

Water Quality Report 2018



2017 Consumer Confidence Report

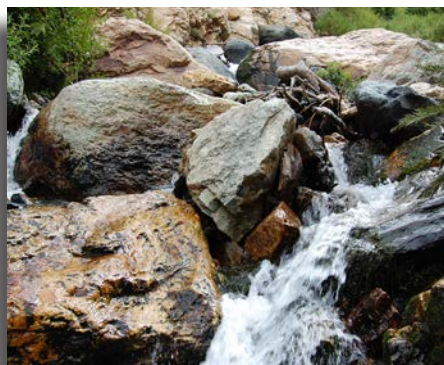
Operating Report:

We are proud to present our annual water quality report. GHID is committed to achieving the highest levels of consumer satisfaction by supplying safe water that meets, or is better than, State and Federal standards. The included table lists the most recent test results completed from January through December 2017. As this table indicates, our compliance with all State and Federal water laws remains exemplary. We are committed to delivering you, our customer, the highest quality of drinking water. We remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of source water protection, water conservation, and community education.

Should you have any questions concerning this report, please call 801-968-3551. Our normal hours of operation are 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM, Monday through Friday.

ATENCIÓN! MUY IMPORTANTE!

Esta Reporte de Calidad del Agua Potable contiene valiosa información sobre la calidad del agua que Usted consume. Por favor, haga que alguien de su confianza traduzca el contenido del mismo.



Where does our water come from?

In 2017, GHID delivered 7.3 billion gallons of water to our customers. 1.5 billion gallons were produced from eight GHID owned deep water wells. The remaining 5.8 billion gallons were purchased from Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JVWCD). Further information regarding the quality of JVWCD water may be obtained at GHID offices, or on the web at www.jvwcd.org.

GHID and JVWCD water sources include: Upper Provo River Reservoirs, Weber/Provo Rivers Diversion Canal, Jordanelle Reservoir, Deer Creek Reservoir, Southeast Well Field, 1300 East Well Field, and the Granger-Hunter Well Field.

Board of Trustees

◆ Debra K. Armstrong - Chair ◆ Corey Rushton - Trustee ◆ Russell R. Sanderson - Trustee

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Clint Jensen - General Manager, CEO
Louie Fuell - Assistant General Manager, CAO
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Water Protection

Source water is water which comes from streams, rivers, lakes, or an underground aquifer. Source water may be used to supply public drinking water. A significant amount of the high quality water GHID delivers to you, our customer, is water produced from groundwater aquifers underlying the GHID service area.

GHID is committed to protecting the groundwater aquifer. Your drinking water is susceptible to many different potential sources of contamination, such as: leaking underground storage tanks, commercial and residential herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers, agricultural run-off, recreational activities in the watershed, residential and industrial sewage, and storm water run-off. An important and effective tool used to protect the groundwater aquifer is a Source Water Protection Plan. Keeping contaminants out and controlling the use of potential contaminants within the source water area is the front line of protection. Protecting wells, by eliminating contaminants before they enter the groundwater, equates to potential public savings; there is less source water treatment required when contaminants are eliminated and source water is protected.

What can residents of the community do to help prevent potential contamination and thereby preserve our water supply? There are simple things we can do that will go a long way in contamination prevention, such as: store and handle chemicals used for automobiles, homes, and gardens in accordance with manufacturer's directions; apply chemicals and fertilizers at the recommended application rates; and properly dispose of all chemicals.

Recycling and disposing of unused chemicals can help reduce the chance of contamination. There are several places where you may dispose of such waste. The Salt Lake County Landfill, located at 6030 West 1300 South, has a central waste disposal that accepts chemical waste, used petroleum products, antifreeze, pesticides, fertilizers, paint, and similar materials generated by residents are accepted. All steps, big or small, will help to preserve the groundwater aquifer from contamination. Together, we can make a difference in the quality of water we drink.

A Source Water Protection Plan exists for each of GHID's seven drinking water wells. The Source Water Protection Plan and six year update for each of GHID's wells may be reviewed at our offices during business hours. A copy is also available at the Utah Division of Drinking Water.



OUR WATER IS SAFE TO DRINK

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2017 Water Quality Report Table 1.1									
PARAMETER	UNITS	2017 Max	2017 Min	2017 Average	EPA MCL	MCLG		LAST SAMPLED	COMMENTS/LIKELY SOURCE(S)
Primary Inorganics					Primary Inorganics				
Antimony	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	6	6	NO	2017	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
Arsenic	ug/L	4.2	ND	2.56	10	0	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and runoff from orchards
Asbestos	MFL	ND	ND	ND	7	7	NO	2016	Decay of asbestos cement in water mains: erosion of natural deposits
Barium	ug/L	111	15	49.75	2000	2000	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Beryllium	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	4	4	NO	2017	Discharge of metal refineries and coal burning factories
Cadmium	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	5	5	NO	2017	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits
Copper	ug/L	8	ND	1	NE	NE	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Chromium (Total)	ug/L	4.84	ND	0.61	100	100	NO	2017	Discharge from steel and pulp mills: Erosion of natural deposits
Cyanide, Free	ug/L	2	ND	1.38	200	200	NO	2017	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizers. Fluoride added at source
Fluoride	mg/L	1.59	0.21	0.67	4	4	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and discharge from fertilizers. Fluoride added at source
Lead	ug/L	1	ND	0.1	NE	NE	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Mercury	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	2	2	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and discharge from fertilizers.
Nickel	ug/L	10	ND	1.53	NE	NE	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Nitrate	mg/L	0.3	ND	0.04	10	10	NO	2017	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from septic tanks, and naturally occurring organic material
Nitrite	mg/L	ND	ND	ND	1	1	NO	2017	Runoff from fertilizer, leaching from septic tanks, and naturally occurring organic material
Selenium	ug/L	3.1	ND	0.76	50	50	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Sodium	mg/L	93.95	10	55.38	NE	NE	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and runoff from road deicing
Sulfate	mg/L	130	6	82.13	1000	NE	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Thallium	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	2	0.5	NO	2017	Leaching from ore-processing sites and discharge from electronics, glass and drug factories
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	688	40	391.5	2000	NE	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits
Turbidity	NTU	0.83	0.03	0.39	5	NE	NO	2017	MCL is 5.0 for groundwater. Suspended material from soil runoff
Disinfectants/ Disinfection By-Products					Disinfectants/ Disinfection By-Products				
Sodium Hypochlorite	mg/L	1.11	0.01	0.36	4	NE	NO	2017	Drinking water disinfectant
TTHM's	ug/L	87.5	ND	53.19	80	NE	NO	2017	By-product of drinking water disinfection. High result is not a violation, violation is determined on an annual location average
HAA5's	ug/L	61.16	ND	25.33	60	NE	NO	2017	By-product of drinking water disinfection
HAA6's	ug/L	65.32	6.71	36.56	UR	NE	NO	2017	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Bromate	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	10	NE	NO	2017	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine Dioxide	ug/L	35	ND	1.5	800	NE	NO	2017	Drinking water disinfectant
Chlorite	mg/L	0.61	0.18	0.33	1	0.8	NO	2017	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Microbiological					Microbiological				
Total Coliform	% Positive per month	2%	0%	0.0025%	Not > 5%	0%	NO	2017	MCL is for monthly compliance. Human and animal fecal waste, naturally occurring in the environment

The table above lists all of the parameters in the drinking water detected by Granger-Hunter Improvement District or its suppliers during the calendar year of this report. The presence of these parameters in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from the testing done in the calendar year of this report. For certain parameters, EPA and/or the State of Utah requires monitoring at a frequency less than once per year because the concentrations do not change

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 TTHM: Total Trihalomethanes

HAA5s: Five Haloacetic Acids/VOC's
 Volatile Organic Compounds
 PCBs: Polychlorinated Biphenyls
 SOC's: Synthetic Organic Chemicals

1/cm: one centimeter
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PARAMETER	UNITS	2017 Max	2017 Min	2017 Average	EPA MCL	MCLG	VIOLATION	LAST SAMPLED	COMMENTS/LIKELY SOURCE(S)	
Pesticides/PCBs/SOCs					Pesticides/PCBs/SOCs					
Various Parameters	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	Various	Various	NO	2017	Various Sources	
Secondary Inorganics - Aesthetic Standards					Secondary Inorganics - Aesthetic Standards					
Aluminum	ug/L	10.91	ND	2.43	SS = 50 - 200	NE	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits and treatment residuals	
Chloride	mg/L	170	10	38	SS = 250	NE	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits	
Iron	ug/L	250	0	74.5	SS = 300	NE	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits	
Manganese	ug/L	65.2	0	23.14	SS = 50	NE	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits	
pH		8.4	6.86	7.63	SS = 6.5 - 8.5	NE	NO	2017	Naturally occurring and affected by chemical treatment. High pH was for short duration, so there was no violation	
Silver	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	SS = 100	NE	NO	2016	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits	
Zinc	ug/L	0.02	ND	0.0008	SS = 5000	NE	NO	2017	Erosion of naturally occurring deposits	
VOC's (Volatile Organic Compounds)					VOC's (Volatile Organic Compounds)					
Bromoform	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2017	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Chloroform	ug/L	81.5	ND	13.69	UR	NE	NO	2017	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Dibromochloromethane	ug/L	2	ND	0.49	UR	NE	NO	2017	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Bromodichloromethane	ug/L	14	ND	2.55	UR	NE	NO	2017	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
All other parameter	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	Various	Various	NO	2017	Various Sources	
Radiological					Radiological					
Radium 226	pCi/L	0.7	-0.01	0.13	NE	NE	NO	2017	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	
Radium 228	pCi/L	3	-0.01	0.6	NE	NE	NO	2017	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	
Radium 226 & 228	pCi/L	3.11	0.03	.66	5	NE	NO	2017	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	
Gross-Alpha	pCi/L	14	-1.2	2.14	15	NE	NO	2017	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	
Gross-Beta	pCi/L	32	1.1	6.96	50	NE	NO	2017	Decay of natural and man-made deposits	
Uranium	ug/L	9.5	ND	2	30	NE	NO	2017	The high maximum result is a sample taken from a Jordan Valley Water Conservancy District (JVVCD) source. The high result is not a violation. The high result triggered quarterly monitoring for JVVCD. Decay of natural and man-made deposits	
Radon	pCi/L	-1	-9	-6	NE	NE	NO	2017	Naturally occurring in soil	
Organic Material					Organic Material					
Total Organic Carbon	mg/L	2.59	ND	1.49	TT	NE	NO	2017	Naturally occurring	
Dissolved Organic Carbon	mg/L	2.56	0.66	1.92	TT	NE	NO	2017	Naturally occurring	
UV-254	1/cm	0.052	0.007	0.022	UR	NE	NO	2017	This is a measure of the concentration of naturally occurring UV-absorbing organic compounds.	
Lead and Copper					(tested at the consumer's tap) - monitoring required every 3 years			Lead and Copper		
Lead	ug/L	3.5	ND	1.5	AL = 15	NE	NO	2016	Lead violation is determined by the 90th percentile result. Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of naturally occurring deposits	
Copper	ug/L	286	5.9	81.3	AL = 1300	NE	NO	2016	Copper violation is determined by the 90th percentile result. Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of naturally occurring deposits	

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UCMR3 (Third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule) Table 2.1

PARAMETER	UNITS	2014 Max	2014 Min	2014 Average	EPA MCL	MCLG	VIOLATION	LAST SAMPLED	COMMENTS/LIKELY SOURCE(S)
VOC's (Volatile Organic Compounds)					VOC's (Volatile Organic Compounds)				
Trichloropropane	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Halogenated alkane; used as an ingredient in paint, varnish remover, solvents and degreasing agents
Butadiene	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Alkene; used in rubber manufacturing and occurs as a gas
Chloromethane	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Halogenated alkane; used as foaming agent, in production of other substances, and by-product that can form when chlorine used to disinfect drinking water
Dichloroethane	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Halogenated alkane; used as a solvent
Bromomethane	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Halogenated alkane; occurs as a gas, and used as a fumigant on soil before planting, on crops after harvest, on vehicles and buildings, and for other specialized purposes
Chloridefluoromethane	ug/L	1.6	ND	0.2	UR	NE	NO	2014	Chlorofluorocarbon; occurs as a gas, and used as a refrigerant, as a low-temperature solvent, and in fluorocarbon resins, especially tetrafluoroethylene polymers
Bromochloromethane	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Used as a fire-extinguishing fluid, an explosive suppressant, and as a solvent in the manufacturing of pesticides
Metals					Metals				
Vanadium	ug/L	9.1	ND	1.64	UR	NE	NO	2014	Naturally-occurring elemental metal; used as vanadium pentoxide which is a chemical intermediate and a catalyst
Molybdenum	ug/L	7.53	ND	3.39	UR	NE	NO	2014	Naturally-occurring element found in ores and present in plants, animals and bacteria; commonly used form molybdenum trioxide used as a chemical reagent
Cobalt	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Associated with effects on blood (increased hemoglobin, polycythemia) and effects of lung function
Strontium	ug/L	1300	80.7	672.33	UR	NE	NO	2014	Alkaline earth metal that is found naturally in the minerals Celestine and Strontianite
Chromium (total)	ug/L	3.24	ND	0.43	100	100	NO	2014	Chromium is the 21st most abundant element in the Earth's crust and can be present in different chemical forms in plants, soil and volcanic dust, water, humans and animals
Chromium 6 (Hexavalent Chromium)	ug/L	4.21	ND	0.31	UR	NE	NO	2014	Hexavalent chromium is one of the chemical forms of chromium, which can be present in different forms in the environment, changing from one form to another in water and soil.
Perfluorinated Compounds					Perfluorinated Compounds				
Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Used in fire-fighting foam, circuit board etching acids, alkaline cleaners, floor polish, and as a pesticide active ingredient for insect bait traps
Perfluorooctanoic acid	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Used for its emulsifier and surfactant properties in or as fluoropolymers (such as Teflon), fire-fighting foams, cleaners, cosmetics, grease and lubricants, paints, polishes, adhesives and photographic films
Perfluoronoanoic acid	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant
Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant
Perfluoroheptanoic acid	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant
Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Used in products to make them stain, grease, heat and water resistant

Under the 1996 amendments to the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (E.P.A.) is required once every five years to issue a new list of up to 30 unregulated contaminants for which public water systems must monitor. The intent of this rule is to provide baseline occurrence data that the E.P.A. can combine with the toxicological research to make decisions about potential future drinking water regulations. In 2014 Granger-Hunter Improvement District completed the third round of this contaminant testing. Above are the findings based on the monitoring performed. For more information regarding UCMR3, please visit www.drinktap.org.

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UCMR3 (Third Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule) Table 2.2									
PARAMETER	UNITS	2014 Max	2014 Min	2014 Average	EPA MCL	MCLG	VIOLATION	LAST SAMPLED	COMMENTS/LIKELY SOURCE(S)
Hormones					Hormones				
Estradiol	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Estrogenic hormone naturally produced in the human body; and used in pharmaceuticals
Ethinylestradiol	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Synthetic steroid; prepared from estrone
Hydroxyestradiol	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Estrogenic hormone naturally produced in the human body; and used in veterinary and human pharmaceuticals
Equilin	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Estrogenic hormone derived from horses; and used in pharmaceuticals
Estrone	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Estrogenic hormone naturally produced in the human body; and used in veterinary and human pharmaceuticals
Testosterone	ug/L	ND	ND	NS	UR	NE	NO	2014	Androgenic steroid naturally produced in the human body; and used in pharmaceuticals
4-Androstene-3,17-dione	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Steroidal hormone naturally produced in the human body; and used in an anabolic steroid and a dietary supplement
Oxyhalide Anion					Oxyhalide Anion				
Chlorate	ug/L	310	ND	100.5	UR	NE	NO	2014	Chlorate is a known by-product of the drinking water disinfection process, forming when sodium hypochlorite or chlorine dioxide are used in the disinfection process
Synthetic Organic Compound					Synthetic Organic Compound				
Dioxane	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Cyclic aliphatic ether; used as a solvent or solvent stabilizer in manufacture and processing of paper, cotton, textile products, automotive coolant, cosmetics and shampoos
Viruses					Viruses				
Enteroviruses	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Enteroviruses are a genus of positive-sense single-stranded RNA viruses associated with several human and mammalian diseases
Noroviruses	ug/L	ND	ND	ND	UR	NE	NO	2014	Norovirus, is the most common cause of viral gastroenteritis in humans. It affects people of all ages

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MANGANESE

Public Water Systems - The term "public water system" means a system for the provision to the public of water for human consumption through pipes or other constructed conveyances, if such system has at least fifteen service connections or regularly serves at least twenty-five individuals.
 The federal government has established regulatory limits (standards) on over 100 chemical and microbial contaminants in drinking water. These have their origin in the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), which governs public water systems. Many states have established their own standards, which must be at least as stringent as the federal standards.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) sets two types of standards:

Primary standards are set to provide the maximum feasible protection to public health. They regulate contaminant levels based on toxicity and adverse health effects. The goal of standard setting is to identify Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) which prevent adverse health effects.

Secondary standards regulate contaminant levels based on aesthetics such as color and odor, which do not pose a risk to health. These secondary maximum contaminant levels (SMCLs) are guidelines, not enforceable limits. They identify acceptable concentrations of contaminants which cause unpleasant tastes, odors, or colors in the water. SMCLs are for contaminants that will not cause adverse health effects.

Public water suppliers are required to monitor the quality of the water they supply. Consumers must be notified if a primary standard is exceeded.

The high maximum result is not a violation, Manganese is a secondary standard and sampling is not required. Granger-Hunter Improvement District is determined to find the cause of the discolored water, therefore continued sampling for manganese at our sources was completed in 2017. The high results have triggered us to investigate this matter further and look at ways of improving this issue.

Lead Levels



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. Granger-Hunter Improvement District 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. For more information please contact our office at 801-968-3551.

Why is my water yellow?



Yellow or discolored water is a potential problem in drinking water that comes from your taps. The most common reason for the discolored water is caused by high concentration of iron and manganese that naturally occur in the drinking water. Granger-Hunter Improvement District has seven deep water wells that we use to service our customers; these wells contain these harmless minerals in small quantities. When changes are made to our system, it has an impact that may result in the customer having yellow water for a short period of time. Some of these impacts are mainline breaks, waterline construction in

your area, or the fire department using fire hydrants, to name a few.

Should you be concerned?

Should you be concerned for your health if you or your child or pet inadvertently drink discolored water? Not necessarily. If its iron and manganese, which is most commonly mixed in the water, they are harmless to the human body. The human body, in fact, needs these minerals in small quantities to function correctly. This does not mean you should be gulping down this water though. What you should be concerned about, however, is the fact that the iron and manganese will cause difficult-to-remove stains in your cloths and furniture. If your clothes become stained, you will need to clean them with a rust remover. DO NOT use chlorine with this type of water, as it reacts adversely with the iron and manganese minerals.



Water Conservation



Although we have made great strides in reducing water consumption, we still have a ways to go. We need to make simple water conserving principles our way of life. We need to make every drop count. There are simple actions you can take to help ensure we, and future generations, continue to enjoy the benefits of having a clean, safe and reliable water supply. It's not as hard as you might think.

Can you have both a Beautiful Lawn and a Low Water Bill?

Yes! Here's how:

	How Often?	When?	How Long?
Mother's Day (start watering)	Once every 5 days	Before 8 am or After 8 pm	Fixed Rotating
Father's Day	Once every 3 days		 
Labor Day	Once every 5 days		25 minutes 45 minutes
Columbus Day (stop watering)		Winterize	

www.slowtheflow.org

GARDEN PARK at JORDAN VALLEY

www.ConservationGardenPark.org

Suggested Watering Guide for Central/Northern Utah

The average Utah homeowner uses about twice the amount their landscape truly needs.



Contact Us:

Granger-Hunter Improvement District
2888 South 3600 West,
West Valley City, 84119

Phone 801-968-3551
www.ghid.org



Water Fluoridation

All water delivered to GHID customers is fluoridated. In 2017 fluoridation levels ranged from 0.21 mg/L to 1.59 mg/L. Questions regarding Fluoridation may be addressed by calling the Salt Lake Valley Health Department at 801-313-6602.

HEALTH ALERT

Special Health Information:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population.

Immunocompromised persons, such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



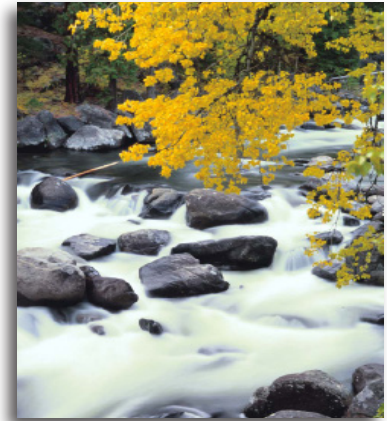
Do not dispose of your Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Product (PPCP's) through the toilet, drain, or sink:

Very small concentrations of PPCP's have been detected in public water systems for decades. These constituents are released into the environment through our wastewater treatment systems. Research has focused on detecting and identifying PPCP's, which are not regulated. Even though PPCP's are not regulated, GHID is committed to protecting the water supply from these compounds. As a part of this effort, GHID requests that its customers comply with the Division of Water Quality's Prescription Disposal Program when disposing of PPCP's. Information pertaining to this program is available at www.MedicationDisposal.utah.gov.

Substances Expected to be in Drinking Water

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency sets legal limits on the levels of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The United States Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. 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 can acquire naturally occurring minerals and radioactive material, and can also pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.



Substances 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 metal, 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 Herbicide, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses; Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production, and mining activities.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects may be obtained by contacting the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.