

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

SYSTEM NAME: Cottonwood Municipal Water PWS # 13-025

Well Site Yuma/Cactus EPDS 010

The Level of Arsenic Exceeded the Drinking Water Standards for 2nd Quarter 2021

The City of Cottonwood currently samples and tests quarterly for the presence of arsenic in all drinking water delivered to its customers as required by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). The city also calculates the running annual average concentration of arsenic for the four most recently collected quarterly samples at each wellsite, as required by ADEQ. The current standard for arsenic in drinking water is 10 parts billion (ppb). Prior to January 2006, the arsenic standard in drinking water was 50 ppb.

The running annual average level of arsenic for the four most recently collected samples in 2020-2021 for the Yuma/Cactus wellsite of the Cottonwood Municipal Water System, PWS#13-025, is 11 ppb, which is above the 10 ppb standard. The level of arsenic in the most recently collected sample for this wellsite in the second quarter of 2021 was **“Non-Detectable.”** The city will continue to test quarterly for arsenic as required by ADEQ and send out notifications to its customers until the running annual average level of arsenic is consistently below the 10 ppb requirement. The running annual average level of arsenic for this wellsite is not considered to be an emergency, but as a valued customer it is important that we make you aware of the situation, what you should do if anything and what steps we are taking to correct the problem.

What should you do?

You DO NOT need to do anything at this time and you do not need to use an alternative (e.g. bottled) water supply. There is no immediate health risk. If there was an immediate health risk, you would have been notified immediately and instructed on what steps to take in order to prevent any serious health risks from occurring. It has been reported that some people drinking water with arsenic levels in excess of the current standard of 10 ppb for many years may experience skin irritations, circulatory problems and an increased risk of cancer. If you should have specific health concerns, it is recommended you consult your personal physician.

What steps have been taken to correct the situation?

The city purchased and installed a new arsenic removal system, which has been in operation since 5/14/2021.



New Arsenic Unit

For more information, please contact Roger Biggs at (928) 634-0186 ext. 3307 or via email at rbiggs@cottonwoodaz.gov. This notice is being sent to you by Cottonwood Municipal Water CW1 Public Water System ID#: AZ-04-13025 Date distributed: July 2021

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.