

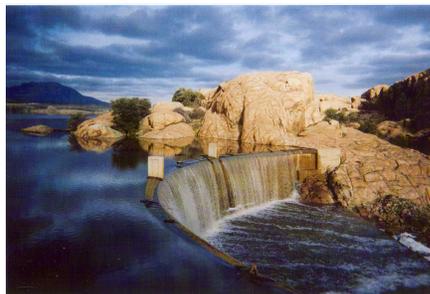
CITY OF PRESCOTT PWS 13-045 2006 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT (FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2005)

The City of Prescott's Drinking Water Meets All Federal and State Requirements for Drinking Water

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) require purveyors of drinking water to annually report the quality of the water they deliver. The annual report provides information to customers to assist them in making decisions regarding their drinking water consumption.

This report identifies the

sources of Prescott's drinking water, provides water quality information, and summarizes analytical tests of the City's drinking water supply for Calendar Year 2005.



During 2005, as in years past, water from the City

system met all applicable EPA and state drinking water health standards. The City of Prescott safeguards its water supplies, and once again, is pleased to report that maximum contaminant levels or other water quality standards have not been exceeded. The City regularly conducts testing beyond minimum regulatory requirements to further assure the safety of our drinking water.

Where to learn more about your drinking water

- ◆ Specific information about this report can be obtained by contacting the City of Prescott Utilities Division at 777-1130 or accessing the City of Prescott website: www.cityofprescott.net
- ◆ Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791
www.epa.gov/safewater
- ◆ Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (800) 234-5677
www.adeq.state.az.us/environ/water/dw/health.html

Water related topics are discussed at City Council meetings and in other forums in which the public can participate. Meeting notices are published in the local newspaper and posted at City Hall, 201 S. Cortez Street, Prescott, Arizona.

From Where Does Our Drinking Water Come?

The City of Prescott produces its water from wells in Chino Valley drilled into the confined deep Lower Volcanic Unit of the aquifer underlying Little Chino Sub-Basin. The water is of excellent quality with a production yield from 600-3,100 gallons per minute. The wells are pumped in different combinations to meet daily demand. In 2005 the City of Prescott produced (pumped) 7,883.5 acre-feet of water from the wells and delivered this



water to approximately 21,000 customers through 500 miles of pipeline and 31 water storage tanks throughout the City.

The most frequently asked water quality question is about hardness. Our water is considered moderately hard, averaging 112-119 ppm, which equals 6.5-7 grains per gallon. Water above 10 grains per

gallon is considered hard and water less than 3 grains per gallon is considered soft.

Is My Water Treated?

The City of Prescott treats its water with chlorine to eliminate bacterial contamination that could occur in the water storage, transmission, and distribution system. No problems with bacterial contamination have been experienced.

If a chlorine taste or odor is detected, a container of water can be placed in the sunlight for two hours or stored overnight in the refrigerator, to help dissipate the chlorine taste or odor. If a very strong chlorine taste or odor is observed, please contact the City's Water Section at 777-1118 and a technician will be sent out to take a chlorine residual sample at the reported location.

Water Quality Data

The Water Quality Table on Page 5 contains the most recent analysis for 2005. The frequency of sample collection is determined by state and federal regulations and based on many different parameters such as type of water source, number of people served, as well as past and current analysis of the contaminant to be tested. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

To help you understand the results and how they compare with the regulations, the following definitions are given:

- ◆ **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 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 Disinfection Level (MRDL):** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. Convincing evidence exists that disinfectant addition is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

- ◆ **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking 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.
- ◆ **Action Levels:** The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a community water system must follow.

Results of water testing are listed in the table for 2003, 2004 and 2005. These reflect the various intervals of monitoring required by the most recent drinking water regulations. The State of Arizona requires monitoring of some contaminants on a less frequent interval, such as yearly, since the concentrations are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. This explains why some data may be more than one year old.

The City of Prescott is required to test for unregulated contaminants. The data generated by this will be used by the EPA to evaluate and prioritize contaminants on the Drinking Water Contaminant Candidate List. Of the unregulated contaminants tested, there has not been any detection of these contaminants in the City's drinking water. If you would like to learn more about the monitoring results, please contact the Utilities Division of Public Works.

How Safe Is The Water?

The City of Prescott has never violated a Maximum Contaminant Level or any other water quality standard. However, 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 a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Persons who are immuno-

compromised, such as those undergoing chemotherapy or other treatments, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other im-

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mune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These individuals 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 (800-426-4791).

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, and can transport substances associated with the presence of animals or human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source 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 that can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- ◆ Pesticides and herbicides which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- ◆ Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff and septic systems.
- ◆ Radioactive contaminants that can be naturally-occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. United States Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water.

Water Quality Report

Abbreviations:

MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level	ND	Not Detected	1.0 mg/l = 1.0 ppm
MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	NA	Not Applicable	0.001 mg/l = 1.0 ppb
ppb	Parts Per Billion	ppm	Parts Per Million	mg/l = Milligram Per Liter

Parameter	Date	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Highest Level	Range
Primary Drinking Water Standards - Mandatory Health-Related Levels Established by EPA and ADEQ						
Biological Monitoring						
Total Coliform	2003		<1	0	0	0
Lead & Copper						
					Highest Detected Level	
Lead Results - Homes	2004	ppm	0.015	0	<0.005	<0.005
Copper Results - Homes	2004	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.13	<0.01 - 0.13
Lead Results - Sources	2003	ppm	0.015	0	0.012	0.012
Copper Results - Sources	2003	ppm	1.3	1.3	0.01	0.01
RadioChemical Monitoring						
					Highest Average	
Gross Alpha	2003	pCi/l	15	0	2.3 +/-0.7	1.5 - 2.3 +/- 0.7
Combined Radium	2003	pCi/l	5	0	NA	NA
Regulated Inorganic Compounds						
					Highest Detected Level	
Arsenic	2003	ppb	50	50	49	6 - 49
Barium	2003	ppm	2	2	< 0.01	< 0.01
Chromium	2003	ppb	100	100	5	5 - 6
Fluoride	2003	ppm	4	4	0.3	0.3 - 0.4
Nitrate (as N)	2003	ppm	10	10	1.2	1.1 - 3.1
Regulated Organic Compounds						
					Highest Detected Level	
Di(2-ethylhexyl) Phthalate	2003	ppb	6	6	<0.6	<0.6
Tetrachloroethylene	2003	ppb	5	0.5	<0.5	<0.5
Toluene	2003	ppm	1	0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005
Styrene	2003	ppm	0.1	0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005
Trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	2003	ppm	0.1	0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005
Trichloroethylene	2003	ppb	5	0.5	<0.5	<0.5
Vinyl Chloride	2003	ppb	2	0.5	<0.5	<0.5
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene	2003	ppm	0.07	0.0005	<0.0005	<0.0005
Dichloromethane	2003	ppb	5	0.5	<0.5	<0.5
Xylenes, Total	2003	ppm	10	0.0005	<0.0015	<0.0005 - 0.0015
Disinfection Byproduct Monitoring						
					Highest Average	
Total Trihalomethane (TTHM)	2003	ppb	80	0	ND	ND
Haloacetic Acids (HAA)	2003	ppb	60	N/A	ND	ND

Water Quality Report

The City of Prescott is committed to providing safe and sufficient drinking water for our community, both now and in the future. If you have any questions about your drinking water, please call the Utilities Division at 777-1130.

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Postal Patron

We are on the web!
www.cityofprescott.net