

NORTHERN COLORADO WATER ASSOCIATION 2022 Drinking Water Quality Report Covering Data For Calendar Year 2021

Public Water System ID: CO0135554

Esta es información importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzca.

We are pleased to present to you this year's water quality report. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Please contact Joe Huffaker at 970-566-1003 with any questions or for public participation opportunities that may affect water quality. **Please see the water quality data from our wholesale system(s) (included in this report) for additional information about your drinking water.**

General Information

All 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or by visiting epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and microbiological contaminants call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

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:** viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants:** 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:** may come from a variety of sources, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Radioactive contaminants:** can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- Organic chemical contaminants:** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also may come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prescribes

regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Lead in Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems (especially for pregnant women and young children). It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. 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. Additional information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP)

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment may have provided us with a Source Water Assessment Report for our water supply. For general information or to obtain a copy of the report please visit wqcdcompliance.com/ccr. The report is located under "Guidance: Source Water Assessment Reports". Search the table using 135554, NORTHERN COLORADO WA, or by contacting Joe Huffaker at 970-566-1003. For ELCO, search 135233, EAST LARIMER COUNTY WD, or by contacting Randy Siddens at 970-493-2044 and for NWCWD, search 162553, NORTH WELD COUNTY WD, or by contacting Eric Reckentine at 970-301-2806 The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that **could** occur. It **does not** mean that the contamination **has or will** occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan. Potential sources of contamination in our source water area are listed on the next page.

Please contact us to learn more about what you can do to help protect your drinking water sources, any questions about the Drinking Water Quality Report, to learn more about our system, or to attend scheduled public meetings. We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about the services we provide and the quality water we deliver to you every day.

Our Water Sources

<u>Source</u>	<u>Source Type</u>	<u>Water Type</u>	<u>Potential Source(s) of Contamination</u>
Well No. 1R, 2, 3, 4R, 5R	Well	Groundwater	Commercial/Industrial/Transportation, Pasture/Hay Supplies, Septic Systems and Road Miles
Purchased Water - East Larimer County WD - CO0135233 (Horsetooth Reservoir-Soldier Canyon Treatment Plant)	Consecutive Connection	Surface Water	Potential sources of contamination in our source water area may come from: Hazardous waste, generators, chemical inventory/storage sites, toxic release inventory sites, permitted wastewater discharge sites, aboveground, underground and leaking storage tank sites, solid waste sites, existing/abandoned mine sites, other facilities, commercial/industrial & transportation. Low intensity residential, urban recreational grasses, row crops, fallow, pasture/hay, deciduous forest, evergreen forest, mixed forest, septic systems, oil/gas well, road miles.
Purchased Water - North Weld County WD - CO0162533 (Horsetooth Reservoir-Soldier Canyon Treatment Plant)			

NOTE: Northern Colorado Water Association has their own groundwater well supply which feeds the northern portion of the distribution system along with 2 sources of purchased water, from both North Weld County Water District(NWCWD) and East Larimer County Water District(ELCO). NWCWD supplies water to the southeastern portion of the distribution system and ELCO provides water to the southwestern portion. Your water may be supplied by one of our purchased water sources.

Terms and Abbreviations

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- **Treatment Technique (TT)** – A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
- **Health-Based** – A violation of either a MCL or TT.
- **Non-Health-Based** – A violation that is not a MCL or TT.
- **Action Level (AL)** – The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements.
- **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.
- **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.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** – The level of a drinking water disinfectant, below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **Violation (No Abbreviation)** – Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.
- **Formal Enforcement Action (No Abbreviation)** – Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.
- **Variance and Exemptions (V/E)** – Department permission not to meet a MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions.
- **Gross Alpha (No Abbreviation)** – Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon 222, and uranium.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** – Measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** – Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.
- **Compliance Value (No Abbreviation)** – Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values are the 90th Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA).
- **Average (x-bar)** – Typical value.
- **Range (R)** – Lowest value to the highest value.
- **Sample Size (n)** – Number or count of values (i.e. number of water samples collected).

- **Parts per million = Milligrams per liter (ppm = mg/L)** – One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion = Micrograms per liter (ppb = ug/L)** – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Not Applicable (N/A)** – Does not apply or not available.
- **Level 1 Assessment** – A study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.
- **Level 2 Assessment** – A very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an E. coli MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Detected Contaminants for Northern Colorado Water Association (NCWA) CO0135554

Northern Colorado Water Association (NCWA), East Larimer County Water District (ELCO) and North Weld County Water District (NWCWD) routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table(s) show all detections found in the period of January 1 to December 31, 2021 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado 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, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the next section of this report.

Note: Only detected contaminants sampled within the last 5 years appear in this report. If no tables appear in this section then no contaminants were detected in the last round of monitoring.

Disinfectants Sampled in the Distribution System						
TT Requirement: At least 95% of samples per period (month or quarter) must be at least 0.2 ppm <u>OR</u>						
If sample size is less than 40 no more than 1 sample is below 0.2 ppm						
Typical Sources: Water additive used to control microbes						
Disinfectant Name	Time Period	Results	Number of Samples Below Level	Sample Size	TT Violation	MRDL
Chlorine	December, 2021	<u>Lowest period</u> percentage of samples meeting TT requirement: 100%	0	5	No	4.0 ppm

Lead and Copper Sampled in the Distribution System								
Contaminant Name	Time Period	90 th Percentile	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	90 th Percentile AL	Sample Sites Above AL	90 th Percentile AL Exceedance	Typical Sources
Copper	06/02/2021 to 07/01/2021	0.17	20	ppm	1.3	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Lead	06/02/2021 to 07/01/2021	4	20	ppb	15	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

Disinfection Byproducts Sampled in the Distribution System									
Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2021	29.85	21.9 to 38.3	8	ppb	60	N/A	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2021	37.09	18.8 to 53.5	8	ppb	80	N/A	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Radionuclides Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Gross Alpha	2020	2.62	2.62 to 2.62	1	pCi/L	15	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	2020	3.9	3.9 to 3.9	1	pCi/L	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Uranium	2020	4	4 to 4	1	ppb	30	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Arsenic	2020	4	4 to 4	1	ppb	10	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium	2020	0.29	0.29 to 0.29	1	ppm	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2020	0.3	0.3 to 0.3	1	ppm	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	2021	1.6	1.6 to 1.6	1	ppm	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	2020	2	2 to 2	1	ppb	50	50	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines

Volatile Organic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Xylenes	2021	0.43	0 to 0.6	4	ppb	10,000	10,000	No	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories

Secondary Contaminants**						
**Secondary standards are <u>non-enforceable</u> guidelines for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin, or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water.						
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	Secondary Standard
Sodium	2020	9.7	9.7 to 9.7	1	ppm	N/A



Detected Contaminants for East Larimer County (ELCO) CO0135233 and North Weld County Water District (NWCWD) CO0162553

RAW AND TREATED (FINISHED) WATER SAMPLES AT WATER TREATMENT PLANT

Total Organic Carbon (Disinfection Byproducts Precursor) Removal Ratio of Raw and Finished Water								
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	TT Minimum Ratio	TT Violation	Typical Sources
Total Organic Carbon Ratio	2021	1.19	0.76 to 1.61	12	Ratio	1.00	No	Naturally present in the environment
*If minimum ratio not met and no violation identified then the system achieved compliance using alternative criteria.								

Summary of Turbidity Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System					
Contaminant Name	Sample Date	Level Found	TT Requirement	TT Violation	Typical Sources
Turbidity	Date/Month: May	<u>Highest single</u> measurement: 0.075 NTU	Maximum 1 NTU for any single measurement	No	Soil Runoff
Turbidity	Month: Dec	<u>Lowest monthly</u> percentage of samples meeting TT requirement for our technology: 100 %	In any month, at least 95% of samples must be less than 0.3 NTU	No	Soil Runoff

TREATED WATER SAMPLES AT WATER TREATMENT PLANT (SOLDIER CANYON FILTER PLANT)

Inorganic Contaminants Sampled at the Entry Point to the Distribution System									
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation	Typical Sources
Antimony	2021	0.24	0 to 0.94	4	ppb	6	6	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Barium	2021	0.02	0.02 to 0.02	4	ppm	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	2021	0.53	0.12 to 0.69	4	ppm	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Mercury	2021	0.1	0 to 0.4	4	ppb	2	2	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
Nitrate	2021	0.04	0.01 to 0.1	4	ppm	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	2021	0.19	0 to 0.76	4	ppb	50	50	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines

Secondary Contaminants**						
**Secondary standards are <u>non-enforceable</u> guidelines for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin, or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water.						
Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range Low – High	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	Secondary Standard
Sodium	2021	9.43	8.2 to 11.1	4	ppm	N/A

Violations, Significant Deficiencies, and Formal Enforcement Actions for Northern Colorado Water Association

Health-Based Violations

Maximum contaminant level (MCL) violations: Test results for this contaminant show that the level was too high for the time period shown. Please read the information shown below about potential health effects for vulnerable populations. This is likely the same violation that we told you about in a past notice. We are evaluating, or we already completed an evaluation, to find the best way to reduce or remove the contaminant. If the solution will take an extended period of time, we will keep you updated with quarterly notices.

Treatment technique (TT) violations: We failed to complete an action that could affect water quality. Please read the information shown below about potential health effects for vulnerable populations. This is likely the same violation that we told you about in a past notice. We were required to meet a minimum operation/treatment standard, we were required to make upgrades to our system, or we were required to evaluate our system for potential sanitary defects, and we failed to do so in the time period shown below. If the solution will take an extended period of time, we will keep you updated with quarterly notices.

Name	Description	Time Period	Health Effects related to Backflow and Cross-connection
CROSS CONNECTION RULE	FAILURE TO MEET CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND/OR BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS - M617	12/22/2021 to 12/22/2021 (CDPHE Formal Letter Issue Date)	We have an inadequate backflow prevention and cross-connection control program. Uncontrolled cross connections can lead to inadvertent contamination of the drinking water.
CROSS CONNECTION RULE	FAILURE TO MEET CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND/OR BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS - M614	12/22/2021 to 12/22/2021 (CDPHE Formal Letter Issue Date)	We have an inadequate backflow prevention and cross-connection control program. Uncontrolled cross connections can lead to inadvertent contamination of the drinking water.

Additional information regarding resolution of violations of Backflow and Cross-Connection

Name	Description of Violation	Date Corrected/Resolved	Corrective Action (Per the public noticed previously mailed to all NCWA customers)
CROSS CONNECTION RULE	FAILURE TO MEET CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND/OR BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS - M617	12/2/2021	Following the sanitary survey of Northern Colorado Water Association and prior to the issuance of the formal letter from CDPHE, NCWA had the failed backflow assembly repaired and retested. The assembly passed inspection; the report was sent to the department inspector resolving the M617 Management Violation. This violation is considered resolved and no further action is needed.
CROSS CONNECTION RULE	FAILURE TO MEET CROSS CONNECTION CONTROL AND/OR BACKFLOW PREVENTION REQUIREMENTS - M614	11/30/2021	Due to COVID-19 pandemic scheduling complications NCWA was unable to have all backflow assemblies tested during the year 2020, this resulted in a M614 Management Violation regarding the compliance ratio of tested devices. The issue is considered resolved due to 100% compliance ratio of backflow devices was reached in 2019 and 2021. This violation is considered resolved and no further action is needed.

NOTE: All backflow and cross-connection violations have been resolved following the sanitary survey completed on 11/30/2021. Northern Colorado Water Association will continue with our annual inspections per CDPHE compliance regulations.

For more information or questions please contact Joe Huffaker at 970-566-1003.