

# WATER UTILITY OF GREATER TONOPAH - SUNSHINE 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 Tonopah - 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 Sunshine water system which is part of The Water Utility of Greater Tonopah is dedicated to providing customers with water that meets State and Federal drinking water standards. Extensive tests of contaminants have been conducted on your water to ensure your 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.

In 2006, your drinking water met or surpassed all State and Federal drinking water standards.

### 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?

Water from our well is chlorinated for disinfection and stored in a 100,000 gallon storage tank. Two booster pumps and a hydropneumatic tank maintain constant pressure throughout the distribution system and provide a fire flow of approximately 900 GPM.

The Sunshine system's water is produced from a well located within its service area. This well is approximately 200 feet deep with a total production capacity of 50 gallons per minute (GPM).

### Source water assessment, protection and its availability

In 2004 the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality completed a source water assessment for the well used by the Water Utility of Greater Buckeye – Sunshine. The Assessment reviewed the hydrogeologic conditions and adjacent land uses that may pose a potential risk to the water sources. These risks

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.

include, but are not limited to, gas stations, landfills, dry cleaners, agriculture fields, wastewater 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 days and limiting pesticide and fertilizer use.

The complete Assessment is available for inspection at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ), 1110 W. Washington, Phoenix, Arizona 85007, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Electronic copies are

\* 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   High	Sample Date	Violation	Typical Source
<b>Disinfectants &amp; Disinfection By-Products*</b> <small>*(There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)</small>							
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	0	NA   NA	2006	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	0	NA   NA	2006	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Arsenic (ppb)	0	10	13	NA   NA	2006	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2	2	0.034	NA   NA	2006	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	20	NA   NA	2006	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	2	NA   NA	2006	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen](ppm)	10	10	3.5	3.2   3.5	2006	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (optional) (ppm)	NA	NA	78	NA   NA	2006	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>							
Total Coliform (positive samples/month)	0	1	0	NA   NA	2006	No	Naturally present in the environment
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>							
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	0	15	4.8	3.4   4.8	2003	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Contaminants	MCLG	AL	Your Water	Sample Date	# Samples Exceeding AL	Exceeds AL	Typical Source
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	90% of homes tested must have copper levels less than 1.3 ppm	0.049	2006	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	90% of homes tested must have lead levels less than 15 ppb	85	2006	1	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

available from ADEQ at [dml@azdeq.gov](mailto:dml@azdeq.gov). For more information, call ADEQ's Source Water Assessment and Protection Unit at 602-771-4644 or visit their web site [www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/dw/swap.html](http://www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/dw/swap.html).

## Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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.

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.

## How can I get involved?

The Water Utility of Greater Tonopah - Sunshine 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](http://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

## 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  
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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](http://www.gwresources.com)

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

## Additional Information

### Arsenic

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. The historic arsenic levels in the local groundwater exceeds the maximum contaminant level. The Water Utility of Greater Tonopah is presently installing arsenic treatment systems throughout its various water systems. The anticipated completion date of this project is December 2007.

### Lead

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791). Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

### Fluoride

This is an alert about your drinking water and a cosmetic dental problem that might affect children under nine years of age. At low levels, fluoride can help prevent cavities, but children drinking water containing more than 2 ppm of fluoride may develop cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth (dental fluorosis). Sunshine water has a level of 2 ppm.

Dental fluorosis, in its moderate or severe forms, may result in a brown staining and/or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from the gums. Children under nine should be provided with alternative sources of drinking water or water that has been treated to remove the fluoride to avoid the possibility of staining and pitting of their permanent teeth. You may also want to contact your dentist about proper use by young children of fluoride-containing products. Older children and adults may safely drink the water.

Drinking water containing more than 4 ppm of fluoride (the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's drinking water standard) can increase your risk of developing bone disease. Your drinking water does not contain more than 4 ppm of fluoride, but we're required to notify you when we discover that the fluoride levels in your drinking water exceed 2 ppm because of this cosmetic dental problem.

For additional information, please contact us at 623-518-4000 or visit us on our web site at [www.gwresources.com](http://www.gwresources.com). Some home water treatment units are also available to remove fluoride from drinking water. To learn more about available home water treatment units, you may call NSF International at 1-877-8-NSF-HELP.

## 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