

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

### Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Town of Gila Bend

Our water system violated drinking water requirements over the past year. Even though these were not emergencies, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened and what we are doing (did) to correct these situations.

*\*We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. In August 2022, we did not monitor or test for total coliforms & during 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2024 we did not monitor or test for arsenic and fluoride and therefore cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time. \**

#### What should I do?

There is nothing you need to do at this time.

The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during 2022 & 2024, how often we are supposed to sample for arsenic and fluoride, how many samples we are supposed to take, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required sampling frequency	Number of samples required	Number of samples taken	When samples should have been taken	When samples were taken
Total Coliforms	Monthly	2	0	August 2022	September 2022
Arsenic	Quarterly	1	0	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2024	08/20/2024
Fluoride	Quarterly	1	0	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2024	08/20/2024

#### What is being done?

Total Coliform samples were collected in September 2022.

Arsenic and fluoride samples were collected for 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2024, 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2024, and 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2025.

For more information, please contact [Kevin Larson] at [928-683-2255] or [PO Box A, Gila Bend, AZ 85337].

*\*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 a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. \**

This notice is being sent to you by the Town of Gila Bend.

State Water System ID#: AZ-04-07-069.

Date distributed: June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## Consumer Confidence Report for Calendar Year 2024

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua usted bebe.

Tradúscalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

<https://espanol.epa.gov/espanol/recursos-e-informacion-sobre-el-ccr-para-los-consumidores>

Public Water System ID Number		Public Water System Name	
AZ-04-07-069		Town of Gila Bend	
Contact Name and Title		Phone Number	E-mail Address
Kevin Larson Operator of Record		928-683-2255	klarson@gilabendaz.org
We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more about public participation or to attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings, please contact <u>Town Hall</u> at <u>928-683-2255</u> for additional opportunity and meeting dates and times. You may also visit our website at <a href="http://gilabendaz.org">gilabendaz.org</a> .			

This is our annual report about your drinking water quality, also called a Consumer Confidence Report or CCR. Having clean, safe water is one of the most important services we provide, and we want you to be as informed as possible about your drinking water.

This report provides you with information about where your water comes from, results of sampling that we have performed, and any issues or violations that happened over the previous year. This water quality report includes a table with the most recent water testing results within the last 5 years. The table shows if different germs and chemicals were in a safe range and met EPA's health standards. Look for the column in the table called "TT or MCL violation," to see if your utility found unsafe levels of any germs or chemicals.

You may also find real-time information about our water system at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) *Drinking Water Watch* website at [https://azsdwis.azdeq.gov/DWW\\_EXT/](https://azsdwis.azdeq.gov/DWW_EXT/)

### Drinking Water Sources

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.

<b>Our water source(s):</b>	Four Groundwater Wells in the Lower Gila River Watershed
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## Source Water Assessment

Making the water safe to drink starts by protecting the place it comes from. We work with state scientists at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) to examine water at its source to look for possible pollutants. This is called a Source Water Assessment (SWA).

Based on the information available at the time of the assessment on the hydrogeology and land uses around the drinking water source(s) of this public water system, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has given a high vulnerability designation for the degree to which this public water system drinking water source(s) are protected.

A designation of high vulnerability indicates there may be additional source water protection measures which can be implemented on the local level. This does not imply that the source water is contaminated, nor does it mean that contamination is imminent. Rather, it simply states that land use activities or hydrogeologic conditions exist that make the source water susceptible to possible future contamination. Further source water assessment information can be found on ADEQ's website: <https://azdeq.gov/source-water-protection> or email at [sourcewaterprotection@azdeq.gov](mailto:sourcewaterprotection@azdeq.gov)

## Drinking Water Contaminants

Contaminants are any physical, chemical, biological, or radiological substance or matter in water. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

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

**Inorganic Contaminants:** such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally in the soil or groundwater or may result from urban stormwater 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 agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic Chemical Contaminants:** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

**Radioactive Contaminants:** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

## Vulnerable Population

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. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which 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.

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.

More information about contaminants, their potential health effects, and the appropriate means to lessen the risk can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or visiting the website [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater).

## Definitions

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** 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.

**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.

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

**Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or 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.

**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.

**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.

## Lead Informational Statement

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 Town of Gila Bend is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk.

Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water.

To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by Oct 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. The lead service inventory may be viewed online at: [azdeq.gov/LCRR](http://azdeq.gov/LCRR). Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.

If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Town of Gila Bend @ [gilabendaz.org](http://gilabendaz.org). Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## Water Quality Data – Regulated Contaminants

The following are terms related to water quality data presented in this table:

**Not Applicable (NA):** Sampling was not completed because it was not required by regulation.

**Not Detected (ND or <):** Not detectable at reporting limit.

**Minimum Reporting Limit (MRL):** The smallest concentration of a substance that can be reliably measured by a given analytical method.

**Millirems per year (MREM):** A measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU):** Measure of water clarity.

**Million fibers per liter (MFL):** Measure of asbestos fibers.

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L):** Measure of the radioactivity in water.

**ppm:** Parts per million or Milligrams per liter (mg/L), equal to 1/1000 of a gram.

**ppb:** Parts per billion or Micrograms per liter (µg/L), equal to 1000 ppm.

**ppt:** Parts per trillion or Nanograms per liter (ng/L), equal to 1000 ppb.

**ppq:** Parts per quadrillion or Picograms per liter (pg/L), equal to 1000 ppt.

Microbiological (RTCR)	TT Violation Y or N	Number of Positive Samples	Positive Sample(s) Month & Year	MCL	MCLG	Likely Source of Contamination	
E. Coli	N	0	NA	0	0	Human and animal fecal waste	
Disinfectants	MCL Violation Y or N	Running Annual Average (RAA)	Range of All Samples (Low-High)	MRDL	MRDLG	Sample Month & Year	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine/Chloramine (ppm)	N	1	1-1	4	4	Dec 24	Water additive used to control microbes
Disinfection By-Products	MCL Violation Y or N	Running Annual Average (RAA) OR Highest Level Detected	Range of All Samples (Low-High)	MCL	MCLG	Sample Month & Year	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ppb)	N	0.7	0.5-0.7	80	N/A	Dec 24	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Lead & Copper	MCL Violation Y or N	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	Number of Samples Exceeding AL	AL	ALG	Sample Month & Year	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm)	N	0.026	0	1.3	1.3	Sept 24	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	N	ND	NA	15	0	Sept 24	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Chemicals (IOC)	MCL Violation Y or N	Running Annual Average (RAA) OR Highest Level Detected	Range of All Samples (Low-High)	MCL	MCLG	Sample Month & Year	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic <sup>1</sup> (ppb)	N	2	0-1.6	10	0	Oct 24	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards, runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	N	0.0092	0.0092-0.0092	2	2	Aug 24	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (ppb)	N	6	6-6	100	100	Aug 24	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	N	1.3	0.94-1.38	4	4	Oct 24	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate <sup>2</sup> (ppm)	N	2	1.6-1.6	10	10	Aug 24	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Violation Type	Explanation	Health Effects	Time Period	Corrective Actions
Missed Monitoring-Arsenic Q-2 2024	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.	Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of children's teeth, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling, also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of teeth.	April-June 2024	Sampled in July 2024
Missed Monitoring-Arsenic Q-2 2024	We failed to test our drinking water for the contaminant and period indicated. Because of this failure, we cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during the period indicated.	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.	April-June 2024	Sampled in July 2024
Public Notice Rule Linked to Violation (Missed Monitoring – Total Coliform August 2022)	We failed to adequately notify you, our drinking water consumers, about a violation of the drinking water regulations.		September 2023	A Public Notice is included as part of this Consumer Confidence Report to notify of the missed monitoring violations in this table.
Please share this information with 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 a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail. <b>What should I do?</b> There is nothing you need to do at this time. Arsenic and Fluoride samples were taken in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2024, the 4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2024, and again in the 1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2025.				

For more information about these reports and what is required in them, visit EPA's website at:  
<https://www.epa.gov/ccr/ccr-information-consumers>