

WATER UTILITY OF GREATER BUCKEYE - BULFER SYSTEM

2006 WATER QUALITY REPORT

This report concerns the drinking water our utility provides to your home. Please take a moment to review this information and call us if you have any questions about our service to you.

Water Utility of Greater Buckeye - A subsidiary of Global Water (623) 518-4000

Spanish (Español)

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua beber. Traduscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Is my water safe?

The Bulfer System, which is part of The Water Utility of Greater Buckeye, is dedicated to providing customers with water that meets and surpasses State and Federal drinking water standards. Extensive tests of contaminants have been conducted on your water to ensure your tap water is safe to drink.

Unless otherwise indicated, this report is a snapshot of last year's 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.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issues regulations which are promulgated by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) and in 2006, your drinking water met or surpassed all State and Federal drinking water standards except where noted in the Violations and/or Exceedances section of this report.

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.

EPA/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).

Where does my water come from?

Three booster pumps and a hydro-pneumatic tank maintain constant pressure throughout the distribution system and ensure fire flows of approximately 1000 GPM.

The Bulfer/Primrose water system is served by a well located within its service area that is approximately 270 feet deep with a total production capacity of 40 gallons per minute (GPM). Our water is chlorinated for disinfection and stored in a 100,000 gallon storage tank.

Source water assessment, protection and its availability

In 2002 the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality completed a source water assessment for the well used by the Bulfer Water System. The assessment reviewed the hydrogeologic conditions and adjacent land uses that may pose a potential risk to the water sources. These risks include, but are not limited to, gas stations, landfills, dry cleaners, agriculture fields, waste water treatment plants, and mining activities. Once ADEQ identified the adjacent land uses, they were ranked as to their potential to affect the water sources. The results of the assessment were that the well had a low risk of contamination due to adjacent land use. The water is currently protected

by well construction and system operations and management. Residents can help protect the well by taking hazardous household chemicals to hazardous material collection sites and limiting pesticide and fertilizer use.

Water conservation is everyone's responsibility. You can directly impact the availability of water in your community through judicious use of water: irrigating at night, employing timers for irrigation systems, maximizing xeriscape, fixing leaky faucets, etc.

Proper backflow prevention practices, such as vacuum breakers on hoses, are important aspects of maintaining water quality. In some cases, reduced pressure or double check valve backflow prevention assemblies are appropriate. Proper disposal of residual oils and greases, chemicals or cleaners is of

* continued on next page

Water quality data table

The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that have been detected. 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 2006. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently.

Contaminants	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT or MRDL	Your Water	Range Low	Range High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products* <small>*(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)</small>								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	2.9	1.2	2.9	2006	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	7.9	7.8	7.9	2006	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Inorganic Contaminants								
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	7.1	NA	NA	2004	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.17	NA	NA	2004	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	34	NA	NA	2004	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	1.4	NA	NA	2004	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen](ppm)	10	10	5	NA	NA	2004	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (optional) (ppm)	NA	NA	81	NA	NA	2004	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching
Microbiological Contaminants								
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	1	4	0	4	2006	Yes	Naturally present in the environment
Radioactive Contaminants								
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	3.1	1.9	3.1	2002	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Volatile Organic Contaminants								
Vinyl Chloride (ppb)	0	2	0.3	NA	NA	2004	No	Leaching from PVC piping; Discharge from plastics factories
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source	
Inorganic Contaminants								
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.0042	2006	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	4	2006	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits	

* see Violations section for details

paramount importance to ensuring the viability and integrity of our community water supply. As with all water sources, contamination by industrial, agricultural and commercial activities remain a constant threat. Any spills or improperly disposed of chemicals that may in time end up contaminating the aquifer can have an effect on the water quality supplies to customers and can affect the cost of treatment for potable water.

The complete assessment is available for inspection at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, 1110 W. Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Electronic copies are available from ADEQ at dml@azdeq.gov. For more information, call ADEQ's Source Water Assessment and Protection Unit at 602-771-4644 or visit their website www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/dw/swap.html.

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 (EPA) 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:

- 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; and
- 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.

How can I get involved?

Water Utility of Greater Buckeye – Bulfer water system customers may get involved in their water system through such activities as well-head protection (activities around wells to prevent the contamination of the ground water source that provides water to our community) attendance at public meetings to ensure that the community's need for safe drinking water is considered in making decisions about land use and by visiting us on our website at www.gwresources.com.

Other information

Global Water owns and operates water and wastewater utilities in Arizona and is staffed with dedicated, professional operators, engineers, planners, customer service representatives and other personnel to ensure safe, compliant operations at all times. If you have any questions or concerns about your water quality do not hesitate to contact Global Water Resources at 623-518-4000 or on the web at www.gwresources.com

The Water Utility of Greater Buckeye was acquired by Global Water Resources in July 2006.

Additional Information

Arsenic

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.

Violations and/or Exceedances

Total Coliform

The Water Utility of Greater Buckeye – Bulfer water system is required to monitor for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of this monitoring help us to determine whether or not our drinking water meets the health and safety standards. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. This violation occurred in October 2006. At that time, the system reported four positive samples for total coliform during regular monitoring which could be an indicator of a potential problem. Increased monitoring was performed as required at other locations as well as the initial positive sites and those samples were negative.

An internal inspection was conducted of the Bulfer Water System and the following potential contamination sources were revealed.

- Hoses submerged in drinking troughs used for animal husbandry and watering livestock
- Hoses lying on the ground submerged in areas irrigated with reclaimed water
- Backflow prevention devices are not in place to protect the potable source from potential contamination.

We are required to perform increased monitoring in addition to the regular scheduled sample in the following month after a coliform event. The increased monitoring was not completed in the following month of November and therefore we are required to inform you of the missed monitoring. While the regular scheduled sample tested negative in November and the system did not have any positive samples prior to this event, and continues to test negative, some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in the drinking water and should seek advice from a health care provider if concerned.

Unit descriptions

ppm:	parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb:	parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
pCi/L:	picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)
positive samples/month:	Number of samples taken monthly that were found to be positive
NA:	Not applicable
ND:	Not detected
NR:	Monitoring not required, but recommended.

Important drinking water definitions

MCLG:	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
MCL:	Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT:	Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL:	Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Variations and Exemptions:	State or EPA permission not to meet an MCL or a treatment technique under certain conditions.
MRDLG:	Maximum residual disinfection level goal. 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.
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.
MNR:	Monitored Not Regulated
MPL:	State Assigned Maximum Permissible Level

For more information please contact:

Global Water – Water Quality
Address: 21410 N. 19th Ave., Suite 201, Phoenix, AZ 85027
(623)518-4000 or (623)580-9659
www.gwresources.com

