**Why are there Contaminants in my Drinking Water?**

Sources of drinking water (Your tap water) may come from different treatment plants, reservoirs, aquifers, and ponds. As water flows through these natural and human-made systems, it can pick up substances coming from the environment or nearby human activities. In general, the following are two main categories of contaminants:

1. **Inorganic contaminants**: These are substances that occur naturally in the environment or are by-products of industrial processes. They include substances such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring, or result from urban storm-water runoff, industrial activities, and agricultural practices.

2. **Organic contaminants**: These are substances that can be natural (e.g., hormones in animal products) or result from human activities. They include synthetic and naturally-occurring chemicals, such as pesticides, and by-products of industrial processes such as agriculture, urban storm-water runoff, and industrial production.

**How are contaminants removed?**

EPA has established maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for inorganic and organic contaminants in drinking water. The MCL is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. The MCLs are established after considering the best scientific data available, the available treatment technology, the available treatment technology, and the public health benefits of setting a lower level. The MCLs are enforced by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the Public Water Supply System (PWSS) program. The PWSS program requires public water systems to monitor for contaminants on a regular basis. If a sample is not analyzed up to 2012, Voluntary Monitoring results are used. When a sample is analyzed, the result is compared to the MCL. If the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water is below the MCL, it is considered to be safe for consumption. If the concentration of a contaminant in drinking water is equal to or above the MCL, it is considered to be unsafe for consumption.

**What are the levels of contaminants in my drinking water?**

The table below shows the levels of contaminants in the City of Santa Fe's drinking water as of 2012. The data was compiled in Santa Fe, New Mexico from February 2011 to January 2012. The contaminants of concern, which are allowed in drinking water, are listed in the table. The levels of contaminants are expressed in parts per million (ppm) for metals and parts per billion (ppb) for other contaminants. The table includes both inorganic and organic contaminants. The table also includes the range of concentrations for each contaminant.

**What is the purpose of the levels of contaminants in my drinking water?**

The levels of contaminants in drinking water are used to identify contaminants that may pose a risk to human health. The levels are used to determine if a contaminant is above the MCL and therefore potentially harmful to public health. The levels are also used to monitor trends in contaminant concentrations and to evaluate the effectiveness of water treatment processes. The levels are used to set the levels of contaminants in drinking water that are allowed in the public water supply system.

**How do I find out more about contaminants in my drinking water?**

The City of Santa Fe provides information about contaminants in drinking water through the website [www.epa.gov/safewater](http://www.epa.gov/safewater). The website includes information about contaminants in drinking water, including the levels of contaminants in the City of Santa Fe's drinking water. The website also includes information about the sources of contaminants in drinking water and the potential health effects of consuming contaminated drinking water. The website also includes information about how to monitor for contaminants in drinking water and how to reduce the levels of contaminants in drinking water.

**Important Water Drinking Water**

**Contaminant**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Inorganic</th>
<th>Organic</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barium (&lt;10 ppm)</td>
<td>Toluene (&lt;0.3 ppm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Xylenes (Total) (&lt;0.01 ppm)</td>
<td>Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (&lt;0.01 ppm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper (0.3 ppm)</td>
<td>1,1-Dichloroethylene (DCE) (&lt;0.01 ppm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloride (250 mg/L)</td>
<td>1,2-Dichloroethane (DCA) (&lt;0.01 ppm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sulfate (250 mg/L)</td>
<td>Trichloroethylene (TCE) (&lt;0.01 ppm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride (2.0 mg/L)</td>
<td>Tetrachloroethene (PCE) (&lt;0.01 ppm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phosphate (25 mg/L)</td>
<td>1,1,1-Trichloroethane (1,1,1-TCA) (&lt;0.01 ppm)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic (&lt;0.010 mg/L)</td>
<td>1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene (1,2,4-TMB) (&lt;0.01 ppm)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Cryptosporidium**

Cryptosporidium is a protozoan parasite that is commonly found in drinking water. It is a common cause of gastrointestinal illness. The City of Santa Fe's drinking water meets the National Primary Drinking Water Standards for Cryptosporidium. The City's drinking water is filtered at the Buckman Water Treatment Plant, which removes Cryptosporidium from the water. The City's drinking water meets the MCL for Cryptosporidium, which is 0.010 mg/L. The City's drinking water also meets the MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Levels for Groundwater) for Cryptosporidium, which is 0.010 mg/L.

**Tributyltin**

Tributyltin is a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. The City's drinking water meets the MCL for Tributyltin, which is 0.010 mg/L.
City of Santa Fe 2012 Water Quality Table

Regulated Contaminant Monitoring

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contaminant</th>
<th>MCL</th>
<th>MCLG</th>
<th>City Well Field</th>
<th>Sample Date</th>
<th>Business Use</th>
<th>Sample Date</th>
<th>Business Use</th>
<th>Violation</th>
<th>Typical Source</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Arsenic (ppb)</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0.003</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>18-Mar-11</td>
<td>1.6</td>
<td>15-Jun-11</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barium (ppm)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>24-Aug-11</td>
<td>0.873</td>
<td>13-Jun-11</td>
<td>0.087</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fluoride (mg/L)</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.18</td>
<td>18-Jun-11</td>
<td>0.25</td>
<td>13-Jun-11</td>
<td>0.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selenium (ppb)</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>0.4</td>
<td>18-Jun-11</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>13-Jun-11</td>
<td>0.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trace (inorganic)</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>24-Aug-11</td>
<td>0.13</td>
<td>13-Jun-11</td>
<td>0.03</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Notes:
- MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level
- MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
- MCLs established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for water supply systems serving more than 10,000 persons
- MCLGs are not enforceable targets
- Compliance is based on the results of the most recent sampling period
- Violations are defined in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) 40, Part 141
- A violation is defined as a sample exceeding the MCL
- The violation is based on the highest single measurement in the compliance period
- Compliance periods for regulated contaminants
- 305b(c) compliance periods are in effect

The City of Santa Fe’s Water Division (the City) is pleased to provide the 2012 Water Quality Report. A safe and dependable water supply is vital to our community and is a primary responsibility of the City. This report is provided annually and contains information on the quality of water delivered to residential, commercial, and industrial customers in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The report includes information on the effectiveness of various treatment processes at the City’s water treatment plants, current compliance with drinking water standards of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and State drinking water quality limits. The report also contains complaints and violations of water utility regulations, which may be a concern to the public.

Sources of Supply
- The City was served by four distinct sources of supply in 2012. The 17,000 acre Santa Fe Watershed provides surface water to the Santa Fe River, which is used to supply the Alamosa and Missionary points of treatment. Surface water from the Santa Fe River and Rio Grande is treated through conventional and advanced treatment processes at the Road WTP, respectively. The City Well Field is newly located in close proximity to the Santa Fe River and consists of 13 wells located within the City limits of Santa Fe. The Buckman Well Field consists of 13 newly located wells near the Rio Grande Canal, which takes surface water from the Santa Fe River. All four sources are treated with chlorine and other disinfectants, which help to control bacterial pathogens, and fluoride to add value to the supply water to meet the community’s need for a safe and reliable water source. In 2011, the Buckman and Denton (BD) Project surface water supply was successfully integrated into the municipal distribution system and operated in conjunction with the City’s main source of supply, the Road WTP. 17,000 acre Santa Fe Watershed provides surface runoff to the Santa Fe, Río Grande, and Santa Cruz Rivers. These two sources are protected from contamination by the entire water system is protected from potential sources of contamination based on an assessment of the available information. The susceptibility rank of the entire water system was “moderately low.” A copy of the Assessment is available by contacting NMED at 505-476-8638.
- The City ordinances adopted in 2005 built upon the recommendations in the Source Water Protection Assessment. The “Safe Drinking Water and Source Water Protection” and the “Stormwater Best Control Practices” ordinances provide additional controls and protections to the City’s surface and groundwater supplies. In addition, the City established a Stormwater Program with the goal of reducing pollution discharged to the Santa Fe River. Please contact 955-554-475 for legal disposal in storm drains, streets, and arroyos.

En Español!
Use datos contiene información importante en el idioma del país. Si tiene alguna pregunta o duda sobre este reporte puede llamar a nuestra línea telefónica al (505) 955-4370.

Customer Service (505) 955-9333 Administration (505) 955-4302
City of Santa Fe Water Division P.O. Box 909, Santa Fe, NM 87504

2012 Water Quality Report