

# IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

## Cottonwood Municipal Water System 13-106 Well Site 8-2

### Has Levels of Arsenic Above Drinking Water Standards

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

We monitor quarterly for the presence of Arsenic in the drinking water. Test results we received on July 10, 2018 show that our system exceeded the standard or maximum contaminant level (MCL), for arsenic. The standard for arsenic is 10 parts per billion (ppb). The arsenic result was found at to be 14 ppb. The results also caused the running annual average (RAA) when calculated to exceed the standard of 10 ppb. However, the current RAA seems to be under the standard with the result of 8.5 ppb. In response to the result being above the MCL, management directed staff to shut the well site down until new media and appurtenances could be replaced. To ensure water service continued to our customers, water was supplied from a different well site. Please refer to the paragraph below under "What is being done?" to find out the timeline and challenges we faced.

### What should I do?

**You do not need to use an alternative (e.g. bottled) water supply.** However, if you have specific health concerns, consult your doctor.

### What does this mean?

This is not an immediate risk. If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Some people who drink water-containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with circulatory system, and many have an increased risk of getting cancer.

### What is being done?

Please see the timeline below of repairs and testing completed on well site 8-2. Please note the other well sites mentioned are for clarification purposes and they do not have a public notices associated with them:

- 7/19/2018- after receiving the test result on 7/10/2018 management decided to shut down the well site until the resin bead media and internal piping structures could be replaced. Water to the customers was being supplied by wellsite 8/9.
- 8/4/2018- Well site 7-2 (another well site within the system) failed and well site 8/9 which was covering the service area for well site 8-2 was not capable of supplying the combination of its service area and both 7-2 and 8-2 service areas. Staff aggressively regenerated the media for wellsite 8-2 and it was put back online to ensure our customers had water.
- 8/5/2018-staff conducted arsenic sampling at well site 8-2 and the results came back at 7.0 ppb, which is below the MCL.
- 8/10/2018- well site 7-2 was repaired and well site 8-2 was taken back off line and once again, wellsite 8/9 was supplying water to the customers in the area. The following was completed with wellsite 8-2 offline and not providing water to customers.
  - 9/4/2018- staff completed the resin bead media and appurtenance replacement and conducted sampling the result was 10.6 ppb, which was slightly above the MCL.
  - 9/5/2018-staff rewashed the media
  - 9/19/2018-staff re-sampled for arsenic and the result was 1.8 ppb
- 9/22/2018- the well site was put back online and started supplying water to our customers.

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

Date distributed: November 2018