CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Report Covers Calendar Year: January 1 – December 31, 2014

Este informe contiene informactión muy importante sobre el aqua usted bebe. Tradúscalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

I. Public Water System (PWS) Information

PWS Name:	Whetstone Ranch Water System – City of Benson				
PWS ID #	AZ04 – 02-125				
Owner / Operator Name:	BRADLEY J. HAMILTON, P.E., PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR – CITY ENGINEER				
Telephone #	520-586-2245	Fax #	520-586-3375		

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Bradley J. Hamilton, P.E., Director of Public Works / City Engineer at 520-586-2245. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Monday of every month, at 7:00pm, at Benson City Hall, 120 West 6th Street.

II. Drinking Water Sources

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, and can pickup substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Our water source(s):	Ground water wells draw water from the Middle San Pedro Basin.

III. Consecutive Connection Sources

A public water system that receives some or all of its finished water from one or more wholesale systems by means of a direct connection or through the distribution system of one or more consecutive systems. Systems that purchase water from another system report regulated contaminants detected from the source water supply in a separate table. The City of Benson PWS ID # AZ 04-02-125 provides a consecutive connection source of water.

IV. Drinking Water Contaminants

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
Pesticides and herbicides that 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also may come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

V. 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. 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 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.

VI. Source Water Assessment

If the public water system received a Source Water Assessment (SWA), include a brief summary of the susceptibility as summarized in the SWA report.
Further source water assessment documentation can be obtained by contacting ADEQ, 602-771-4641.

VII. Definitions

AL = Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements.
MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water.
MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health.
MFL = Million fibers per liter.
MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level.
MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal.
MREM = Millirems per year – a measure of radiation absorbed by the body.
NA = Not Applicable, sampling was not completed by regulation or was not required.
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units, a measure of water clarity.
PCi/L = Picocuries per liter - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.
PPM = Parts per million or Milligrams per liter (mg/L).
PPB = Parts per billion or Micrograms per liter (µg/L).
PPT = Parts per trillion or Nanograms per liter.
PPQ = Parts per quadrillion or Picograms per liter.

ppm x 1000 = ppb
ppb x 1000 = ppt
ppt x 1000 = ppq

TT = Treatment Technique - A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

VIII. Health Effects Language

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods-of-time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, and detected nitrate levels are above 5 ppm, you should ask advice from your health care provider.
If **arsenic** is less than or equal to the MCL, your drinking water meets EPA's standards. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. 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.
Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to **lead** in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested. Flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water. Additional information is available from the EPA *Safe Drinking Water Hotline* at 1-800-426-4791.

IX. Water Quality Data

Micobiological	**Violation Y or N**	**Number of Samples Present OR Highest Level Detected**	**Absent (A) or Present (P) OR Range of All Samples (L-H)**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Sample Month & Year**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Total Coliform Bacteria (System takes ≥ 40 monthly samples) 5% of monthly samples are positive; (System takes ≤ 40 monthly samples) 1 positive monthly sample	N	ND	A	0	0	Samples taken monthly at 2 locations	Naturally Present in Environment
Fecal coliform and E. Coli (TC Rule)	N	ND	A	0	0	Monthly	Human and animal fecal waste
Fecal Indicators (E. coli, enterococci or coliphage) (GW Rule)	N	ND	A	TT	n/a	Monthly	Human and animal fecal waste
Lead & Copper	**Violation Y or N**	**90th Percentile AND Number of Samples Over the AL**	**Range of All Samples (L-H)**	**AL**	**ALG**	**Sample Month & Year**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Copper (ppm)	N	90th Percentile =	H -0.08 L – 0.02	AL = 1.3	ALG = 1.3	Aug 2014	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	N	90th Percentile =	H – 0.0017 L - 0	AL = 15	0	Aug 2014	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Radionuclides	**Violation Y or N**	**Running Annual Average (RAA) OR Highest Level Detected**	**Range of All Samples (L-H)**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Sample Month & Year**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	N	6.9		15	0	Feb 2012	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium 226 & 228 (pCi/L)	N	0		5	0	Feb 2012	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Chemicals (IOC)	**Violation Y or N**	**Running Annual Average (RAA) OR Highest Level Detected**	**Range of All Samples (L-H)**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Sample Month & Year**	**Likely Source of Contamination**
Nitrate (ppm)	N	1.0		10	10	Jan. 2014	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Contaminants	**Violation Y or N**	**Running Annual Average (RAA) OR Highest Level Detected**	**Range of All Samples (L-H)**	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Sample Month & Year**	
Sodium		26		NA	NA	Feb 2012	

X. Notes:

This year you may notice many of the contaminants such as Inorganic Chemicals (IOC), Synthetic Organic Chemicals (SOC) Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC) are not listed; the reason is that in previous years these come back as non-detect and are below the detection limit.
Water systems are not required to list contaminants that come back below the detection limit. However the City of Benson has completed the required testing and will continue the required testing for the EPA, and the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality to ensure the highest quality of water.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

Please call the City of Benson if you have any questions regarding this report at (520)586-2245. This report will be available on our web site www.cityof benson.com and at Benson City Hall 120 West 6th Street.

We at the City of Benson work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.