

# PUEBLO DEL SOL WATER COMPANY

## 1999 Water Quality Report

Dear Customer:

We are pleased to present a summary of the quality of the water provided to you during the past year. The United States Environmental Protection Agency USEPA recently finalized a new rule which requires water utilities to annually produce a report that addresses the quality of water they deliver in addition to other notices that may be required by law. This report details where our water comes from, what it contains, and the risks our water testing and treatment are designed to prevent. **PUEBLO DEL SOL WATER COMPANY** is committed to providing you with the safest and most reliable water supply. Informed consumers are our best allies in maintaining safe drinking water.

**PUEBLO DEL SOL WATER COMPANY'S drinking water meets all Federal and State health and safety standards.**

### *Water Source*

PUEBLO DEL SOL WATER COMPANY'S water source is groundwater from the Sierra Vista Sub-Basin of the Upper San Pedro Basin. The Upper San Pedro Basin is an intermountain valley approximately 1,875 square miles in size bounded on the west by the Huachuca, Whetstone and Rincon Mountains and on the east by the Mule, Dagoon, Little Dagoon and Winchester Mountains. The basin extends approximately 58 miles from the international boundary with the Republic of Mexico on the south, to the Narrows, approximately 11 miles north of Benson. Pueblo del Sol Water Company's three wells are located on Yaqui Street, the intersection of Buffalo Soldier Trail/Highway 92 and on Buffalo Soldier Trail East approximately one-half mile east of Highway 92.

### *Water Quality*

Certain quantities of some substances are essential to good health, but excessive quantities can be hazardous. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food & Drug Administration 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 contaminants does *not* necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is the general population. Immune-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.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water hotline (800-426-4791)**.

### *Contaminants That May Be Present In Water*

In 1999, PUEBLO DEL SOL WATER COMPANY tested for over 70 contaminants in our water. 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 storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or fanning.

**Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, storm water runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organics, 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.

**How to Read This Table**

This report is based upon tests conducted in the year 1999 by PUEBLO DEL SOL WATER COMPANY, unless otherwise indicated. Terms used in the following **Water-Quality Table** and in other parts of this report are defined here.

**Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:** The highest Level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.

**Parts per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per Liter (mg/L):** One part per million, or milligram per liter, is the equivalent of one minute in two years.

**Parts per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per Liter (ug/L):** One part per billion, or microgram per liter (jig/l), is the equivalent of one minute in 2,000 years.

**Picocuries per liter pCi/L):** Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

**Not Detected (ND):** Laboratory analysis indicates the contaminant is not present.

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

Water Quality Table								
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>								
Total Coliform Bacteria	tested twice/mo		Presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	0	ND		Naturally present in the environment.	NO
Fecal Coliforms and E. coli	tested twice/mo		If a routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive	0	ND		Human and animal fecal waste.	NO
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>								
Barium	6/9/98	ppm	2	2	0.06	0.05 - 0.06	Discharge of drilling wastes; leaching from bricks and tiles containing barium; erosion of natural deposits.	NO
Nitrate	6/9/98	ppm	10	10	0.40	0 - 0.40	Ron-off from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits	NO
Copper	9/8/97	ppm	AL = 1.3	AL = 1.3	0.18	0.15 - 0.18	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	NO
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>								
Alpha emitters	10/23/97	pCi/L	15	0	3.5	2.7 - 3.8	Erosion of natural deposits	NO

Based on the above table, only four of the over 70 contaminants tested for registered a value which was well within tile limits established by the USEPA. We are proud to report that our drinking water **surpasses all Federal and State requirements.**

**Health effects of listed contaminants**

**Total Coliform:** Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment. They are usually harmless, but their presence can be an indicator of disease-causing bacteria.

**Fecal Coliform/E. Coli:** Fecal Coliforms and E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

**Alpha Emitters:** Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**Barium:** Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure.

**Nitrate:** Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.

### **Variances and Exemptions**

Under a waiver granted on May 1, 1998, by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality, our system does not have to monitor for the following contaminants, due to testing over a three year period that indicated these substances do not occur in our source water:

1,2-dibromo-3-chloropropane (DBCP)	Chlordane	Endothal
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	Methoxychlor	Toxaphene
Glyphosate	Dalapon	Endrin
2,4-D	Di (2-ethylhexyl) adipate	Ethylene dibromide (EDB)
Alachlor (Lasso)	Heptachlor epoxide	Simazine
BHC-Gamma (Lindane)	Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate	Heptachlor
Atrazine	Dinoseb	Hexachlorocyclopentadiene
Benzo (A) Pyrene	Picloram	Pentachlorophenol
	Diquat	

### **Our Commitment**

All of us at Pueblo del Sol Water Company are proud of the information presented in this report. We are committed to the delivery of safe, clean water to you, our customer. If you have any questions regarding information contained in the report, please contact William C. Keaton, Pueblo del Sol Water Company, at (520)458-3742.

This report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.

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