



CITY OF ASPEN

2022

# DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM ID: PWSID CO0149122





We are pleased to present to you this year's water quality report. This report summarizes water quality testing results for the 2022 calendar year. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

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

## LEARN MORE ABOUT ASPEN'S WATER

If you have any questions about this report or for more information about the City of Aspen's Water resources, conservation goals and our Integrated Water Resource Plan, please contact the City's Utility Office at 970-920-5110 or the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment at 303-692-3500.

The City of Aspen continues to monitor the COVID-19 Pandemic and our Drinking water Treatment standards and methods ensures a complete disinfection process with no threat of our process water becoming a source of the Virus. For more information on the City of Aspen's COVID-19 rules and responses please contact the City's Utilities Office.

# CITY OF ASPEN WATER SOURCES

The City of Aspen is very fortunate to have our source water coming directly from Certified Wilderness Areas within the White River National Forest. This includes Castle Creek, Maroon Creek, Thomas Reservoir and Rio Grande Well. Rio Grande Well is designated as an emergency source only. The water you use at your home or business typically comes from Castle Creek but may be supplemented periodically from Maroon Creek. Source water protection is an important aspect of maintaining water quality for environment aspects and Drinking water production. The City of Aspen maintains a Source Water Assessment Plan (SWAP) and it is available at:

[drive.google.com/file/d/0B0tmPQ67k3NVNVIMeFRwS2VVaEU/view?resourcekey=0-r6bw-xPpQ7NcAEOhkE9TgQ](https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B0tmPQ67k3NVNVIMeFRwS2VVaEU/view?resourcekey=0-r6bw-xPpQ7NcAEOhkE9TgQ)

## ESTIMATED SUSCEPTIBILITY

Moderately High

## POTENTIAL CONTAMINATION SOURCES

EPA Superfund / Abandoned Contaminated sites, Past Mining Activity, Aboveground, Underground, and leaking storage sites, existing/Septic Systems





## GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT DRINKING WATER

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. 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.

# WATER QUALITY DATA

## TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS



**Action Level (AL)** - The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment and other regulatory requirements.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.

**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 (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 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.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unity (NTU)** - Measure of the clarity or cloudiness of water. Turbidity more than 5 NTU is just noticeable to the typical person.

**Not Established (NE)** - Does not apply or not available.

**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.

**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.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Running Annual Average (RAA)** - An average of monitoring results for the previous 12 calendar months or previous four quarters Running Annual Average (LRAA).



# DRINKING WATER QUALITY DATA

The City of Aspen routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The data presented in this report are the results of monitoring for the period of Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2022 or from the most recent testing done in accordance with regulations. The Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment does not require us to monitor for all contaminants each year because the concentrations of some constituents are not expected to vary significantly from year to year or the City of Aspen Source water and systems is not considered vulnerable to that type of Contaminant. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old.

## CONSTITUENTS DETECTED

Constituent	Units	MCL	MCLG	Result	Violation (Yes/No)	Sample Date	Typical source of Constituent
Chlorine	ppm	MRDL=4	MRDLG=4	0.76	No	Minimum of 30 samples monthly in 2022	Water additive used to control microbes; Measurable Residual Disinfectant
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	0.82	No	Daily 2022	Erosion of natural deposits; drinking water supplement
Sodium	ppm	NE	NE	3.64	No	2020	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Coliform Bacteria	Absent or present	No more than 5% of 30 minimum samples can be positive	0	No positives	No	Jan 1. through Dec. 31, 2022	Naturally present in the Environment

Constituent	Units	TT Requirement	Result	Violation (Yes/No)	Sample Date	Typical source of Constituent
Turbidity	NTU	Not to exceed 1 NTU for any single measurement	Highest single measurement: 0.13 NTU	No	Continuously 2022	Soil runoff / Snowmelt
Turbidity	NTU	95% of monthly sample must be $\leq$ 0.3 NTU	Lowest monthly % of samples meeting TT standard: 100%	No	Continuously in 2022	Water additive used to control microbes; residual disinfectant rule
Chlorine	ppm	95% of monthly samples must be at least 0.2 ppm	Lowest monthly % of samples meeting TT standard: 100%	No	Continuously in 2022	Water additive used to control microbes; residual disinfectant rule

Constituent	Units	AL	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of sites over AL	Violation (Yes/No)	Sample Date	Typical source of Constituent
Lead	ppb	15	1.1	0	No	2022	Corrosion of household plumbing system, erosion of natural deposit
Copper	ppm	1.3	0.15	0	No	2022	Corrosion of household plumbing system, erosion of natural deposit

Constituent	Units	MCL	MCLG	Average	Range of all samples	Violation (Yes/No)	Sample Date	Typical source of Constituent
Total Haloacetic Acids	ppb	60	NE	12.04	6.76 - 17.4	No	Quarterly 2022	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalo-methanes	ppb	80	NE	12.22	6.26 – 20.0	No	Quarterly 2022	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

\*Compliance based on LRAA

DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT PRECURSORS - TOTAL ORGANIC CARBON REMOVAL RATIO

Water Treatment Plant	Compliance Factor (minimum RAA)*	RAA	Violation (Yes/No)	Sample Date	Typical source of Constituent
Castle Creek Treatment Plan	1.0	2.14	No	Quarterly 2022	Naturally present in the Environment

*\*if minimum ration not met and no violation identified then the system achieved compliance using alternative criteria*



LEAD TESTING  
INFORMATION

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems (especially for pregnant women and young children).

Lead in drinking water comes primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Aspen provides high-quality drinking water that does not promote any leaching or corrosion leading to higher levels of lead. 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 if available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at [epa.gov/safewater/lead](https://epa.gov/safewater/lead).

# 2022 VIOLATION

Findings from the required monthly reporting information submitted to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment for the month of March 2022 resulted in notification to the Aspen Water Department on April 29, 2022, of the violations noted below.

The City of Aspen monitors water quality 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to ensure the water is safe to drink. The violations were related to administrative reporting, were not emergencies, and did not require the use of an alternative water source. There were no adverse health impacts from the violations and no actions were needed by water customers.

This notification complies with federal and state laws requiring water systems to notify customers when a drinking water standard is not in compliance.

## Failure to Timely Report – Turbidity & Entry Point Residual

The City is required to submit various water system data monthly to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. Monthly data is due prior to the end of the 10th day of the following month. March 2022 data for turbidity and entry point residual were not submitted before the end of day on April 10th as this was a Sunday. This information was submitted the morning of the next business day. Reminders have been set for the Water Department to ensure compliance going forth. The Aspen Water Department remedied all actions which resulted in the violation notice for the month of March 2022, and the system was back in compliance in April 2022.

For further questions contact:

Aspen Water Customer Care  
City of Aspen Utilities Department  
500 Doolittle Drive, Aspen CO 81611  
970-920-5110,  
[justin.forman@aspen.gov](mailto:justin.forman@aspen.gov)

*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 public places or by distributing copies by hand.*





CITY OF **ASPEN**

[ASPEN.GOV](http://ASPEN.GOV)