

2011 Tooele City Water Quality Report



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 tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State drinking water health standards. Tooele City diligently safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has not violated maximum contaminant levels 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 comes from 15 wells and 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 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?

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or on their web page (<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/>).

Nationally, sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled 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, radioactive material. 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 stormwater 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 stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, 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 tap water is safe to drink, the EPA establishes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Tooele City Water Quality Data Table

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. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. 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 (2011).

Terms and Abbreviations Used

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

DL (Detection Limit): The minimum contaminant limit which the testing laboratory is able to detect.

PPM parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l).

PPB parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/l).

pCi/L picoCuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity).

NR not regulated

INDICATORS OF PHYSICAL IMPURITIES

Contaminant	Units	MCL	DL	Your Water	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Total Dissolved Solids (TSD)	PPM	1000	5	348	12/13/11	No	Waste, Agriculture, Erosion of Natural Deposits

DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS

Contaminant	Units	MCL	DL	Your Water	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Total Trihalomethanes (THM)	PPB	80	.5	3.2	09/13/11	No	Disinfection Byproducts

RADIOACTIVE BYPRODUCTS

Contaminant	Units	MCL	DL	Your Water	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
<i>Gross Alpha</i>	<i>pCi/L</i>	15	-	4.8	06/21/11	No	<i>Erosion of natural deposits</i>
<i>Gross Beta</i>	<i>pCi/L</i>	15	-	1.1	06/21/11	No	<i>Erosion of natural deposits</i>
<i>Combined Radium 226/228</i>	<i>pCi/L</i>	5	-	.46	06/21/11	No	<i>Erosion of natural deposits</i>

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS AND METALS

Contaminant	Units	MCL	DL	Your Water	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
<i>Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen]</i>	<i>PPM</i>	10	.1	2.5	07/21/11	No	<i>Runoff from Fertilizer Use; Leaching from Septic Tanks, Sewage; Erosion of Natural Deposits</i>
<i>Fluoride</i>	<i>PPM</i>	4	.1	.2	03/01/11	No	<i>Runoff, Erosion of natural deposits</i>
<i>Sulfate</i>	<i>PPM</i>	1000	1	40	03/01/11	No	<i>Erosion of natural deposits</i>
<i>Arsenic</i>	<i>PPM</i>	.0100	.0005	.0018	03/01/11	No	<i>Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching</i>
<i>Barium</i>	<i>PPM</i>	2	.005	.102	03/01/11	No	<i>Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.</i>
<i>Selenium</i>	<i>PPM</i>	.05	.0005	.0028	03/01/11	No	<i>Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching</i>
<i>Sodium</i>	<i>PPM</i>	NR	0.5	93.3	03/01/11	No	<i>Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching</i>
<i>Nickel</i>	<i>PPM</i>	NR	.005	.011	03/01/11	No	<i>Runoff, Erosion of natural deposits</i>
<i>Copper</i>	<i>PPM</i>	1.3	.0010	.157	06/08/11	No	<i>Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits</i>
<i>Lead</i>	<i>PPM</i>	.015	.0005	.015	06/07/11	No	<i>Corrosion of Pipes, Solder, Fixtures and Faucets (brass), Fittings</i>

The EPA requires monitoring of more than 80 drinking water contaminants according to a sampling schedule established by the State Division of Drinking Water and as noted above. Those contaminants listed in the above tables are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water for the year 2011 and represent the highest contaminant level reported for the year.

All water utilized for culinary purposes within Tooele City was tested in accordance with State Standards, and meets Primary Drinking Water Standards.

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 in Tooele's water system.

Important Health Information

*Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised people such as anyone undergoing chemotherapy, anyone who has 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. Guidelines from the EPA and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or on their web page (<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/>).*

Lead: *Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or on their web page (<http://www.epa.gov/safewater/>).*

For more information Contact:

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