2020 Water Quality Report

Metro Southwest – Lazy B

MAY 2021

Metro Water Delivers Safe Drinking Water

Metro Water District (District) is pleased to report that the water delivered to your faucet meets all safe drinking water standards. This annual Water Quality Report is required by the Federal Government under the Safe Drinking Water Act. We believe customers who are well informed about their water supply are our best allies in supporting improvements necessary to maintain safe and reliable water.

Where does your water come from?

The District uses groundwater from the southwest portion of the Tucson Basin aquifer. The water in our aquifer was created primarily from mountain runoff and storm water infiltrating into the ground along the Tucson Mountains.

The Lazy B service area is located off of San Joaquin Road north of Bopp Road. It has one active well that pumps water from the local aquifer. Depth to water is approximately 379 feet. To ensure reliability of water service, the District also receives water through a connection with Tucson Water. Water from the well is pumped to a storage tank and then moved underground through pipes to reach your home by pressure.

While water is made up of hydrogen and oxygen, this life-giving liquid also contains many naturally occurring minerals that affect the taste and hardness of your water. Unfortunately, human-caused and naturally occurring contaminants can also be found in water. This is why the Safe Drinking Water Act exists.

How do you know your water is safe?

The District routinely checks its water for contaminants. In 2020, 87 constituents were monitored to meet Federal and State regulations, and the District also tested for constituents that may or may not be regulated in the near future.

How is your water tested?

In 2020, 139 water samples were collected and tested. Trained staff collects samples from wells, storage facilities, points in the distribution system, and residents' homes. The samples are analyzed by State licensed laboratories. The test results are reported to the District and the State of Arizona. The District works closely with the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) to ensure all water quality standards are met.

What happens if the water tested indicates contamination?

If the public water supply is found not to meet the safe drinking water standards, the District is required by Federal and State regulations to notify customers within affected service areas. Notification may be made by mail and/or through the news media. If a serious situation occurs that may affect the health and well-being of our customers, the District would do whatever is necessary to notify you and provide an alternate source of safe drinking water.

What contaminants might be detected?

The District sampled for 31 regulated contaminants as required by safe drinking water standards, as well as 56 unregulated contaminants in 2020. The table on page 2 shows the detected results. The levels of detected contaminants meet the Safe Drinking Water Act standards.

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 water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. You can also visit the EPA's website regarding the Safe Drinking Water Act at http://water.epa.gov/drink/.

The source of our drinking water is from wells. As water travels through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals, and in some cases radioactive material, and can pick up dissolved substances resulting from the presence of plants, animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in the public water supply include microbial such as viruses and bacteria; inorganics such as salts and metals; pesticides and herbicides; organic chemical contaminants, both synthetic and volatile; and radioactive contaminants.

Where do contaminants come from?

Contaminants can be man-made or naturally-occurring. Microbial contaminants may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, residential uses, agricultural activity, livestock operations, and wildlife. Inorganic contaminants can result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges or mining. Pesticides and herbicides may come from many sources, such as agriculture, urban runoff, and residential use. Radioactive contaminants can be naturally-occurring or from mining activities. Organic chemical contaminants can come from landfills, gas stations, urban runoff, and septic systems.

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. U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Is your water treated?

The District adds chlorine to its water to eliminate any type of bacterial contamination that could occur in the water pipes. If you notice a persistent chlorine taste or odor, please contact the District.

METRO SOUTHWEST – LAZY B SYSTEM DETECTED CONTAMINANTS IN 2020

Water Quality Parameter	Metro Southwest – Lazy B Maximum Level Detected	Metro Southwest – Lazy B Range of Detections	EPA* Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	EPA* Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	Units	Potential Sources of Contaminant	Sample Date
Microbiological Monitoring							
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	0	One positive Monthly Sample	Not Present	0	Naturally present in the environment.	2020
Inorganic & Metals Monitoring							
Arsenic	1.1 (Running Annual Average)	<0.50 to 3.0	10	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from agriculture.	2020
Barium	22	22	2000	2000	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from drilling waste and metal refineries.	2018
Chromium	1.2	1.2	100	100	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from steel and pulp facilities.	2018
Fluoride	1.6	1.6	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer production.	2018
Sodium	190	190	NA	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.	2018
Volatile Organic Chemical Monitoring							
Ethylbenzene	0.7	<1.5 to 0.7	700	700	ppb	Discharge from petroleum refineries. NOTE: The Method Detection Level was decreased.	2020
Total Xylenes	0.0038	<0.0015 to 0.0038	10	10	ppm	Discharge from petroleum or chemical facilities.	2020
Disinfection By-Product Monitoring							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	6.5	6.5	80	0	ppb	By-Product of drinking water chlorination.	2020
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	1.1	1.1	60	0	ppb	By-Product of drinking water chlorination.	2020
Chlorine Residual	0.76 (Running Annual Average)	0.3 to 1.1	4.0 **	4.0 **	ppm	By-Product of drinking water chlorination.	2020
Nitrate							
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	1.0	1.0	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	2020

Water Quality Parameter	90th Percentile Level and No. of Samples Above the Action Level	Range of All Samples	EPA* Contaminant Action Level (AL)	EPA* Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCGL)	Units	Potential Sources of Contaminant	
Copper & Lead Monitoring							
Copper	0.024 No samples were above the Action Level.	0.0062 to 0.0260	1.3	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.	2020
Lead	<0.5 No samples were above the Action Level.	<0.5	15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	2020

* EPA is the acronym for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

** The MCL and MCLG for Chlorine Residual is actually the Maximum Residual Disinfection Level (MRDL).

DEFINITIONS:

- MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in a drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLG as feasible using the best available treatment 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.
- ACTION LEVEL (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment, or other requirements.
- ppm - Part per million; ppb - Part per billion
- pCi/L - Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water. A picocurie is 10-12 curies and is the quantity of radioactive material producing 2.22 nuclear transformations per minute.

CITY OF TUCSON DETECTED CONTAMINANTS IN 2020

REVISED

Water Quality Parameter	Metro Southwest – Lazy B Maximum Level Detected	Metro Southwest – Lazy B Range of Detections	EPA* Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	EPA* Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	Units	Potential Sources of Contaminant	Sample Date
Microbiological Monitoring							
Total Coliform Bacteria	1	0 to 1	One positive Monthly Sample	Not Present	0	Naturally present in the environment.	2020
Radiochemical Monitoring							
Alpha Emitters (gross alpha)	1.3	0 to 1.3	15	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits.	2019-2020
Uranium	8.6	<0.8 to 8.6	30	0	µg/L	Erosion of natural deposits.	2020
Inorganic & Metals Monitoring							
Antimony	1.8	<1 to 1.8	6	6	ppb	Discharge from Petroleum Refineries, Fire Retardants, ceramics, electronics and solder	2019-2020
Arsenic	7.6	<1.0 to 7.6	10	0	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from agriculture.	2019-2020
Barium	150	<20 to 150	2000	2000	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from drilling waste and metal refineries.	2019-2020
Cyanide	9.1	<5 to 9.1	200	200	ppb	Discharge from steel/metal factories, discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories.	2019-2020
Fluoride	1.11	0.1 to 1.11	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from fertilizer production.	2019-2020
Selenium	5.2	<1.0 to 5.2	50	50	ppb	Discharge from petroleum, metal refineries, mines, erosion of natural deposits.	2019-2020
Sodium	72	15.3 to 72	NA	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.	2019-2020
Synthetic Organic Chemical Monitoring							
Atrazine	0.11	<0.05 to 0.11	3	3	ppb	Runoff from herbicides used on row crops.	2019-2020
Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate or Di-2-ethylhexyl phthalate (DEHP)	1.0	<0.6 to 1.0	6	0	ppb	Discharge from rubber, plastic and chemical factories.	2019-2020
Pentachlorophenol	0.12	<0.4 to 0.12	6	0	ppb	Discharge from wood preserving factories.	2019-2020
Volatile Organic Chemical Monitoring							
Trichloroethene (TCE)	0.9	<0.5 to 0.9	5	0	ppb	Metal degreasing sites.	2019-2020
Disinfection By-Product Monitoring							
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	19.8 (Running Annual Average)	2.1 to 23.7	80	0	ppb	By-Product of drinking water chlorination.	2020
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2.0 (Running Annual Average)	<2.0 to 2.0	60	0	ppb	By-Product of drinking water chlorination.	2020
Chlorine Residual	0.89 (Running Annual Average)	0.79 to 1.01	4	4	ppm	By-Product of drinking water chlorination.	2020
Nitrate							
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	6.54	<0.25 to 6.54	10	10	ppm	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks; Sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.	2020

Water Quality Parameter	90th Percentile Level and No. of Samples Above the Action Level	Range of All Samples	EPA* Contaminant Action Level (AL)	EPA* Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCGL)	Units	Potential Sources of Contaminant	
Copper & Lead Monitoring							
Copper	0.108 No samples were above the Action Level.	NA	1.3	1.3	ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives.	2020
Lead	0.9 No samples were above the Action Level.	NA	15	0	ppb	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.	2020

* EPA is the acronym for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

ELECTIVE MONITORING IN 2020

The District collects elective samples in order to ensure the delivery of safe, reliable water to its Customers. While elective samples are not required for compliance, they assist the District in evaluating water quality to ensure compliance with future drinking water standards.

Water Quality Parameter	Metro Southwest – Lazy B Maximum Level Detected	Metro Southwest – Lazy B Range of Detections	EPA* Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)	EPA* Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)	Units	Potential Sources of Contaminant	Sample Date
Hexavalent Chromium	1.6	0.35 to 1.6	NA	NA	ppb	Naturally occurring element; used in steel alloys; used for plating, dyes, and wood preservation.	2020
Arsenic	1.2 (Running Annual Average)	0.14 to 4.7	10	10	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff.	2020
Fluoride	1.3	1.3	4	4	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; Fertilizer.	2018
Sodium	180	180	NA	NA	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits.	2018

Arsenic

EPA established a drinking water standard for arsenic in which water providers are to ensure that as of January 2006 no more than 10 parts per billion (ppb) of arsenic can be found in the drinking water delivered to customers.

While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a naturally-occurring mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentration and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

In addition to the required quarterly testing, the District voluntarily tested the well and the treated water monthly for arsenic in 2020. To ensure compliance, the District maintains a treatment system at the Lazy B well site. During the voluntary sampling to monitor the treatment system, the treated water from the well ranged from <0.5 to 4.7 ppb. The compliance testing after the treatment system showed the Running Annual Average of arsenic to be 1.1 ppb. The Lazy B service area also receives most of its water from the City of Tucson Interconnect. The District's voluntary testing in 2020 indicated levels of Arsenic to be 2.7 to 4.5 ppb. ♦

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. Metro Water District 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 1-800-426-4791 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.♦

NITRATE

Nitrate in drinking water at levels of 10 ppm is a health risk for infants 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 because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask advice of your health care provider. No Nitrate levels were found at 10 ppm or above. ♦

Source Water Assessment

ADEQ completed a Source Water Assessment for the drinking water in the Metro Southwest Lazy B Service Area in January 2003. Based on the Hydrogeologic settings and adjacent land uses, the water was found to be of "low risk." This indicates that the water is either already protected or that any additional measures will have little impact on any further ♦

Board of Directors

Judy Scrivener, Chair
Richard Sarti, Vice Chair
Jim Doyle, Member
Bryan Foulk, Member
Lee Jacobs, Member

Metro Water District's Board of Directors meets regularly, usually on the second Monday of the month, at 6:00 p.m. at Metro Water's Office, 6265 N. La Cañada Drive

Water… Use It Wisely!

Metro Water District strongly encourages you to use our precious water resource efficiently. Listed below are some water-wise ideas.

- **Receive $200 (and save water and money) for installing a gray water or rainwater harvesting system.**
- **Receive $50 for replacing high water use toilets with a High Efficiency toilet that does not exceed 1.3 gallons of water per flush.**
- **Check regularly for leaks, both inside and outside. A little leak can drain your wallet.**
- **Change your watering schedule on your drip irrigation and sprinkler systems according to the season.**
- **Maintain your drip irrigation and sprinkler systems.**
- **Water with infrequent, deep soaks.**

EPA Warns Nationally that…

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Help Protect Our Groundwater

The District and Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) collect water samples each year to ensure we all have safe drinking water.

For more information on the source water assessment, call Wally Wilson, Water Resources Manager, at 575-8100 or visit ADEQ's source water assessment and protection unit at http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/dw/swap.html

NOTE: Lazy B has only one production well. To ensure that we are able to reliably provide your water service needs, we also receive water through a connection with Tucson Water. The water quality information listed in this pamphlet reflects the highest results between the Metro Water operated well and the Tucson Water connection. Tucson Water's 2020 Consumer Confidence Report is available at https://www.tucsonaz.gov/water/water-quality-reports-and-publications

METRO WATER DISTRICT

MISSION:
To deliver save, reliable water to our customers.

For additional information regarding your drinking water including about hardness or fluoride please visit the Water Quality section at www.metrowater.com. For further questions, please call us at 575-8100

Este informe contiene informactión muy importante sobre el aqua usted bebe. Tradúscalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.


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DISTRICT