



**GWR**  
Global Water Resources

## 2023 Water Quality Report

Global Water – Santa Cruz Water Company -  
Maricopa

AZ04-11-131

*Global Water Resources is pleased to present the annual drinking water quality report. (Consumer Confidence Report) for calendar year 2023. This report contains important information about the quality and safety of your water.*

*Spanish (Español)*

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre la calidad de su agua para beber. Tradúscalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.*

### Customer Resources

Global Water's customer assistance program helps customers for the following purposes:

- Low-Income Assistance
- Deployed Service Member Assistance
- Disabled Veteran Assistance
- Furloughed Worker Assistance
- Medical Hardship Assistance

If you are a Global Water customer who is in need of assistance, you can find more information about our Customer Assistance Program at:

<https://www.gwresources.com/customer-assistance> or you can call us at 866-940-1102.

Customer Portal: <https://gwresources.watersmart.com/index.php/welcome>

- View and pay your bill on-line or on your smart phone.
- Set up automatic payments.
- View monthly reads.
- Manage multiple accounts.
- Provide account access to multiple people.



## **What is a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR)?**

The purpose of a CCR is to improve public health protection by providing educational material that allows consumers to make educated decisions regarding any potential health risks pertaining to the quality, treatment, and management of their drinking water supply. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations which limit the concentration of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish equivalent limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health. This report provides a summary of the water quality tests and measurements taken in 2023 for this Public Water System.

To learn more about how to help protect your drinking water sources, any details provided in this report, or to attend a scheduled public meeting please contact Jon Corwin or Holly Wilson at the GWR office at (866) 940 - 1102 or visit our website at [www.gwresources.com](http://www.gwresources.com). For more information about drinking water contaminants, their regulations and potential health effects, call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.



## Water Source and Distribution System

The water source for Global Water -Santa Cruz Water Company - Maricopa (SCWC) is groundwater that is pumped from twelve wells into five storage tanks, also known as reservoirs. Water from these different wells is blended to improve water quality. Reservoirs are also used for continuous supply and to guarantee adequate water flow for fire protection. There are approximately 2,300 fire hydrants within the system that are flushed and maintained regularly. Flushing of the hydrants ensures that they are operable and helps move water throughout the system while improving water quality.

SCWC water is disinfected with sodium hypochlorite, which when added to water reacts with Total Organic Carbon (TOC) to form disinfection byproducts. Due to groundwater in Arizona being low in TOC, the byproduct level is also low in potable water originating from groundwater.

Global Water Resources monitors drinking water from the source, entry point into the distribution system, and in some cases from the taps of individual homes.

## Backflow and Cross-Connection

To protect consumers from contamination caused by backflow through unprotected cross connections, Global Water requires installation and periodic testing of backflow prevention assemblies. Water pressure in drinking water pipes both commercial or residential can suddenly drop during high water use in homes or in the distribution system (firefighting, water main break etc.) The Global Water Backflow/Cross Connection Control Program assures that these assemblies are tested and maintained as needed.

## Source Water Assessment (SWA)

The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) evaluates each water source used by public water systems (PWS) in Arizona. These evaluations assess the hydrogeology of drinking water sources to determine the quality of groundwater being drawn into wells, the watersheds supplying surface water and the surveyed land being used for activities occurring near 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 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. This PWS did not receive a SWA from ADEQ because the PWS was either inactive at the time or the PWS did not exist.

# Drinking Water Contaminants

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 pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- ✚ **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 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**, such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses that may come from a variety of sources.
- ✚ **Organic chemical contaminants**, such as synthetic and volatile organic chemicals are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- ✚ **Radioactive contaminants**, that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## Potential Contaminants of Concern

- ✚ **Arsenic:** 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 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.
- ✚ **Nitrate:** 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.
- ✚ **Lead:** Lead, in drinking water, is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. SCWC is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in residential plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can reduce the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. 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 [www.epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## Additional Health Information

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.

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. 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.

## Key Definitions

**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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of a contaminant that is 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 health risk.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** The level of disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of disinfectant added for treatment at which no known or anticipated adverse effect on health of persons would occur.

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

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

**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 (ng/L)

**pCi/L:** Measure of the radioactivity in water

# WATER QUALITY TABLES

2023 Water Quality Data Tables – Santa Cruz Water Company – Maricopa

## Primary Contaminants

Analyte	Unit	MCL, TT, or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Range (Avg)	Likely Source of Contamination	
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Arsenic	2023	ppb	10	0	9.5-5.9 (7.1)	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards, runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Fluoride	2023	ppm	4	4	0.75-2.30 (1.40)	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate	2023	ppm	10	10	5.0-7.8 (6.0)	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium	2018	ppb	100	100	6.5-6.7 (6.6)	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
Barium	2018	ppm	2	2	0.052-0.069 (0.061)	Discharge from drilling waste; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Radionuclide Contaminants</b>						
Uranium	2023	ppb	30	0	3.2-34 (13.6)	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium	2019, 2022	pCi/L	5	5	<0.7-0.7 (0.09)	Erosion of natural deposits
Alpha Emitters	2021	pCi/L	15	15	2.546	Erosion of natural deposits

## Secondary Contaminants

Analyte	Unit	MCL, TT, or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Range (Avg)	Likely Source of Contamination	
Alkalinity	2023	ppm	NA	NA	58-85 (69)	Naturally present in the environment
Calcium	2023	ppm	NA	NA	56-100 (75)	Naturally present in the environment
Chloride	2021	ppm	NA	NA	160-330 (273)	Naturally present in the environment
Hardness as CaCo3	2023	ppm	NA	NA	150-310 (215)	Naturally present in the environment
Magnesium	2023	ppm	NA	NA	3.3-11 (6.6)	Naturally present in the environment
Manganese	2021	ppm	NA	NA	<0.1-250 (10.5)	Naturally present in the environment
Sodium	2023	ppm	NA	NA	140-190 (163)	Naturally present in the environment
Sulfate	2021	ppm	NA	NA	220-430 (268)	Naturally present in the environment
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS)	2023	ppm	NA	NA	680-950 (785)	Naturally present in the environment

## Disinfection and Disinfection By-Products (DBPs)

Analyte	Unit	MCL, TT, or MRDL	MCLG or MRDLG	Range (Avg)	Likely Source of Contamination	
Chlorine	2023	ppm	4	4	1.0-1.6 (1.3)	Water additive used to control microbes
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2023	ppb	80	NA	3.8-20 (13.2)	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2023	ppb	60	NA	<2-2.2 (2.1)	By-product of drinking water disinfection

## Lead and Copper

Analyte	Unit	AL	Sampling	90th Percentile	Likely Source of Contamination	
Copper	2021	ppm	1.3	65 samples from consumer taps	0.051	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	2021	ppb	15	65 samples from consumer taps	<0.50	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

## Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR) - Microbiological

Microbiological	MCL/M CLG	Number of Positive Samples	Number of Negative Samples	Violation Y or N	Likely Source of Contamination	
E. Coli	2023	0	0	819	N	Human and animal fecal waste
Fecal Indicator (From GWR source)	2023	0	0	819	N	Human and animal fecal waste
Total Coliform Bacteria	2023	0	3	816	N	Naturally present in the environment

Santa Cruz Water Company – Maricopa will be participating in the EPA's UCMR 5 program with scheduled sampling to be conducted in 2024.

\*No PFAS/PFOA were detected in the drinking water for Santa Cruz Water Company - Maricopa sampled by ADEQ in 2023.

## 2023 Violations - Radionuclide

Violation Type	Violation Begin	Violation End	Violation Explanation/Corrective Actions Taken
MONITORING, ROUTINE MAJOR	10/1/2023	12/31/2023	Missed Radionuclide Monitoring for EPDS005 in 4th Quarter of 2023; Samples taken the following quarter. There are no health effects from this violation, and you do not need to do anything to protect your public health.

# Additional Information on Radionuclide Violation

Global Water – Santa Cruz Water Company – Maricopa did not take all the required radionuclide (Alpha emitters) samples as required in the 4th quarter of 2023. We are providing this information as we received a violation for not taking the sample, and you have a right to know what happened and what we did to correct this situation.

Following the violation, we ensured that all of the required radionuclide samples were taken in the following 1st quarter of 2024, and we have since confirmed with ADEQ which samples are required to be taken. This notice is for your information only, and these violations have no potential health effects and you do not need to take any additional actions.

For more information, please call Holly Wilson at 520-483-4575.

# Conservation and Drought

*How do we ensure that a vital resource will be here 100 years from now?*

At Global Water, we plan for the future by investing in conservation and water recycling and by applying the right water for the right use. That is why Global Water is more than a utility, we are resource managers. Our Total Water Management philosophy has resulted in over 16 billion gallons of saved water within the state of Arizona!



## Water Conservation Rates

Global Water offers water conservation rates and a conservation rebate to incentivize using less water. If a customer uses a water volume below the rebate threshold, they can receive a rebate equal to 60% of the commodity rate.



## Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)

AMI meters utilized in our service areas send hourly water use information and alerts related to leaks and high usage through an online WaterSmart portal.



## Water Conservation Program

Our conservation program at Global Water offers a variety of services and information including education programming for K12 students, adults, and landscape professionals as well as community outreach and water conservation resources for all customers.

For water conservation resources and to learn more about our conservation program, please visit <https://www.gwresources.com/conservation-education>.