Navajo Tribal Utility Authority®

An Enterprise of the Navajo Nation

Annual Water Quality Report

Rock Springs Community

Calendar Year 2024 - Public Water System #093500302

This report is a snapshot of your water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

NTUA's Mission

To provide safe, reliable and affordable utility services that exceed our customers' expectations.

Consumer Confidence Report 2024

The Navajo Tribal Utility Authority (NTUA) operates and maintains the public water system within your community. NTUA has created the Consumer Confidence Report to reassure our dedication and commitment in providing safe and quality potable water to you, our valued customer. Please take a few minutes to view this report and become familiar with your potable water. The Consumer Confidence Report will provide valuable information about your potable water, such as, the type of water source, recent water quality detections, potential health effects, and governing drinking water standards and regulations. With water being an intricate part of our lifestyle, NTUA will continue to ensure the protection and quality of potable water served to your community.

General Information

It is important for you, our valued customer, to understand the potential occurrence and presence of contaminants within your potable water. As water flows on or beneath the surface of the earth, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and pollutants produced from animal and/ or human activity. These disturbed minerals and pollutants are called contaminants and could potentially be found in your potable water. Although, these contaminants may not necessarily pose a health risk to you, they may be of a particular risk to individuals with compromised immune systems. These individuals include persons diagnosed with cancer and undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, persons with HIV/AIDS or other immune–deficiency disorders, and elderly and infants who may be prone to infection by these contaminants. These individuals should seek advice from their health care provider about consuming community potable water.

Your Water Source

NTUA provides potable water from several different sources. The majority of communities receive their potable water from ground water. Ground water is pumped from wells, ranging from several feet to hundreds of feet in depth, and treated to become potable water. Some communities receive their potable water from streams and springs. Stream and spring water is treated, as if it were ground water, to become potable water. However, some communities receive their potable water from surface water, such as, the Animas River, the San Juan River, Farmington Lake, and Lake Powell. Surface water is pre–treated, filtered, and post–treated to become potable water.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800–426–4791).

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 including:

- microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife;
- inorganic contaminants, such as 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, 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, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;
- radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Safe Drinking Water Act

In 1996, the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) was amended to ensure public water systems provide safe drinking water to the public and meet drinking water quality standards. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) is governed to oversee states, localities, and water suppliers who implement these drinking water standards. Pursuant to SDWA, USEPA established maximum contaminant levels, maximum contaminant level goals, action levels, and treatment techniques to protect public health from drinking water contamination. NTUA is also regulated by the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency (NNEPA) and must also comply with Navajo Nation Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NNPDWR).

NOTE: Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain minimal concentrations of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate the drinking water poses a health risk. Information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained from the USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or online at http://www.epa.gov/safewater.

Definitions

Term	Definition
AL	**Action Level:** The concentration of copper and lead in potable water which determines if treatment requirements are necessary for a public water system.
MCL	**Maximum Contaminant Level:** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water which is delivered to any user of a public water system. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
MCLG	**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal:** The maximum level of a contaminant in potable water at which no known or anticipated adverse health effect would occur, allowing for an adequate margin of safety.
MRDL	**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level:** 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.
MRDLG	**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal:** The maximum level of a disinfectant in drinking water at which no known or anticipated adverse health effect would occur, allowing for an adequate margin of safety.
N/A	**Not applicable**
ND	**Not detected**
ppb	**parts per billion:** or microgram per liter (ug/L)
ppm	**parts per million:** or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
Positive samples:	the number of positive samples taken that year.
% positive samples/month:	percent of samples taken monthly that were positive.
TT	**Treatment Technique:** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
90th Percentile:	Statistical value used to determine if Action Level is exceeded. Determined by calculating the value at which 90% of the samples tested were below that value.

Where does my water come from?

Your water comes from 2 ground water sources.

Water Quality Table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants detected during the calendar year of this report. The presence of contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires monitoring for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Contaminants	MRDLG	MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	MRDL Exceeded	Typical Source
DISINFECTANTS								
Chlorine Units: Chlorine residual, ppm	4	4	0.6904	0.47	1.1	2024	No	Drinking water additive used for disinfection
Contaminants	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Your Water**	**Range Low**	**Range High**	**Sample Date**	**Violation**	**Typical Source**
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS								
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) Units: ppb	N/A	80	4	N/A	N/A	2024	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS								
Fluoride Units: ppm	4	4	0.591	0.357	0.591	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sodium Units: ppm	N/A	N/A	210	150	210	2023	No	Erosion of natural deposits; salt water intrusion
Contaminants	**MCLG**	**Action Level**	**Your Water**	**Range Low**	**Range High**	**Sample Date**	**A.L. Exceeded**	**Typical Source**
LEAD AND COPPER RULE								
Copper Units: ppm - 90th Percentile	1.3	1.3	0.16	ND 0 sites over AL	0.149	2023	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

SPECIAL STATEMENTS: Educational Statement for Lead

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. New Lands NTUA is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact your water utility. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Monitoring

In April 2024, EPA announced a final National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) for six PFAS compounds. Under the rule, we are required to conduct initial monitoring by 2027 and comply with maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) by 2029. Last year, our water system participated in a voluntary sampling project that evaluated for the presence of twenty-five PFAS compounds, including the six compounds involved in the new rule. No PFAS compounds were detected in your drinking water. PFAS are a group of thousands of synthetic chemicals that have been in use since the 1940s. PFAS have been found in a wide array of consumer and industrial products and as an ingredient in firefighting foam. Current scientific research has shown links between exposure to some PFAS chemicals and adverse health outcomes. Drinking water may be impacted in communities where these chemicals have contaminated the water supply. You can find more information about EPA's actions to address PFAS in drinking water and links to informational resources here: www.epa.gov/pfas

Service Line Inventory for Systems with Unknowns

Rock Springs Community - NTUA was required to complete an inventory of service line materials to determine whether any service lines connected to the distribution system are made of lead material. We identified 438 service lines out of 438 at Rock Springs Community- NTUA are made of unknown material. The service line inventory is available upon request, please contact us for more information.

Additional Information on Lead

Exposure to lead in drinking water can cause serious health effects in all age groups. Infants and children can have decreases in IQ and attention span. Lead exposure can lead to new learning and behavior problems or exacerbate existing learning and behavior problems. The children of women who are exposed to lead before or during pregnancy can have increased risk of these adverse health effects. Adults can have increased risks of heart disease, high blood pressure, kidney or nervous system problems.

Microbiological Testing

We are required to test your water regularly for signs of microbial contamination. Positive test results could lead to follow-up investigations called assessments and potentially the issuance of public health advisories. Assessments could lead to required corrective actions. The information below summarizes the results of those tests.

Calendar Year	Sampling Requirements	Sampling Conducted (months)	Total E. Coli Positive	Assessment Triggers	Assessments Conducted
2024	2 Samples due monthly	12 out of 12	0	0	0

Significant Deficiencies

Sanitary deficiencies are defects in a water system's infrastructure, design, operation, maintenance, or management that cause, or may cause interruptions to the "multiple barrier" protection system and adversely affect the system's ability to produce safe and reliable drinking water in adequate quantities.

The following is a listing of significant deficiencies that have yet to be corrected. Your public water system is still working to correct these deficiencies and interim milestones are shown, as applicable

Deficiency Title: Well 1

Date Identified: 10/14/2014 Overall Due Date: 2/11/2015

Deficiency Description: Broken Well Cap*: The sanitary seal well cap is broken and lacks an adequate seal for the well casing. The opening could allow rodents, insects, or other contaminants into the well. Note: this deficiency was also present at the time of the 2006 and 2011 sanitary surveys.

Corrective Action Plan: A new vented sanitary seal well cap should be installed on the well as soon as possible. During the well cap installation procedure, it is recommended the well be disinfected and flushed.

Deficiency Title: Storage Tank 1 Overflow Screen

Date Identified: 10/14/2014 Overall Due Date: 2/11/2015

Deficiency Description: The overflow for Storage Tank 1 is not equipped with a screen or flapper valve.

Corrective Action Plan: The end of the overflow for Storage Tank 1 should have a non-corrodible 24-mesh screen installed. This screen will prevent entry of animals and insects.

How can I get involved?

Please feel free to contact the number provided below for more information, or a translated copy of the report if you need it in another language.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

For more information please contact:

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