.
Barium	2019	0.042	0.124	2	2	ppm	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Cyanide	2019	ND	2.3	200	200	ppb	No	Discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories; Discharge from steel/metal factories.

Contaminant	Year Sampled	Level Level	Highest Level	MCGL	MCL	Units	Violation	Typical Sources
Fluoride	2019	ND	0.195	4	4	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	2021	0.24	4.54	10	10	ppm	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Selenium	2019	1.1	2.5	50	50	ppb	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
Sodium	2019	10.93	95.28	500	None <sup>1</sup>	ppm	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines.
Sulfate	2019	21.06	64.30	1,000	1,000 <sup>2</sup>	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills, runoff from cropland
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	2019	208	644	2,000	2,000²	ppm	No	Erosion of natural deposits

- The State of Utah requires monitoring for Sodium even though no MCL has been established
   The MCL for sulfate and TDS (Total Dissolved Solids) is established by the State of Utah

# **Radioactive Contaminants**

Contaminant	Year Sampled	Level Level	Highest Level	MCGL	MCL	Units	Violation	Typical Sources
Alpha Emitters	2019	0.69	11	0	15	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium 226/228	2019	0.79	0.79	0	5	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 226	2019	0.28	0.28	0	5	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits.
Radium 228	2019	0.14	1.3	0	5	pCi/L	No	Erosion of natural deposits.

### **Volatile Organic Contaminants**

Contaminant	Units	MCL	DL	Your Water	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Xylenes, Total	ppm	10	0.5	1.9	5/21/19	No	Discharge from petroleum or chemical product

### **Turbidity**

Contaminant	Year Sampled	Level Level	Highest Level	MCGL	MCL	Units	Violation	Typical Sources
Turbidity	2019	0.02	2.75	0	5	NTU	No	Soil Runoff

The above tables reports all of the required drinking water contaminants that were detected during the calendar year of this report, as well as the most recent water quality data of other contaminants within the past 5 years. All water utilized for culinary purposes within Tooele City was tested by methods in accordance with State and Federal Standards, and meets State and Federal 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 manufacturers' 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.

Another way you can get involved is by participating in City Council and Planning Commission meetings. City Council meetings are generally held the first and third Wednesdays of each month. Planning Commission meetings are generally held on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. Further information regarding these public meetings is available on the Tooele City web page (<a href="https://tooelecity.org/">https://tooelecity.org/</a>). Once on the page, then click on the "Our Government" tab for access to the council and commission links. 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

#### 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 two 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 at the following link:

 $\underline{https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water}$ 

For more information contact the Tooele City Public Works Director at (435) 843-2130, or by email to his administrative assistant at tiffanyd@tooelecity.org.