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Providing Foundational Services for Life Comfort Industry

Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)
City of Gillette Water Division
Water Quality Report (January 1 – December 31, 2023)

The City of Gillette (COG) Water Division is proud to release the Consumer Confidence Report for Annual Drinking Water Quality for calendar year 2023. If you have any questions about this report, call Howard Jones, Water Manager, City of Gillette Water Division (307) 686-5276.

Consumer Confidence Report for Annual Drinking Water Quality

Section 1. **Findings: We report that the COG's drinking water is safe and meets or exceeds federal and local requirements.** The COG is supplied by groundwater pumped from 28 wells. The wells are drilled into three aquifers, the Lance/Foxhills, the Fort Union, and the Madison formation. The produced water is treated with chlorine disinfection and the three sources are blended prior to distribution. Water consumption varies from a winter average of about 2.5 MGD (million gallons per day) to a summer peak of 13.35 MGD. The annual average daily usage is 4.63 MGD. The potable water must meet the many requirements of the SDWA (Safe Drinking Water Act). The water system consists of eleven pump/pressure sustaining stations, one wet well, thirteen reservoirs, twelve regional control buildings, about 379.6 miles of water distribution and transmission mains, 2,392 fire hydrants and 7,431 valves. A Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP) report was completed in 2004. To view a copy of this report, call (307) 686-5276.

Section 2. Meetings: The water system meetings are held on an "as-needed" basis at regularly scheduled City Council meetings. City Council meetings are held at 6:00 pm on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 201 E. 5th Street.

Section 3. Monitoring: The COG Water Division routinely monitors for potential contaminants in the drinking water according to Federal laws. The table in Section 13 shows the most recent results of our monitoring completed in accordance with US EPA Drinking Water Regulations.

Section 4. Definitions: In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations which might not be familiar. To help you better understand these terms, we've provided the following definitions:
Action Level (AL) - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.
Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - 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.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - 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.
Parts per billion (ppb) or microgram per Liter(µg/L) - One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or one penny in $10,000,000.
Parts per million (ppm) or milligram per Liter (mg/L) - One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years, or one penny in $10,000.
Picocurie per Liter (pCi/L) - Picocurie per Liter is a measure of radioactivity.
Treatment Technique (TT) – a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Section 5. Violations: As you can see by the table, our system had no violations of drinking water MCL's. We're proud that the drinking water provided by the COG water system meets or exceeds all Federal requirements. We have learned through monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that Gillette's water IS SAFE at these levels.

Section 6. The source of drinking water (both tap water & bottled water) includes rivers, streams, lakes, reservoirs, ponds, 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: (A) Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife. (B) 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. (C) Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses. (D) 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. (E) 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 within the requirements of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Section 7. Maximum residual disinfectant level (MRDL) – 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. MRDL Goal (MRDLG) – the level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected health risk (does not reflect the benefits of use of a disinfectant to control microbial contaminants)

Section 8. 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800) 426-4791.

Section 9. In 2023, the COG conducted tests for lead and copper in its water distribution system. These are required samples that are done every 1-3 years per EPA's directive. The COG is proud to report that the results show we are below the Action Level for both lead and copper. The COG Water Division 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: http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Section 10. In our continuing effort to provide a dependable water supply, it is necessary to make improvements to Gillette's water system. System improvements are paid for through water rates charged to the users.

Section 11. **Questions:** Questions about this report or concerning your water utility should be directed to Howard Jones, Water Manager (307) 686-5276. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility.

Section 12. **Goal:** Our goal is to provide the community of Gillette with safe, quality drinking water that meets federal and local requirements and provides the utmost benefit for the community's investment.

***Attention Property Owners and Managers*:**
Please share this report with your tenants. Thank you!

Section 13. Table Referencing Contaminant Detects and/or Violations:

E – EAST OF WYODAK		**2023 WATER TEST RESULTS**				**W** – WEST OF WYODAK
Contaminant	**Violation Y/N**	**Level Detected East and West of Wyodak Blending Point**	**Unit of Measure (UOM)**	**MCLG**	**MCL**	**Likely Source of Contamination/Comments**
MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS						
Total Coliform Bacteria under RTCR (Revised Total Coliform Rule)	N	0 Positive 468 Annual Samples (39 Samples/Month)	Present or Not Present	0	TT	Naturally present in the environment. (TT: treatment technique)
E Coli 0157:H7	N	0 Positive 468 Annual Samples (39 Samples/Month)	Present or Not Present	0	0	Present in the gut and feces of warm blooded animals
RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS						
Alpha Emitters (Gross Alpha)	N	E: 1.3 W: 4.1	pci/L	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits. (Also reported as Gross Alpha adjusted)
Radium 226+228	N	E: 1.0 W: 2.2	pci/L	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium	N	E: 8.4 W: 7.5	ppb	0	30	Erosion of natural deposits.
INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
Barium	N	E: ND W: 0.08	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling waste. Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	N	E: Max. 1.0; Range .5-1.0 W:Max. 1.2; Range .6-1.2	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits, discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories.
Nitrate (as nitrogen)	N	E: 0.3 W: Max .3, Range .2-.3	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer, and septic tanks. Erosion of natural deposits, sewage.
Sodium	N	E: Range 3.5 - 5 W: Range 28 - 51	ppm	No MCLG	No MCL	Abundant and widespread constituent of rock & solids.
Lead-90th percentile, based on a minimum of 30 samples collected.	N	3	ppb	0	15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Copper-90th percentile, based on a minimum of 30 samples collected.	N	0.223	ppm	0	1.3 AL	Corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Selenium	N	E: 6 W: 2	ppb	50	50	Discharge from petroleum refineries or mines. Erosion of natural deposits.
Arsenic	N	E: 2 W: 1	ppb	0	10	Erosion of natural deposits. Runoff from orchards, glass and electronics production wastes.
VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS						
TTHM **(Total Trihalomethanes)**	N	Range 1.8 - 8.0	ppb	0	80	Byproduct of chlorination.
HAA_5 **(Haloacetic Acids)**	N	Range .26 – 1.7	ppb	0	60	Byproduct of chlorination.
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM CHLORINE RESIDUAL	N	E High: 1.02 E Low: 0.62 E Avg.: 0.85	ppm ppm ppm	4.0 MRDLG	4.0 MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level 4 ppm.
		W High: 1.27 W Low: 0.44 W Avg.: 0.87	ppm ppm ppm	4.0 MRDLG	4.0 MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level 4 ppm.

Constituent	**Level Detected**	**Unit of Measure**
Calcium	E: 119-130 W: 100-127	mg/L
Magnesium	E: 38-44 W: 31-40	mg/L
Potassium	E: 1-2 W: 2	mg/L
Bicarbonate	E: 268-282 W: 271-319	mg/L
Sulfate	E: 232-252 W: 164-253	mg/L
Total Dissolved Solids	E: 524-638 W: 547-628	mg/L
Alkalinity, ($CaCO_3$)	E: 219-231 W: 222-262	mg/L
Hardness, ($CaCO_3$)	E: 27.7-30 W: 22.1-27.7	Grains
pH	E: 7.4-7.7 W: 7.5-7.7	Std. Units

Test results provided above for your information are not required by Federal or State regulations.

In addition, we tested for the following contaminates and found no detects (ND).

INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS
antimony, beryllium, cadmium, chromium, cyanide, iron, mercury, nickel, thallium.

SYNTHETIC ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS INCLUDING PESTICIDES & HERBICIDES
2,4-D, 2,4,5-TP(silvex), alachlor, atrazine, benzo(a)pyrene, carbofuran, chlordane, dalapon, di(2-ethylhexyl)adipate, di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, dibromochloropropane, dinoseb, dioxin, endothall, endrin, epiclorohydrin, ethylene dibromide, glyphosate, heptachlor, heptachlor epoxide, hexachlorobenzene, hexachlorocyclopentadiene, lindane, methoxychlor, osamyl(vydate), PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls), pentachlorophenol, picloram, simazine, toxaphene.

VOLATILE ORGANIC CONTAMINANTS
benzene, carbon tetrachloride, chlorobenzene, o-dichlorobenzene,

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

City of Gillette PWS WY 5600019

Our water system violated several drinking water regulations over the compliance period shown below. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct these situations. We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are indicators of whether your drinking water meets health standards.

What violations occurred? Monitoring Requirements Not Met – Chlorine Residual

During **December 2023**, your public water system (PWS) failed to conduct adequate chlorine residual monitoring in the distribution system. Your water system is required by the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR) to monitor chlorine residual at the same time and same location as the total coliform sampling, and to submit the monitoring results to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) within 10 days following the end of each calendar quarter. The EPA only received sixty-four (64) chlorine residual monitoring results for December of 2023; this does not match with the sixty-five (65) total coliform samples you took in December of 2023. This is a violation of 40 C.F.R. §141.132(c) (1) of the NPDWR. The following total coliform sampling result was missing the chlorine residual:

PWS WY5600019 GILLETTE, CITY OF 2302631601 12/12/2023 WYOMING PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY

Your PWS did not monitor for free chlorine residual at 1 sampling site, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time. Subsequent water samples have been analyzed as safe.

What happened? The water operator assigned to record free chlorine residuals on routine Total Coliform Bacteria samples failed to record that reading on 1 sample in December 2023. The water sample in violation tested absent for Total Coliform Bacteria (i.e. passed/met standards) but did not have the required accompanying residual reading.

What is being done? Training was conducted to remind and emphasize the importance of taking and recording a free chlorine residual reading at every routine TCB sampling site and verifying that all data fields are complete before submission to Wyoming Public Health Laboratory.

What violations occurred? Failure To Monitor Violation – Total Coliform Bacteria

We are required to monitor your drinking water for total coliform bacteria on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During June 2023 we did not complete all monitoring for total coliform bacteria and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

The City of Gillette PWS 5600019 failed to complete the required monitoring for total coliform bacteria by not submitting at least 30 samples routine bacteriological monitoring results for **June 2023** as required by 40 C.F.R. §§ 141.854-141.858 and 141.31(a) of the National Primary Drinking Water Regulations (NPDWR). Your PWS did not monitor for total coliform bacteria at the required number of 30 locations minimum per month, and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.

What should I do? There is nothing you need to do at this time. Subsequent water samples have been analyzed as safe.

What happened? The third round of water samples taken for total coliform analysis in June 2023 were lost by the overnight shipping carrier in transit and never located. As such, the samples did not arrive at the Wyoming Public Health Laboratory in Cheyenne and were thus unable to be analyzed and reported. The City of Gillette was not notified until July of this problem and were thus unable to take a replacement route of samples within the required month. Staff at WPHL and EPA who normally notify us of missing samples as a courtesy were out of the office.

What is being done? City of Gillette Water staff have developed a routine procedure to check and verify the tracking status, arrival time, and validity of meeting analysis requirements on each route of samples that is sent. If samples become lost, staff will pay the extra cost to have a replacement route of samples analyzed at a local laboratory within Gillette.

For more information, please contact Howard Jones at (307) 686-5276 or via email at howardj@gillettewy.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 the City of Gillette, Public Water System ID# WY5600019.*

Date distributed: March 30, 2024