Raton Water Works
2014 Annual Water-Quality Report

American Water Works Association
Dedicated to Safe Drinking Water

Raton Water Works is committed to providing residents with a safe and reliable supply of high-quality drinking water. We test our water using sophisticated equipment and advanced procedures. Raton Water Works' strives to meet all state and federal standards for both appearance and safety. This annual "Consumer Confidence Report," required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), tells you where your water comes from, what our tests show about it, and other things you should know about drinking water. We'll be happy to answer any questions about Raton Water Works and our water quality. Call Dan Campbell at 575-445-3861.

Is my water safe?

We are pleased to present this year's Annual Water Quality Report (Consumer Confidence Report) as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). Raton Water Works vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our drinking water has not violated a maximum contaminant level. This report is designed to provide details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality.

Do I need to take special precautions?

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 about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Water Drinking Hotline (800-426-4791).

Where does my water come from?

Raton Water Works obtains its raw water prior to treatment from two surface water sources, the Lake Maloya watershed in Sugarite Canyon or the Cimarron River which is fed from Eagle Nest Lake. Raton Water Works operated in 2014 for 8 months from Lake Maloya and 4 months from the Cimarron River. The City of Raton has the luxury of two pristine water sources with over 15,000 acre feet of raw water storage.

The Lake Maloya Watershed was severely impacted by the Track Fire in 2011 and forest restoration efforts are in progress. Lake Maloya water quality continues to be very good and is being closely monitored by Raton Water Works operational staff.

Why are there contaminants in my drinking water?

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 Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

How can I get involved?

The Raton Water Board meets on the third Tuesday of each month, at 6:00 p.m. in the Raton City Commission Meeting Room located at 224 Savage Avenue, Raton, NM. The public is always invited and welcome.

Conservation Tips

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 350 gallons of water per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost or no-cost ways to conserve water. Water your lawn at the least sunny times of the day. Fix toilet and faucet leaks. Turn the faucet off while brushing your teeth and shaving; 3-5 gallons go down the drain per minute. Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Please practice voluntary conservation and make every drop count! Free water conservation information is available at City Hall.

Additional Information for Lead

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. Raton Water Works/City of Raton 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.

Water Quality Data Table

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The table below lists all of the drinking water contaminants that we detected during the calendar year of this report. Although many more contaminants were tested, only those substances listed below were found in your water. All sources of drinking water contain some naturally occurring contaminants. At low levels, these substances are generally not harmful in our drinking water. Removing all contaminants would be extremely expensive, and in most cases, would not provide increased protection of public health. A few naturally occurring minerals may actually improve the taste of drinking water and have nutritional value at low levels. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done in the calendar year of the report. The EPA or the State requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. As such, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. In this table you will find terms and abbreviations that might not be familiar to you. To help you better understand these terms, we have provided the definitions below.

Important Drinking Water Definitions

MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.
MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level: 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.
TT: Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
AL: Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Units Description:

NA: Not Applicable **ND:** Not Detected **NR:** Not Reported **MNR:** Monitoring not required, but recommended. **ppm:** Parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l) **ppb:** Parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l) **pCi/L:** Picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity) **NTU:** Nephelometric Turbidity Units. Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration.

CONTAMINANTS (units)	MCLG or MRDLG	MCL, TT, or MRDL	YOUR WATER	RANGE LOW	RANGE HIGH	SAMPLE DATE	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Disinfectants & Disinfection By-Products (There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.)								
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	NA	60	16.0	1.5	41.8	2014	NO	By-Product of drinking water disinfection.
Chlorine (as C12) (ppm)	4	4	0.9	0.9	0.9	2014	NO	Water additive used to control microbes.
Total Organic Carbon (TOC Ratio)	NA	TT	0.98	NA		2014	YES	Naturally present in the environment.
Chlorite (ppm)	0.8	1	0.53	0.02	0.53	2014	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	NA	80	50.0	39.9	57.1	2014	NO	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Inorganic Contaminants								
Flouride (ppm)	4	4	0.1	NA		2014	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories.
Nitrate [measured as Nitrogen](ppm)	10	10	0.18	NA		2014	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Radioactive Contaminants								
Beta Emitters (MREM/Yr)	0	4	3.0	NA		2014	NO	Erosion of natural deposits.
Combined Radium 226/228 (pCi/L)	0	5	0.01	NA		2014	NO	Erosion of natural deposits.
Microbiological Contaminants								
Turbidity (NTU) 100% of the samples were below the TT value of 0.3 A value less than 95% constitutes a TT violation. The highest single measurement was 0.19. Any measurement in excess of 1 is a violation unless otherwise approved by the state.						2014	NO	Soil runoff

CONTAMINANT(S) (units)	MCLG	AL	YOUR WATER	SAMPLE DATE	# SAMPLES EXCEEDING AL	EXCEEDS AL	TYPICAL SOURCE
Inorganic Contaminants							
Copper - action level at consumer taps (ppm)	1.3	1.3	0.33	2014	0	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Lead - action level at consumer taps (ppb)	0	15	6.6	2014	1	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT AND PROTECTION PROGRAM

The Susceptibility Analysis of the City of Raton water utility reveals that the utility is well maintained and operated, and the sources of drinking water are generally protected from potential sources of contamination based on an evaluation of the available information. The susceptibility rank of the entire water system is **MODERATELY HIGH**. Please contact the Raton Water Works office to discuss the findings of the report or for further information.

SOURCE NAME	Sensitivity Rank	Vulnerability Rank	Susceptibility Rank	FINAL RANK
Lakes Alice & Maloya	Moderate	High	Moderately High	Moderately High
Cimarron Diversion	Moderate	High	Moderately High	Moderately High

Total Organic Carbon

Total organic carbon has no health effects. However, total organic carbon provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts. These byproducts include Trihalomethanes (THMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs). Drinking water containing these byproducts in excess of the MCL may lead to adverse health.

VIOLATION TYPE	VIOLATION BEGIN	VIOLATION END	VIOLATION EXPLANATION
INADEQUATE DBP PRECURSOR REMOVAL	10/01/2014	12/31/2014	Our treatment plant failed to adequately reduce the total organic carbon content of our source water which is needed to properly minimize the amount of disinfection byproducts in our drinking water. Raton Water Works is testing alternative coagulants and enhanced coagulation procedures, but all disinfection byproducts are in compliance.

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RATON WATER WORKS URGES ITS CUSTOMERS TO CONTINUALLY PRACTICE CONSERVATION OF OUR WATER RESOURCES.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua potable. Por favor lea este informe o comuniquese con alguien que pueda traducir la informacion.