

# *Annual Drinking Water Quality Report*

## *Gunnison City 2012*

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality of the 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. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water sources are groundwater which we get from one spring, one well, and a continuous connection with Centerfield Town Water System.

The Drinking Water Source Protection Plan for Gunnison City is available for your review. It contains information about source protection zones, potential contamination sources and management strategies to protect our drinking water. Our sources have been determined to have a medium level of susceptibility from potential contamination. We have also developed management strategies to further protect our sources from contamination. Please contact us if you have questions or concerns about our source protection plan.

There are many connections to our water distribution system. When connections are properly installed and maintained, the concerns are very minimal. However, unapproved and improper piping changes or connections can adversely affect not only the availability, but also the quality of the water. A cross connection may let polluted water or even chemicals mingle into the water supply system when not properly protected. This not only compromises the water quality but can also affect your health. So, what can you do? Do not make or allow improper connections at your homes. Even that unprotected garden hose lying in the puddle next to the driveway is a cross connection. The unprotected lawn sprinkler system after you have fertilized or sprayed is also a cross connection. When the cross connection is allowed to exist at your home, it will affect you and your family first. If you'd like to learn more about helping to protect the quality of our water, call us for further information about ways you can help.

This report shows our water quality and what it means to you our customer.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Donald Childs at 435-528-7969. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month.

Gunnison City routinely monitors for constituents in our drinking water in accordance with the Federal and Utah State laws. The following table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1<sup>st</sup> to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012. 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.

In the following 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:

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

**ND/Low - High** - For water systems that have multiple sources of water, the Utah Division of Drinking Water has given water systems the option of listing the test results of the constituents in one table, instead of multiple tables. To accomplish this, the lowest and highest values detected in the multiple sources are recorded in the same space in the report table.

**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.

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

**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 (AL)** - 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 (MCL)** - 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 (MCLG)** - 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.

**Date**- Because of required sampling time frames i.e. yearly, 3 years, 4 years and 6 years, sampling dates may seem outdated.

TEST RESULTS							
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected ND/Low-High	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Date Sampled	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>							
Total Coliform Bacteria	N	2	N/A	0	Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	2012	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal coliform and <i>E.coli</i>	N	ND	N/A	0	If a routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive	2012	Human and animal fecal waste
Turbidity for Ground Water	N	0	NTU	N/A	5	2012	Soil runoff

<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Arsenic	Y	0-16	ppb	0	10	2012	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	N	86-91	ppb	2000	2000	2010	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	N	4	ppb	100	100	2010	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Copper a. 90% results b. # of sites that exceed the <b>AL</b>	N	a.195 b.	ppt	1300000	AL=1300000	2011	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	300-500	ppb	4000	4000	2012	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Lead a. 90% results b. # of sites that exceed the <b>AL</b>	N	a. 2-4 b.	ppb	0	AL=15	2011	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nickel	N	4	Ppb	10000	10000	2010	
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	8-8	ppb	10000	10000	2012	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	N	ND-5	ppb	50	50	2012	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Sodium	N	59-177	ppm	None set by EPA	None set by EPA	2012	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills.
Sulfate	N	62-167	ppm	1000	1000	2012	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills, runoff from cropland
TDS (Total Dissolved solids)	N	163-822	ppm	2000	2000	2012	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Disinfection By-products</b>							
TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	N	4	ppb	0	80	2010	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	N	2-13	ppb	0	60	2010	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
Alpha emitters	N	ND-3	pCi/1	0	15	2012	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226	N	1	pCi/1	0	5	2010	Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228	N	0-1	pCi/1	0	5	2012	Erosion of natural deposits

Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

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 mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

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. Gunnison City 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Water samples taken in September 2012 confirmed the presence of total coliform bacteria. Total coliforms are common in the environment and are generally not harmful themselves. The presence of these bacteria is usually a result of a problem with water treatment or the pipes which distribute the water, and indicates that the water may have been contaminated with organisms that can cause disease. Symptoms may include diarrhea, cramps, nausea, and possible jaundice, and any associated headaches and fatigue. When the monthly samples confirmed the presence of total coliform bacteria we took steps to identify and correct the problem. Subsequent monthly sampling has confirmed the absence of total coliforms in the water system.

We constantly monitor for various constituents in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. In June 2012 we failed to perform all the required tests for coliform bacteria. Water quality may change without any visible indication due to unanticipated environmental factors. For this reason, we are required to sample for coliform bacteria on a monthly basis. This violation does not necessarily pose a health risk. We have reviewed why we failed to take our routine coliform bacteria tests and have taken steps to ensure that it will not happen again.

We periodically monitor for Nitrate in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements. In 2012 we failed to take the required samples. Testing for Nitrate is used to ensure that the public is provided with safe drinking water. This violation does not necessarily pose a health risk. We have reviewed why we failed to take the required samples and will take steps to ensure that it will not happen again.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or man-made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. 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 at 1-800-426-4791.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

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 from infections. These people should seek advice from their health care providers about drinking water. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

We at Gunnison City work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

Gunnison City Corp.  
PO Box 790  
38 W. Center St.  
Gunnison, UT 84634

June 14, 2013

Patti Fauver  
CCR Compliance  
Division of Drinking Water  
P.O. Box 144830  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114-4830

Dear Ms. Fauver:

Subject: Consumer Confidence Report for Gunnison City # 20004.

Enclosed is a copy of Gunnison City Consumer Confidence Report. It contains the water quality information for our water system for the calendar year 2012 or the most recent sample data.

We have delivered this report to our customers by posting it on our website and publishing it in the local newspaper.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 435-528-7969.

Sincerely,

Donald Childs  
Gunnison City