what's in your water?
A Message from the Director

In our desert environment, water resource management and planning are important to ensure that current and future generations have an adequate water supply. Every drop of Peoria’s drinking water is treated using modern, state-of-the-art treatment technology. Hundreds of tests are performed each day to be certain that drinking water meets all federal, state and local water quality standards. This ensures that your drinking water is safe; every drop, every day.

In 2013, Peoria received its drinking water from the following supplies:

**Quintero:**
- 100% from the Colorado River via the Central Arizona Project.

**Vistancia:**
- 100% groundwater from wells.

**All other areas served by the city:**
- 44% from the Colorado River via the Central Arizona Project.
- 32% from the Salt and Verde Rivers via the Salt River Project.
- 24% groundwater from wells (recovered water)

Peoria’s water supply is one of our most valuable assets, making water conservation a necessary way of life. We encourage every citizen to use water wisely and adapt to a water-saving lifestyle.

This brochure provides information on what you can do to keep our drinking water safe as well as your Annual Water Quality Report. This report is a summary of the thousands of tests and measurements performed by the city during the 2013 calendar year. Our dedicated staff of certified and highly trained water professionals works to ensure the City provides drinking water that is treated, tested and safe.

Sincerely,

William Mattingly, P.E., R.L.S.
Public Works-Utilities Director

Este informe contiene información importante sobre su agua potable. Si usted tiene preguntas sobre este informe, por favor llame al 623-773-7286.

The information and data contained in this report apply only to those who receive their water from the City of Peoria. There are several private water companies that serve residents in certain areas of the City. If you receive your water from the Sunrise, New River, Rose Valley or EPCOR water companies, you should contact your water supplier directly for water data that affects you:

- Sunrise: 623-972-6133
- New River: 623-561-1848
- Rose Valley: 623-889-2275; info@rosevalleywaterco.com
- EPCOR: 800-383-0834 (Agua Fria District)
OUR WATER IS SAFE.
LET’S KEEP IT THAT WAY!

Do your part. Prevent pollution with these good practices:

- Safely dispose of household & hazardous waste.*
- Cool Fats, Oils, and Grease after cooking and secure in a container to dispose in a trash can.
- Don’t flush these items: medication, personal care products, paint, cleaning chemicals, pesticides. These products can make their way into our aquifers!

* Household & Hazardous Waste Disposal
www.peoriaaz.gov/hhw

Unlike a sanitary sewer system that carries water to a wastewater treatment plant, storm sewers carry untreated rain water and urban runoff into washes, rivers, retention basins, canals and parks. Flowing storm water picks up dirt, debris, chemicals, oil, grease and many other pollutants. This water re-enters the water cycle without being treated. Polluted storm water is a serious threat to clean water for us and the environment. Please prevent contamination of our drinking water.

- Fix oil leaks in vehicles
- Pick up pet waste
- Properly drain pool water using home’s sewer clean-out, not into the street
- Minimize the use of chemicals on yards, especially prior to rain
- Use a broom, not a hose, to clean up your garage or driveway
- Adjust your irrigation system to avoid overwatering

For more information, visit www.azstorm.org and www.peoriaaz.gov/stormwater.
These items belong in the trash can, not the toilet.

The label may say “flushable”, but these “disposable” items are clogging residential pipes and sewer lines as well as damaging expensive pumps and treatment plant components. Help stop costly repairs and equipment downtime. Don’t flush trouble down the toilet!

For more information, call 623.773.7286 or visit www.peoriaaz.gov/envresources

Prescription Drug Collection Program

Leftover prescription medicine inside our homes is highly susceptible to misuse, theft and abuse. To help with this growing problem, the Peoria Police Department is offering a safe and responsible way to dispose of these drugs.

You can drop off potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs anonymously in the Green boxes at each Police precinct station, available during normal lobby hours. Items such as needles, liquids, or aerosols (such as inhalers) are NOT accepted.

Locations & Hours:

Public Safety Administration Building
8351 W. Cinnabar Avenue
Monday–Friday 6a.m. to 6p.m.

Pinnacle Peak Public Safety Building
23100 N. Lake Pleasant Parkway
Monday–Thursday 7a.m. to 6p.m.

KEEP MEDS OUT of our WATER
Need ideas on how to create a great looking landscape that utilizes low water plant material? Head to Peoria’s Desert Fusion Garden at City Hall. The Desert Fusion Garden utilizes a wide variety of low water and desert adapted plants to form five different environmentally responsible landscapes.

Did you know there are over 100 different species of Prickly Pear Cactus? Go ahead – mix ‘em up!

Use different types of rock mulches and boulders in your xeriscape.

Low water use plants can bring color and pollinators to your yard.

Visit www.peoriaaz.gov/waterconservation for more information on the Desert Fusion Garden and other water conservation and low water landscaping tips.
2013 Water Quality Report

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of certain 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 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, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, or mining; and

• Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may be from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, urban storm water runoff, agricultural operations, or wildlife.

• Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, or mining; and

• Pesticides and herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and

• Radiometric contaminants that can be naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

SPECIAL HEALTH INFORMATION

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-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 from their health care providers. EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) can provide assistance.

Source Water Assessment

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) performed a source water assessment for 24 wells used by the City. The assessment reviewed the adjacent uses that may pose a potential risk to the sources. One of Peoria’s wells was found to have one adjacent land use that posed a high risk of contamination. Please understand that this one well’s high rating does not mean poor water quality, only its potential to become contaminated. The assessment report is available for review at ADEQ, 1310 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007 between the hours of 8 am – 5 pm. Electronic copies are available from ADEQ at dmljx@adeq.gov.

To learn more about water quality...
Pequia: www.peoria.gov/utilities
USEPA: www.epa.gov
ADEQ: www.adeq.gov
Maricopa County: www.maricopa.gov/envmgmt
Tap Into Quality: www.tapintoquality.com
Water Use It Wisely: www.water.org

A Message from the Environmental Protection Agency

2013 Results for Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ANALYTES</th>
<th>UNITS</th>
<th>RANGE</th>
<th>MEAN</th>
<th>MEDIAN</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barium</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>0.01-0.06</td>
<td>0.03</td>
<td>0.03</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cadmium</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>0.005-0.01</td>
<td>0.007</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chromium</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>0.021-0.34</td>
<td>0.22</td>
<td>0.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Copper</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>0.005</td>
<td>0.005</td>
<td>0.005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lead</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nickel</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>0.005-0.02</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nitrate</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>0.01-0.3</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.02</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nitrates</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>0.01-0.1</td>
<td>0.01</td>
<td>0.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Coliforms</td>
<td>CFU/100</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Chromium</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.02</td>
<td>0.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uranium</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>0.001-0.005</td>
<td>0.002</td>
<td>0.002</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vanadium</td>
<td>ppm</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The City of Peoria is committed to protecting public health. The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires us to collect data on 28 currently unregulated contaminants. They then use the results from this monitoring to determine whether or not to regulate these substances in the future. There are no Maximum Limits at this time. Instead, results are reported to the Minimum Reporting Level (MRL), the lowest accurately reportable level of a contaminant. The monitoring study will continue through the end of 2015. Should new regulations be developed, Peoria will ensure that your drinking water continues to be treated, tested and safe.

2013 Water Quality Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KEY TO TABLE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MCL  Maximum contaminant level. The highest level of a contaminant that is not</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>expected to cause significant risk from a single exposure or multiple daily</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>exposures over a lifetime.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCLG  Maximum contaminant level goal. The level of a contaminant in water after</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the use of treatment techniques to control microbial contaminants.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRDL  Maximum residual level. The highest level at which a given contaminant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>should remain to protect the public health.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRDLG  Maximum residual disinfectant level goal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>N/A  Not applicable.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ND  Not detected.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NTU  Number turbidity units.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ppb  Parts per billion.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ppm  Parts per million.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pCi/L  Picocuries per liter.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNITS  Unit of measurement equal to milligrams per liter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Range  The range of concentration values available for the contaminant.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average  The arithmetic mean of all concentrations measured for the contaminant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MRL  Minimum reporting level, the value below which a contaminant should</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>be reported.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCL Exceeded  Indicates the contaminant's highest average surpasses the U.S.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) MCL for the contaminant.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NITRATE, ARSENIC, LEAD & COPPER, TRIHALOMETHANES AND TURBIDITY

Nitrates at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause Blue baby syndrome. Nitrates may reach quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, ask your health care provider.

While drinking water from a water source that exceeds the EPA’s standard for nitrate can cause health problems, it does contain low levels of nitrate. Nitrates are naturally present in water and are formed when certain nitrogen-containing materials break down. The current understanding of nitrate’s possible health effects against the costs of removing nitrate from drinking water is the highest average.

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. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

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. The City of Peoria is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water that is safe to drink. You can protect 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 drinking 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 ADEQ, 1310 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85007 between the hours of 8 am – 5 pm. Electronic copies are available from ADEQ at dmljx@adeq.gov.