

# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

## The Water We Drink 2019

Maeser Water is pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

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/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from:  
Safe Drinking Water Hotline: (800) 426-4791

The District has three sources of water. The two main sources are the Ashley Valley Water Treatment Plant (AVWTP) operated by the Central Utah Water Conservancy District and the Ashley Springs Water Treatment Plant operated by Ashley Valley Water and Sewer Improvement District (AVWSID). The AVWTP plant processes water from Red Fleet Reservoir as well as Ashley Springs. The AVWSID plant treats water from Ashley Springs. Ashley Springs receives its water from Dry Fork Creek, which sinks into a limestone formation and resurfaces in the Ashley Springs. The third source is the Painted Hills Well. The water for this well comes from an underground aquifer that is over 1500 feet deep. This source is used as a backup source in the event that part of the system is cut off from Ashley Springs or Red Fleet and is very limited in capacity. The Painted Hills Well was not used in 2019.

There are source protection plans for each source the District gets water from. The Ashley Springs and Painted Hills Well source protection plans can be viewed at the District office during regular business hours. The Red Fleet source protection plan was created by the Central Utah Water Conservancy District. The Maeser Water Improvement District conducts Source Water Assessments to monitor the potential for contamination in the protection area.

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 EPA's 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 storm water 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 storm water 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 storm water runoff, and septic systems,
- 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.

Customers and the public can get involved by doing their part to conserve water and comply with all cross-connection regulations. They can also help educate others.

Your water is treated in a "treatment train" (a series of processes applied in a sequence) that includes coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection. Coagulation removes dirt and other particles suspended in the source water by adding chemicals (coagulants) to form tiny sticky particles called "floc," which attract the dirt particles. Flocculation (the formation of larger flocs from smaller flocs) is achieved using gentle, constant mixing. The heavy particles settle naturally out of the water in a sedimentation basin. The clear water then moves to the filtration process where the water passes through sand, gravel, charcoal or other filters that remove even smaller particles. A small amount of chlorine or other disinfection method is used to kill bacteria and other microorganisms (viruses, cysts, etc.) that may be in the water. The treated water is then stored and distributed to homes and businesses in the community.

### **Water Conservation Tips**

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers - a 5 minute shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.

- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaky toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense) for more information.

### **Cross Connection Control Survey**

The purpose of this survey is to determine whether a cross-connection may exist at your home or business. A cross connection is an unprotected or improper connection to a public water distribution system that may cause contamination or pollution to enter the system. We are responsible for enforcing cross-connection control regulations and insuring that no contaminants can, under any flow conditions, enter the distribution system. If you have any of the devices listed below please contact us so that we can discuss the issue, and if needed, survey your connection and assist you in isolating it if that is necessary.

- Boiler / Radiant heater (water heaters not included)
- Underground lawn sprinkler system
- Pool or hot tub (whirlpool tubs not included)
- Additional source(s) of water on the property
- Decorative pond
- Watering trough

### **Source Water Protection Tips**

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public sanitary sewer system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community, or visit the Watershed Information Network's How to Start a Watershed Team.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with your local government or water supplier. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste - Drains to

River” or “Protect Your Water.” Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.

### **Additional Information for Nitrate**

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider

### **Additional Information for Lead**

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Maeser Water Improvement District is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## **Water Quality Data Table**

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. EPA requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Those contaminants listed in the table below are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water.

All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels.

Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. 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 vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below the table.

## TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected ND/Low High	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Date Sampled	Likely Source of Contamination
<b>MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS</b>							
Total Coliform Bacteria	No	0	CFU	0	Presence of Coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	2019	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity for Surface Water	No	0.02 Min 0.28 Max	NTU	N/A	0.3 in at least 95% of the samples and must never exceed 1.0	2019	Soil Runoff (highest single measurement & the Lowest Monthly percentage of samples meeting the turbidity limits)

## RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS

Alpha Emitters	No	0.1 Min 0.2 Max	pCi/L	0	15	2017	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta Emitters	No	ND 2.1	pCi/L	0	50	2017	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Radium 228	No	ND 0.1	pCi/L	0	5	2017	Erosion of natural deposits

## INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

Barium	No	77 Min 85 Max	ppb	2000	2000	2019	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Copper a. 90% results b.# of sites that exceed the AL	No	0 / 234	ppb	1300	AL=1300	2018	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits, leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	No	0 / 2.4	ppb	0	15	2018	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	No	1.1	ppm	2000	2000	2019	Erosion of natural deposits

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected ND/Low High	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Date Sampled	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	No	0.1 Min 0.2 Max	ppm	10	10	2019	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching for septic tank, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	No	2 Min 4 Max	mg/L	250	250	2019	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills, runoff from cropland

### VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS

TTHM (Total trihalomethanes)	No	13.8 Min 39.5 Max	ppb	0	80	2019	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic Acid (HAA5)	No	15.5 Min 18.9 Max	ppb	0	60	2019	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Organic Carbon	No	0.5 Min 2.9 Max	ppm	0	N / A	2019	Naturally occurring plant matter

Unit Descriptions	
Term	Definition
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
positive samples/year	The number of positive samples taken that year
NA	Not applicable
ND	Not detected
ND, Low High	For water systems that have multiple sources of water, the Utah Division of Drinking Water has given water systems the option of listing the test results of the constituents in one table, instead of multiple tables. To accomplish this, the lowest and highest values detected in the multiple sources are recorded in the same space in the report table.

Important Drinking Water Definitions	
Term	Definition
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.
Variances 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

The following constituents are regulated more closely, Arsenic, Lead, Nitrate, Radon and Cryptosporidium. Notice of any detection is required.

**EPA requires monitoring of over 80 drinking water contaminants. Those contaminants listed in the table above are the only contaminants detected in your drinking water.**

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements.

**For more information please contact:**

Contact Name: Dustin McCormick  
Address:  
P.O. Box 90  
Vernal, UT 84078  
Phone: 435-789-2353