

City of Argonia

Consumer Confidence Report – 2021

Covering Calendar Year – 2020



This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of the water that we provided last year. Included are the details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies. If you would like to observe the decision-making process that affect drinking water quality, please call Kevin Mccurley at 620-435-6417.

Your water comes from 2 Ground Water Wells.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as those 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) included 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 sources water before we treat it include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, livestock operations and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water run-off, agriculture, and residential users.

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or the result of mining activity.

Organic contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also come from gas stations, urban storm water run-off, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulation which limits the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. We treat our water according to EPA's regulations. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Our water system is required to test a minimum of 2 samples per month in accordance with the Revised Total Coliform Rule for microbiological contaminants. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public.

Water Quality Data

The following tables list all of the drinking water contaminants which were detected during the 2020 calendar year. The presence of these contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Unless noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done January 1- December 31, 2020. The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old. **The bottom line is that the water that is provided to you is safe.**

Terms & Abbreviations

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): the "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to human health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): the "Maximum Allowed" MCL is 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.

Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL): recommended level for a contaminant that is not regulated and has no MCL.

Action Level (AL): the concentration of a contaminant that, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.

Treatment Technique (TT): a required process intended to reduce levels of a contaminant in drinking water.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): 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.

Non-Detects (ND): lab analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present.

Parts per Million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

Parts per Billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/l)

Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L): a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per Year (mrem/yr): measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Monitoring Period Average (MPA): An average of sample results obtained during a defined time frame, common examples of monitoring periods are monthly, quarterly and yearly.

Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU): a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person. Turbidity is not regulated for groundwater systems.

Running Annual Average (RAA): an average of sample results obtained over the most current 12 months and used to determine compliance with MCLs.

Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA): Average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters.

Testing Results for: City of Argonia

Microbiological	Result	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
COLIFORM (TCR)	In the month of July, 3 sample(s) returned as positive	Treatment Technique Trigger	0	Naturally present in the environment

Regulated Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
ARSENIC	4/6/2020	5.4	5.4	ppb	10	0	Erosion of natural deposits
BARIUM	4/9/2018	0.064	0.064	ppm	2	2	Discharge from metal refineries
CHROMIUM	4/9/2018	1.4	1.4	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills
NITRATE	4/7/2020	9.3	9.3	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use
SELENIUM	4/9/2018	1.6	1.6	ppb	50	50	Erosion of natural deposits

Lead and Copper	Monitoring Period	90 th Percentile	Range (low/high)	Unit	AL	Sites Over AL	Typical Source
COPPER, FREE	2016 - 2018	0.22	0.0059 - 0.26	ppm	1.3	0	Corrosion of household plumbing
LEAD	2016 - 2018	1.8	0 - 5.2	ppb	15	0	Corrosion of household plumbing

If present, elevated levels of 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. Your water system is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Chlorine/Chloramines Maximum Disinfection Level	MPA	MPA Units	RAA	RAA Units
11/01/2020 - 11/30/2020	1.2	MG/L	0.8	MG/L

Unresolved Deficiency Date Identified	Facility	Comments
07/31/2020	WATER SYSTEM	not following an approved site plan or site plan outdated. They have been collecting from unapproved sites. Operator says the map is outdated as some residents have passed away. CORRECTIVE ACTION: Submit an updated RTRC sample site plan for review by 9/11/20
07/31/2020	WATER SYSTEM	The vent on well 5 is not screened CORRECTIVE ACTION: By 9/11/20, install screen on vent on well 5 that is in accordance with Minimum Design Standards guidance, Chapter IV, D, 3, e 1-8; copy of this guidance is available upon request.
07/31/2020	WATER SYSTEM	backflow prevention devices are not maintained; there is no inventory of known cross connection control or backflow prevention devices. CA - By 9/11/20 begin to complete an inventory of cross connection control and backflow prevention devices that include lawn irrigation systems. The city must require the devices are tested annually and the reports maintained for review.
07/31/2020	WATER SYSTEM	city is not using the correct chlorine meter or is using it incorrectly CA - Use a chlorine meter that is for low range, free, chlorine and make sure it is properly calibrated frequently. Provide meter model type or proof of purchase with model type listed by 9/11/20
07/31/2020	WATER SYSTEM	Sanitary seal is not in tact on well 5 CA - Replace missing bolts on the cap by 9/11/20

Secondary Contaminants – Non-Health Based Contaminants - No Federal Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) Established.	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range (low/high)	Unit	SMCL
ALKALINITY, TOTAL	4/9/2018	110	110	MG/L	300
CALCIUM	4/9/2018	37	37	MG/L	200
CHLORIDE	4/9/2018	97	97	MG/L	250
CONDUCTIVITY @ 25 C UMHOS/CM	4/9/2018	640	640	UMHO/CM	1500
HARDNESS, TOTAL (AS CaCO3)	4/9/2018	160	160	MG/L	400
MAGNESIUM	4/9/2018	16	16	MG/L	150
NICKEL	4/9/2018	0.0099	0.0099	MG/L	0.1
PH	4/9/2018	7.4	7.4	PH	8.5
POTASSIUM	4/9/2018	1.2	1.2	MG/L	100
SILICA	4/9/2018	31	31	MG/L	50
SODIUM	4/9/2018	60	60	MG/L	100
SULFATE	4/9/2018	20	20	MG/L	250
TDS	4/9/2018	340	340	MG/L	500
ZINC	4/9/2018	0.096	0.096	MG/L	5

Please Note: Because of sampling schedules, results may be older than 1 year.

During the 2020 calendar year, we had no violation(s) of drinking water regulations.

Additional Required Health Effects Language:

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially harmful bacteria may be present.

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

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, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

There are no additional required health effects violation notices.

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year we were required to conduct one Level 1 assessment. one Level 1 assessment(s) was completed. In addition, we were required to take one corrective action and we completed one of the action.

During the past year one Level 2 assessments were required to be completed for our water system. one Level 2 assessments were completed. In addition, we were required to take eight corrective actions and we completed three of these actions.