ORO VALLEY WATER UTILITY
2012 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Countryside System AZ0410-175

April 2013

Oro Valley Water Utility is pleased to provide you with our Consumer Confidence Report. This report complies with federal legislation that requires us to give you important information about your drinking water each year. We are proud to let you know that your Oro Valley water supply is safe and dependable. Our commitment is to continue to provide you with water that meets all legal requirements.

EXCELLENT RESULTS!

During the past ten years, the Oro Valley Water Utility collected **906** samples for analysis of Total Coliform bacteria and **NONE** of them resulted in a violation. This is an accomplishment that is due to Water Utility Staff's diligent operation and monitoring of the water system for our customers.

Total Coliform bacteria is an indicator bacteria used to more closely monitor the water system for possible unwanted bacteria. The Utility disinfects its water sources by adding Sodium Hypochlorite as a precaution against bacterial growth in its water system.

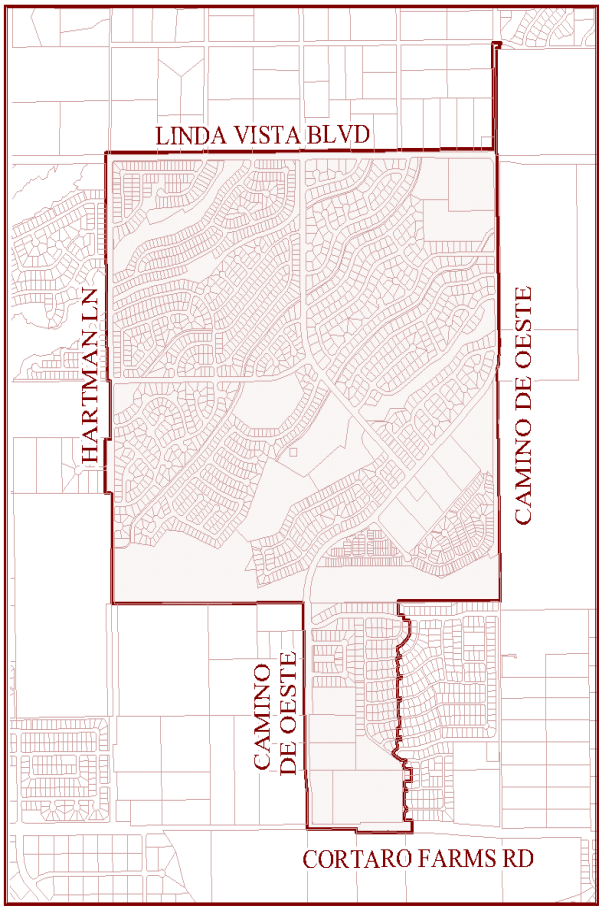
Stage 2 Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule (Stage 2 DBPR)

The goal of the initial distribution system evaluation (IDSE) is to characterize the distribution system and identify monitoring sites where customers may be exposed to high levels of total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) and Haloacetic acids (HAA5). Sampling results for these contaminants continue at a very low level allowing the State to grant an IDSE waiver. This waiver allows the Oro Valley Water Utility to comply with IDSE requirements without having to conduct additional distribution system monitoring.

Your Water & Its Source

Public Water System #AZ0410-175, known as the Countryside water system, serves a population of approximately 6,000 people. This water system currently serves the general geographic area that is bordered by Linda Vista on the north, Camino de Oeste on the east, Cortaro Farms Road on the south and Hartman Lane on the west (see map). Oro Valley's drinking water is groundwater taken from the northwest Tucson Basin aquifer. The water is pumped from two wells that are approximately 700 feet deep. Water pumped from the wells is piped directly into a reservoir and is pressurized as it passes through a booster station prior to being delivered to your home.

Service Area Map



Analytical Requirements for Safe Drinking Water

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man-made. 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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

The Oro Valley Water Utility is required by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to perform water quality testing on the Countryside water system. The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Monitoring Assistance Program (MAP) provides for a chemical monitoring process for utilities with a population of less than 10,000 people. The sampling consists of the collection, transportation, and analytical testing of 86 baseline contaminants. The Oro Valley Water Utility is currently required to sample for Total Coliform, Lead, Copper, and Trihalomethanes. We are very proud to report that no contaminants were detected at the Maximum Contaminant Level set by the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Rules.

The only water treatment applied to the water distribution system is chlorination. Chlorine acts as a disinfectant in the water system to prevent possible microbiological contamination. Six locations throughout the system are tested daily for chlorine residual. The Utility maintains a range of 0.2 to 0.8 parts per million (ppm) of chlorine residual.

Health Awareness

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 the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

Drinking Water Contaminants

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.

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, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or 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 can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater 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 which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Definitions and Abbreviations

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.

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

MFL: million fibers per liter

pCi/L: picocuries per liter, a measure of radioactivity

ppm: parts per million

ppb: parts per billion

N/A: not applicable

2012 DETECTED CONTAMINANTS REPORT FOR THE COUNTRYSIDE SYSTEM AZ0410-175

Contaminants	Result	Units	EPA MCL	EPA MCLG	Violation	Sample Year	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	Present Absent	1 Present Month	0	**NO**	2012	Coliforms are naturally present in the environment.
Fluoride	1.1	ppm	4	4	**NO**	2008	Natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer; water additive that promotes strong teeth.
Nitrate	1.0	ppm	10	10	**NO**	2012	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; natural deposits.
Sodium	49	ppm	No MCL	20	**NO**	2007	Minerals, septic systems.
Hardness	68 4.0	ppm grns/gal	No MCL No MCL	*See note **See note	**NO**	2012	Dissolved calcium and magnesium from soil and aquifer minerals containing limestone or dolomite.
Radionclides	2.7	pCi/L	15	0	**NO**	2010	Erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	0.054	ppm	1.3	N/A	**NO**	2010	Corrosion of household plumbing system; Erosion of natural deposits.
Trihalomethanes	0.7	ppb	80	N/A	**NO**	2012	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

*Scale (ppm); 0-60 = Soft, 61-120 = Moderately Hard, 121-180 = Hard, >180 = Very Hard
**Scale (grains/gallon); 0-3.5 = Soft, 3.6-7.0 = Moderately Hard, 7.1-10.5 = Hard, above >10.5 = Very Hard

The Oro Valley Water Utility regularly checks its water for contaminants. The Utility also monitors for operational and baseline data, and for constituents that may be regulated in the near future.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY (ADEQ)

Source Water Assessment Report

This report assesses the drinking water sources of a public water system. The report provides detailed information by evaluating the hydrogeologic setting in which the sources are located and identifying adjacent land uses that are in a specified proximity of the drinking water source. The outcome of this assessment is a listing of the degree to which drinking water sources are protected by designating them as either “high risk” or “low risk”. A designation of “high risk” indicates there are additional source water protection measures that can be implemented on the local level. A “low risk” designation indicates that most source water protection measures are either already implemented or the hydrogeologic setting is such that it protects the source water. In 2003, ADEQ completed a source water assessment for the Utility’s two wells. Once ADEQ identified the adjacent land uses, the risk to source water was ranked “low risk” by ADEQ from land uses that could potentially affect the Utility’s water sources. The Utility can use this information to prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes.

Residents can help to protect water sources by taking hazardous household chemicals to hazardous material collection centers and limiting pesticide and fertilizer use. For more information on the source water assessment, call Charles Soper, Water Quality Section, phone (520) 229-5061 or visit ADEQ’s Source Water Assessment and Protection Unit website at www.azdeq.gov/environ/water/dw/swap.html.

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Consumer Confidence Report

Oro Valley Water Utility wants you to be informed about the quality of drinking water delivered to you. We welcome your comments, questions and concerns. If you need further information or if you have comments regarding this report, please contact Charles Soper at (520) 229-5061.

You may also offer comments and suggestions at public meetings. Unless otherwise posted, the Oro Valley Town Council and the Oro Valley Water Utility Commission meet as follows:

Oro Valley Town Council Meetings
1st & 3rd Wednesday of every month 6:00 p.m.
Town Council Chambers

Oro Valley Water Utility Commission Meetings
2nd Monday of every month 6:00 p.m.
Hopi Conference Room

11000 N. La Canada Drive, Oro Valley, AZ 85737

Visit our website: http://www.orovalleyaz.gov

The Town of Oro Valley complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). If you need any type of accommodation, please notify the Town Clerk at (520) 229-4700.