

Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for

Blue Sky Ranch Water System

Esta es información importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzca.

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is two wells.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Bud Fitts at 970-749-0112. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please call the above contact about the utility or any scheduled public meetings.

All public water systems are required to have a source water protection plan in place by January, 2001. Many systems have already begun source water protection activities. To find out what your system has been doing, call the above contact.

Blue Sky Ranch Water System routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 1999. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some constituents. It's important to remember that the presence of these constituents does not necessarily pose a health risk. Further information on this subject can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater on the Internet.

The 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 pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which provides the same protection for public health. In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Not Tested (NT) - Not Tested

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

P/A - presence or absence of coliform bacteria.

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/l)- one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l) - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) - million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU) - nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is 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.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal"(MCLG) is 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.

TEST RESULTS

The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Some of our data (e.g., for organic contaminants), though representative, is more than one year old.

Contaminant	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants							
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	N/A	N	Absent	P/A	0	presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
2. Fecal coliform and E.coli	N/A	N	Absent	P/A	0	a routine sample & repeat sample are total coliform positive, & one is also fecal coliform or E.coli positive	Human and animal fecal waste

Contaminant	Sample Date	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants							
3. Beta/photon emitters	9/17/96	N	<8	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
4. Alpha emitters	9/17/96	N	<3	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants							
5. Antimony	11/25/97	N	<3	ppb	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
6. Arsenic	11/25/97	N	<1	ppb	N/A	50	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
7. Barium	11/25/97	N	<1	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
8. Beryllium	11/25/97	N	<2	ppb	4	4	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
9. Cadmium	11/25/97	N	<2	ppb	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
10. Chromium	11/25/97	N	<20	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
11. Copper - 90 th Percentile Action Level	1/1/97 - 12/31/97	N	.25	ppm	1.3	AL = 1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
12. Fluoride	11/25/97	N	.23	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
13. Lead - 90 th Percentile Action Level	1/1/97 - 12/31/97	N	5	ppb	0	AL = 15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
14. Mercury (inorganic)	11/25/97	N	<1	ppb	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
15. Nitrate / Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	7/22/99	N	.28	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
16. Selenium	11/25/97	N	<1	ppb	.50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
17. Thallium	11/25/97	N	<1	ppb	0.5	2	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories
Volatile Organic Contaminants							
18. Dichloromethane	5/27/98	N	<.5	ppb	0	5	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories
19. Toluene	5/27/98	N	.0005	ppm	1	1	Discharge from petroleum factories

Chemicals, which were tested for, but not detected, include all of the Volatile Organic Contaminants, except Dichloromethane and Toluene, and all of the Synthetic Organic Contaminants sampled on 3/5/98 and 5/27/98. This system has waivers for Dioxin, Cyanide and Asbestos.

Blue Sky Ranch Water System is proud to report no violations for 1999.

EPA is reviewing the drinking water standard for arsenic because of special concerns that it may not be stringent enough. Arsenic is a naturally occurring mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations. Arsenic levels above 25 ppb warrant public concern.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, and detected nitrate levels are above 5 ppm, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

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. Flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general public. 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 of 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe drinking Water Hotline above.

STATE OF COLORADO

Bill Owens, Governor
Jane E. Norton, Executive Director

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

4300 Cherry Creek Dr. S.
Denver, Colorado 80246-1530
Phone (303) 692-2000
TDD Line (303) 691-7700
Located in Glendale, Colorado

Laboratory and Radiation Services Division
8100 Lowry Blvd.
Denver CO 80230-6928
(303) 692-3090



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us>

February 1, 2000

Blue Sky Ranch WS
ATTN: John P. Andrews
PO Box 4334
Durango CO 81302

Dear Public Water System Owner/Operator:

On August 19, 1998, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) published final regulations requiring all community water systems (CWS) to provide their customers with an annual water quality report or Consumer Confidence Report. These regulations amend the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations, 40 CFR Part 141 and the regulations for implementation of the National Primary Drinking Water Regulation, 40 CFR Part 142. This rulemaking took effect September 18, 1998 and stipulates that CWSs must issue their first CCR by October 19, 1999 and then annually by each July 1.

We are writing to ask you to prepare a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) and deliver it to your customers. Consumer awareness/right-to-know was a theme of the 1996 Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) Amendments. These amendments confirmed the importance of educating the consumer and added new responsibilities for water systems in this area. The CCR rule is the first new regulation from EPA in several years and the first to address the public right-to-know provisions of the 1996 SDWA Amendments.

In addition to the CCR, you are also required to send to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) a certification letter which certifies that the system has distributed the CCR to its customers and that the information used in the CCR is consistent with compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the CDPHE.

As of this date, we have not received a copy of the CCR or certification for this water system. To avoid any further action (enforcement order), we are asking that you send us a copy of the CCR and certification for this water system no later than March 1, 2000.

Sincerely
Elizabeth J. Boyd

CCR/Enforcement Liaison
Compliance Monitoring & Data Management Unit
WATER QUALITY CONTROL DIVISION

cc: Maureen Doughtie, EPA
DW File, Section 5