

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Cottonwood Municipal Water System 13-106 Well Site 6-2 had an Arsenic Level Above Drinking Water Standards

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did to correct this situation.

We monitor quarterly for the presence of Arsenic in the drinking water. On 6/5/2018 we received notice that a routine sample collected by a sub-contracted monitoring assistance sampling (MAP) sampler from ADEQ on 5/16/2018 showed that our system exceeded the standard, or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for Arsenic. The standard for Arsenic is 10 parts per billion (ppb) Arsenic was found at Well site 6-2 to be 21 ppb. The MAP sampler came out on 5/30/2018 to take a confirmation sample with the result of 0.0048 mg/L or 4.8 ppb.

What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do. **You do not need to** boil your **water** or take other corrective actions. However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.
- If you have a severely compromised immune system, have an infant, pregnant, or are elderly, you may be at increased risk and should seek advice from your health care providers about drinking this water.

What does this mean?

This is not an emergency. If it had been, you would have been notified within 24 hours.

However, some people who drink water-containing arsenic in excess of the maximum contaminant level (MCL) **over many years** could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

What is being done?

As you may recall we sent out a public notice in May 2018 to inform you of a contaminant level exceedance for an arsenic sample taken on 3/20/2018. The confirmation sample results for that quarter were taken on 3/22/2018 and the result was 2.3 ppb.

In May 2018, MAP came out to perform routine monitoring and took a sample at the well site on 5/16/2018 that sample result came back at 21 ppb. Even though the confirmation sample taken on 5/30/2018 was 4.8 ppb mathematically the system is still above the Running Annual Average as described below.

The MCL violations for Arsenic requires that the Running Annual Average (RAA) be below the 10 ppb MCL. The calculated RAA is 0.01128 or 11 ppb, which is above the MCL.

Upon troubleshooting the issue, Staff have determined that the well site requires the resin bead media to be replaced. The resin media is the major component of the arsenic treatment ion exchange systems. The replacement media and vessel appurtenances are being purchased and are expected to arrive in four weeks. Installation will take place within the next calendar quarter.

For more information, please contact Roger Biggs at (928) 634-0186 ext. 3307 or via email at rbiggs@cottonwoodaz.gov

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.

This notice is being sent to you by City of Cottonwood VV6. State Water System ID#: 13-106.

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