

2016

Consumer Confidence Report For Calendar Year 2015

Public Water System ID: CO0221690



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

The Paint Brush Hills Metropolitan District (PBHMD) is pleased to present to you this year's Consumer Confidence Report (CCR).

As a public water system, our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

General Information

In 2015 PBHMD obtained its water from seven (7) deep groundwater wells and also from Meridian Service Metropolitan District (MSMD) through an interconnection facility. PBHMD wells draw water from both the Arapahoe and the Laramie-Fox Hills aquifers at depths from 1800 to 2500 feet. MSMD obtains its water primarily from these same two aquifers. PBHMD operates and maintains its own water distribution and wastewater collection systems plus two (2) water tanks with a combined storage capacity of 1.5 million gallons. Production of a safe drinking water supply for PBHMD is accomplished through onsite disinfection (chlorination) at each well site within the District. The finished water obtained through the MSMD interconnect is monitored the same as a raw water source.

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 (1-800-426-4791) or by visiting <http://water.epa.gov/drink/contaminants>.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and microbiological contaminants call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

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 animal or human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants:** viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants:** salts and metals, which 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:** may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Radioactive contaminants:** can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- Organic chemical contaminants:** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also may come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

Lead in Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems (especially for pregnant women and young children). It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. 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. Additional 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>.

Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP)

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has provided us with a Source Water Assessment Report for our water supply. For general information or to obtain a copy of the report please visit <http://wqcdcompliance.com/ccr>. The report is located under "Source Water Assessment Reports", and then "Assessment Report by County". Select EL PASO County and find 221690; PAINT BRUSH HILLS or by contacting Steve Knepper at 719-495-8188. The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that **could** occur. It **does not** mean that the contamination **has or will** occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan. Potential sources of contamination in our source water area are listed on the next page.

Our Water Sources

<u>Source</u>	<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Water Type</u>	<u>Potential Source(s) of Contamination</u>
WELL #1 (A1)	Well	Groundwater	Existing and/or Abandoned Mine Sites; Commercial/Industrial Transportation; Fallow; Pasture/Hay Land Uses; and Road Miles
WELL #2 (A2)	Well	Groundwater	
WELL #6 (A4)	Well	Groundwater	
WELL #8 (A5)	Well	Groundwater	
WELL#9 (LFH4)	Well	Groundwater	
WELL #10 (A6)	Well	Groundwater	
WELL#11 (LFH5)	Well	Groundwater	
PURCHASED WATER FROM MSMD (PWSID 121455)	Consecutive Connection	Groundwater	

Terms and Abbreviations

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** – The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
- **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 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.
- **Violation (No Abbreviation)** – Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.
- **Formal Enforcement Action (No Abbreviation)** – Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.
- **Variance and Exemptions (V/E)** – Department permission not to meet a MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions.
- **Gross Alpha (No Abbreviation)** – Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon 222, and uranium.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** – Measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** – Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.
- **Compliance Value (No Abbreviation)** – Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values are the 90th Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA).
- **Average (x-bar)** – Typical value.
- **Range (R)** – Lowest value to the highest value.
- **Sample Size (n)** – Number or count of values (i.e. number of water samples collected).
- **Parts per million = Milligrams per liter (ppm = mg/L)** – One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion = Micrograms per liter (ppb = µg/L)** – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Parts per trillion = Nanograms per liter (ppt = ng/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 = Picograms per liter (ppq = pg/L)** – One part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.
- **Not Applicable (N/A)** – Does not apply or not available.

Detected Contaminants

PBHMD routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table(s) show all detections found in the period of January 1 to December 31, 2015 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado 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. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the next section of this report.

Note: Only detected contaminants sampled within the last 5 years appear in this report. If no tables appear in this section then no contaminants were detected in the last round of monitoring.

Lead and Copper Sampled in the Distribution System								
Contaminant Name	Time Period	90 th Percentile	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	90 th Percentile Action Level	Sample Sites Above Action Level	90 th Percentile AL Exceedance	Typical Sources
Copper	09/06/2014 to 09/21/2014	0.06	10	ppm	1.3	0	None	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives

Disinfection Byproducts Sampled in the Distribution System										
Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Units Of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Highest Compliance Value	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2015	3.7	3.7 to 3.7	1	ppb	80	N/A	3.7	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Radionuclides Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Gross Alpha	2015	0.18	0 to 0.7	8	pCi/L	15	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	2015	0.3	0 to 1.4	8	pCi/L	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity	2011	6	6 to 6	1	pCi/L*	50	0	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits

*The MCL for Gross Beta Particle Activity is 4 mrem/year. Since there is no simple conversion between mrem/year and pCi/L EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for Gross Beta Particle Activity.

Synthetic Organic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Hexachloro benzene	2015	0.01	0 to 0.02	4	ppb	1	0	No	Discharge from metal refineries and agricultural chemical factories

Volatile Organic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System

Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Dichloromethane	2014	0.06	0 to 0.24	4	ppb	5	0	No	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories

Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System

Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Fluoride	2015	1.2	1.1 to 1.4	4	ppm	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	2015	0	<0.01	8	ppm	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Secondary Contaminants**

**Secondary standards are non-enforceable guidelines for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin, or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water.

Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	Secondary Standard
Total Dissolved Solids	2015	214	148 to 278	1	ppm	500
Sodium	2015	52.2	48.4 to 57.1	4	ppm	None

Violations, Significant Deficiencies, and Formal Enforcement Actions

No Violations or Formal Enforcement Actions

PBHMD is committed to ensuring high quality drinking water and utility service to our customers. If you have questions about this CCR, please contact Steve Knepper by email at steve@pbhmd.com, or by calling the PBHMD Office at 719.495.8188. Alternatively, you can attend a regular scheduled monthly meeting of the PBHMD Board of Directors on the THIRD Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM at 9830 Liberty Grove Drive and/or other locations as posted on the District’s website.

Paint Brush Hills Metropolitan District