

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2025



Presented By
Avra Water Co-op Inc.



AVRA WATER
PICTURE ROCKS

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

PWS ID#: AZ0410006



Introduction

This year marks a meaningful milestone for our water cooperative—50 years of delivering safe, reliable water to our members and community. We are proud to present this year's water quality report, which reflects not only the condition of your drinking water but our ongoing dedication to meeting or exceeding regulatory standards. Every test, upgrade, and improvement we undertake is guided by a single goal: ensuring that the water you rely on every day is clean, safe, and dependable. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2025. Included are details about your source of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

Reaching our 50th year would not have been possible without the support and engagement of our members. Your trust has sustained this cooperative through decades of change, growth, and innovation. As we look to the future, we remain committed to investing in our infrastructure, protecting our water sources, and maintaining the high standards you expect. Thank you for being part of our story—and for helping us protect this vital resource for generations to come.

Important Health Information

Arsenic is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentration and linked to other health effects, such as skin damage and circulatory problems. While your drinking water meets the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (U.S. EPA) standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. U.S. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U.S. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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. U.S. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or epa.gov/safewater.



How Can I Get Involved?

Anyone can get involved with water awareness and conservation by being mindful of the water they use. Turn off the tap while brushing your teeth, wash only full loads of laundry, water plants only when necessary, and turn off irrigation when it's raining.

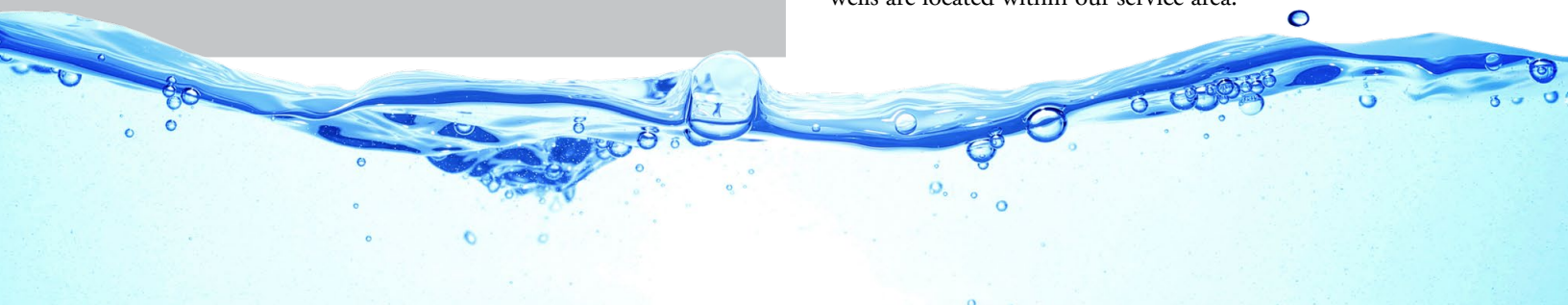
This year marks our 50th anniversary, and we encourage everyone to join us at our annual meeting of the board of directors. This event will be held at Picture Rocks Elementary School on November 18 at 7:00 p.m. We will discuss what happened over the past year, what we plan to do in the future, and the financial position of the co-op, and we'll share some conservation information. There are also regularly scheduled board of directors meetings at 6:00 p.m. on the third Wednesday of every month at the main office. Check the calendar on our website or call the office to confirm the meeting date and time, as there could be changes.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Avra Water obtains water from the Avra Valley Aquifer. The Avra Valley Aquifer begins as the Altar Valley Aquifer located on the Arizona-Mexico border. The Altar Valley Wash watershed flows north into the Avra Valley and Brawley Wash watershed around the Three Points area. Our aquifer was created primarily from the mountain runoff and stormwater infiltrating beneath the ground along the Avra and Altar Valleys. Carbon-14 test results indicate that our water is very old, probably thousands of years old. We are fortunate to have water of this quality for our use. Avra Water Co-op pumps water from the Avra Valley Aquifer into six reservoirs throughout our system. Our three wells are located within our service area.

QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Cathy Kuefler, Administrative Manager, or Sal Madrid, Operations Superintendent, at (520) 682-7331.





Substances That Could Be in Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

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 substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

More information about contaminants in tap water and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or visiting epa.gov/safewater/. Information on bottled water can be obtained from the U.S. FDA.



Which Household Activity Wastes the Most Water?

Most people would say the majority of water use comes from showering or washing dishes; however, toilet flushing is by far the largest single use of water in a home (accounting for 40% of total water use). Toilets use about 4–6 gallons per flush, so consider an ultra-low-flow (ULF) toilet, which requires only 1.5 gallons.

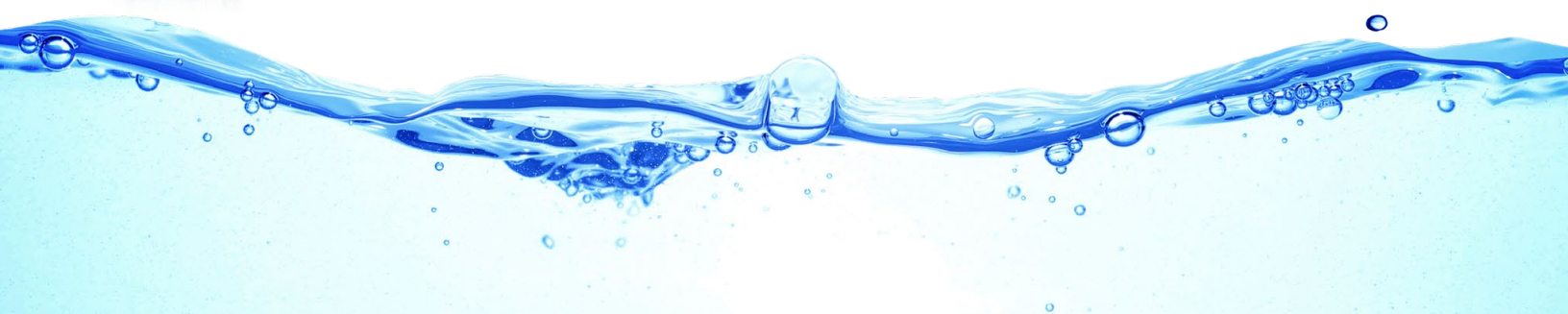
Lead in Home Plumbing

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. Avra Water Co-op is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, or doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead and wish to learn about testing your water, please contact us. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is also available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.



Lead in Home Plumbing - Service Line Inventory

To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by October 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any other lead sampling that has been done.



Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below includes the most recent water testing results within the last five years. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your 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. 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 for you.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if it needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

In 2024 your drinking water was sampled for the presence and concentration of 29 different per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). PFAS are human-made chemicals that are resistant to heat, water, and oil. They have been used since the 1940s to manufacture various consumer products, including firefighting foam and stain- and water-resistant and nonstick items. Many PFAS do not break down easily and can build up in people, animals, and the environment over time. Scientific studies have shown that exposure to certain PFAS can be harmful to people and animals, depending on the level and duration of exposure. No PFAS contaminants were detected in your water.

To learn more about this group of chemicals, we encourage you to visit the ADEQ webpage azdeq.gov/pfas-resources. You may also want to read the PFAS 101 Fact Sheet provided by ADEQ at pageutility.com/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/PFAS-101-Fact-Sheet.pdf.

Your drinking water was also tested for lithium, a naturally occurring metal that may concentrate in brine waters. Lithium salts are used as pharmaceuticals, in electrochemical cells and batteries, and in organic syntheses.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES							
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alpha Emitters (pCi/L)	5/2022, 1/2025	15	0	4.76	4.7–4.76	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	5/2022, 1/2025	10	0	7.4	6.9–7.4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	5/2022, 1/2025	2	2	0.140	0.1–0.14	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine/Chloramine (ppm)	2025	[4]	[4]	0.71	0.53–0.89	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Chromium (ppb)	5/2022, 1/2025	100	100	1.1	ND–1.1	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	1/2025	10	10	1.8	1.5–1.8	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	8/2025	80	NA	4.8	ND–4.8	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
SECONDARY SUBSTANCES							
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	8/2024	1.0	NA	0.100	ND–0.100	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	5/2022, 1/2025	2.0	NA	0.380	0.33–0.38	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Lithium (ppb)	2024	19	16–21	Naturally occurring; erosion of natural deposits ¹
Sodium (ppm)	3/2024, 1/2025	45	38–45	Erosion of natural deposits

¹ (1) Analytical Method: Lithium was measured by inductively coupled plasma–atomic emission spectrometry (ICP-AES) in accordance with EPA Method 200.7, Standard Methods 3120 B, and/or ASTM D1976-20.

Water Conservation Tips

You can play a role in conserving water and save yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It's not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips.

- Automatic dishwashers use three to six gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.
- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water-using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

Source Water Assessment

Making the water safe to drink starts by protecting the place it comes from. We work with state scientists at ADEQ to examine water at its source for possible pollutants. We examine the hydrogeological nature of the land surrounding the water source and focus on how well the water source is protected from contamination. This is called a source water assessment (SWA).

ADEQ has given this public water system a high vulnerability designation, indicating there may be additional source water protection measures that can be implemented on the local level. This does not imply that the source water is contaminated, nor does it mean that contamination is imminent. Rather, it simply states that land use activities or hydrogeological conditions exist that make the source water susceptible to possible future contamination.

Further SWA information can be found on ADEQ's website at azdeq.gov/source-water-protection. Requests for further SWA information may also be sent to ADEQ via email at sourcewaterprotection@azdeq.gov.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

AL (Action level): The concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a community water system shall follow.

Herbicide: Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.

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.

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.

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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant 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.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

Pesticide: Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

SMCL (Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level): These standards are developed to protect aesthetic qualities of drinking water and are not health based.