

CSU provides Fort Carson water quality consumer confidence report for 2003

Fort Carson is a consecutive system from Colorado Springs Utilities. Our water comes from the Colorado Springs water system and is currently provided from the Fountain Valley Authority. Colorado Springs does the major portion of the compliance monitoring for this drinking water and the Colorado Springs Utilities monitoring information is included with this report. Fort Carson does 360 analyses per year (30 per month) for total coliform bacteria, 12 analyses per year (three per quarter) for total trihalomethanes, and 30 analyses per year for lead and copper in the distribution system. The data is summarized below:

This table shows the results of Fort Carson's monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2002 unless otherwise noted:

Microbiological Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	CCR Unit	Level Detected	Violation Yes or No	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria	System collects >40 samples: 5% of monthly samples are positive System collects <40 samples: 1 positive monthly sample	0	Absent or Present	Absent	No	Various January 1 to December 31, 2002 unless otherwise noted. (360 samples)	Naturally present in the environment

Lead and Copper

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	CCR Units	Level Detected/ Range	Violation Yes or No	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	1.3	1.3	ppm	2.0 (.02-2.0)	No	Oct 02	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	15	0	ppb	17 (.5-17)	No	Oct 02	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Organic Contaminants

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	CCR Units	Level Detected/ Range	Violation Yes or No	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Bromodichloromethane	N/A	N/A	ppb	25 (13-25)	N/A	Apr/Jun/Sep/Nov 2002	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chlorodibromomethane	N/A	N/A	ppb	13 (4.9-13)	N/A	Apr/Jun/Sep/Nov 2002	By-product of drinking water chlorination.
Chloroform	N/A	N/A	ppb	51.9 (20-51.9)	N/A	Apr/Jun/Sep/Nov 2002	By-product of drinking water chlorination.

For more information about Fort Carson water quality, call the water program manager at (719) 526-1730.

Colorado Springs Utilities (PWSID # CO0121150)
2003 Water Quality Report Information for
Fort Carson Army Base (PWSID # CO0221445)

WATER SOURCE INFORMATION

Our customers receive water blended from multiple sources: surface water, ground water, and purchased water. Your water source may vary during the year.

With no major source of water nearby, we rely on a raw water collection system that delivers water to Colorado Springs from nearly 200 miles away. The headwaters, or sources, that supply these systems originate in wilderness areas near Aspen, Leadville, and Breckenridge. Nearly 75 percent of our water originates from many mountain streams (surface water). Water from these streams is collected and stored in various reservoirs along the Continental Divide. The collection systems in this area consist of the Homestake, Fryingpan-Arkansas, Twin Lakes, and Blue River systems. The majority of this water is transferred to Colorado Springs through pipelines that help to protect the water from contamination, such as, herbicides, pesticides, heavy metals, and other chemicals. Water delivered to Colorado Springs is stored at Rampart Reservoir and at the Catamount reservoirs on Pikes Peak, which then supply our water treatment plants.

We also use local surface and ground water sources. Local surface waters are from the north and south slopes of Pikes Peak, North and South Cheyenne Creeks, Fountain Creek, and the Northfield Watershed. The local ground water source is from the four Pinello Wells (46-52 feet deep) that are pumped from the Widefield aquifer.

We purchase treated surface water from the Fountain Valley Authority. FVA receives water from the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project. The Fryingpan-Arkansas Project is a system of pipes and tunnels that collects water in the Hunter-Fryingpan Wilderness Area near Aspen. Waters collected from the system are diverted to the Arkansas River, near Buena Vista, and then flow some 150 miles downstream to Pueblo Reservoir. From Pueblo Reservoir, the water travels through a pipeline to the water treatment plant.

NOTE: THIS IS REQUIRED PUBLIC NOTIFICATION INFORMATION.

Operating Under an Exemption: Lead and Copper Rule Water Quality Parameter Ranges

On November 8, 2002, we were granted a six-month Water Quality Parameter exemption for pH and alkalinity in the distribution system. The Pinello Well system went on-line in August 2002. The water from this system had a pH less than the established range (7.1 to 9.0 S.U.) and an alkalinity greater than the established range (20 to 140 mg CaCO₃/L). The exemption allowed us time to install a chemical feed system on the Pinello Well system that increased the pH so the water is less corrosive. Modified pH and alkalinity ranges were approved (7.0 to 9.0 S.U. and 20 to 200 mg CaCO₃/L respectively); they were effective January 1, 2003. Treatment was on-line as of December 19, 2002, and water entering the distribution system complied with the new ranges.

Additional Monitoring

Unregulated contaminants are those for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. During 2002 and early 2003, we performed additional quarterly unregulated contaminant monitoring at the Pine Valley, McCullough, Mesa and Ute Pass Water Treatment Plants. None of the contaminants tested for were detected. The monitoring results are available to the public. To obtain the results, please call (719) 668-4560.

Additional Information about 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, and detected nitrate levels are above 5 ppm, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

This table shows the combined results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2002, unless otherwise noted.

Contaminant	MCL	MCLG	CCR Unit	Level Detected (Range)	Violation Yes or No	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Organic Carbon	TT	N/A	N/A	N/A [§]	No	Running Annual Average	Naturally present in the environment
[§] The Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule provides several alternative compliance criteria besides the TOC removal ratios. We did not report TOC removal ratios because we met an alternative compliance criteria. The alternative compliance criteria that we use is §141.135 (a)(2)(ii). Our treated water TOC levels are <2.0 ppm calculated quarterly as a running annual average.							
Turbidity	TT = 1 NTU			1			
Lowest Monthly Percent of readings above the TT limits	TT = 95% of samples <0.3 NTU	N/A	NTU	99%	No	Jan-Dec 2002	Soil runoff.
(Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor turbidity because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.)							
Inorganic Contaminants							
Barium	2	2	ppm	0.080 (0.018-0.080)	No	Jul & Aug 2002	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	100	100	ppb	2.9 (ND-2.9)	No	Jul & Aug 2002	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	4	4	ppm	1.78 (0.19-1.78)	No	Jul & Aug 2002	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	10	10	ppm	7.0 (ND-7.0)	No	Jul, Aug & Oct 2002	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	50	50	ppb	7.0 (ND-7.0)	No	Jul & Aug 2002	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Unregulated Inorganic Contaminants							
Nickel	N/A	N/A	ppb	4.0 (ND-4.0)	N/A	Jul & Aug 2002	
Sodium	N/A	N/A	ppm	30 (6.9-30)	N/A	Jul & Aug 2002	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	N/A	N/A	ppm	102 (12-102)	N/A	Jul 2000	Erosion of natural deposits

No violations occurred in 2002. The state has issued Springs Utilities waivers for asbestos, cyanide, dioxin, glyphosate, nitrite, and all unregulated inorganic contaminants.

Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the United States. Although filtration removes *Cryptosporidium*, the most commonly used filtration methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water that goes into the water treatment plant; no organisms were detected in the drinking water from the water treatment plant. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of *Cryptosporidium* may cause *Cryptosporidiosis*, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. *Cryptosporidium* must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water. For more information on *Cryptosporidium* visit www.epa.gov/ogwdw000/crypto.html.