



WASHINGTON COUNTY  
WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT

## 2017 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

**Site:** Cottam Wells; Utah System #27071  
**Source:** Ground water  
**Serves:** Casa de Oro

### Executive summary:

The Cottam Wells met or surpassed all federal and state health and safety requirements, but the monitoring requirement for nitrate was not performed in 2017.

Washington County Water Conservancy District (WCWCD) will continue monitoring the quality, treatment and sustainability of all its water sources to preserve and protect our current and future supply.

### About this report:

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requires the monitoring of more than 80 contaminants. The contaminants listed on the following chart were discovered in this water source.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by constituents that are naturally occurring or man-made. Those constituents can be microbes, organic or inorganic chemicals, or radioactive materials. **All 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1.800.426.4791).

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, persons 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 microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

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. The WCWCD 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 [epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://epa.gov/safewater/lead).

**Protecting your water source:**

A drinking water source protection plan for the Cottam Wells is available at the WCWCD office. The plan includes information about source protection zones, potential contamination sources and management strategies to protect our drinking water.

One common source of contamination is cross connections – any connection not properly protected by a backflow protection device that allows polluted water or chemicals to enter the water supply system. This can be as simple as a hose-end sprayer used to fertilize or apply pesticides. WCWCD encourages all water users to not make or allow improper connections due to its potential adverse effects on our water supply, the community and its residents.

**Additional information:**

Customers desiring to know more about their water utility can contact the WCWCD offices at 435.673.3617 or attend one of our regularly scheduled board meetings. Visit [wcwcd.org/about-us/management/board-of-trustees-meeting-schedule/](http://wcwcd.org/about-us/management/board-of-trustees-meeting-schedule/) for the schedule.

**Reporting agency contact:**

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Washington County Water Conservancy District  
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St. George, UT 84770  
435.673.3617

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**  
**Monitoring Requirements Not Met for Cottam Wells**

The Washington County Water Conservancy District (WCWCD) is 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.

**What happened:**

WCWCD failed to perform the annual monitoring requirement for nitrate on the Cottam Wells system in 2017.

**What is being done:**

Upon discovering the error, WCWCD immediately sampled the system for nitrate. The result for nitrate was 0.2 parts per million (ppm), which is below the EPA's maximum contaminant level of 10 ppm. In the 10 years prior to 2017, Cottam Wells nitrate results have always ranged between 0.2 to 0.3 ppm.

**What should I do:**

There is nothing you need to do at this time; however, please share this information with other people who drink this water but may not have received this notice directly.

**Contact Information:**

For additional information on the monitoring requirements or water quality of the Cottam Wells system, contact Brie Thompson at 435.673.3617.

**This notice is being sent to you by:**

WCWCD/Cottam Wells (Utah System #27071)

**Date distributed:**

June 27, 2018

## WATER QUALITY TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Unit	Your Water	MCL (EPA Limit)	MCLG (EPA Goal)	Year Sampled	Violation	Possible Sources of Contamination
Alpha Emitters	pCi/L	3	15	0	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic	ppb	3	10	0	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium	ppm	0.4	2	2	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta Emitters	pCi/L	3	50	0	2010	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	ppm	0.2	10	10	2016	Yes*	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic acids	ppb	ND	60	n/a	2017	No	Byproducts of disinfection chemicals reacting with natural organic matter
Trihalomethanes	ppb	ND	80	n/a	2017	no	Byproducts of disinfection chemicals reacting with natural organic matter
Radium 228	pCi/L	1	5	0	2010	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium	ppb	0.1	50	50	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	ppm	6	NE	NE	2016	NA	Erosion of natural deposits
Sulfate	ppm	8	500**	NE	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids	ppm	144	1,000**	NE	2016	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity	NTU	0.08	TT	NE	2016	No	Naturally present in the environment

\*Nitrate was not sampled in 2017 as required. Nitrate concentration in 2016 & 2018 was 0.2 ppm.

\*\*Although the EPA has not established an MCL for sulfate and TDS, the Utah Division of Water Quality requires a sulfate concentration of less than 500 ppm and a total dissolved solids concentration less than 1,000 ppm unless the water system has no other water sources available.

## Glossary

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – Highest level of a contaminant 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)** – 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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)** – 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.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)** – 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.

**Nephelometric Turbidity Unit (NTU)** – Nephelometric turbidity unit is a measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**Non-Detect** – No detectable levels of this contaminant were found.

**None Established (NE)** – MCL or MCLG has not been established for particular contaminant.

**Not Applicable (NA)** – Violation is not applicable because the EPA has not established an MCL for particular contaminant.

**Parts per million (ppm)** – One part per million is a unit that represents 1 part contaminant in 1,000,000 parts water. In water applications, one part per million is also equivalent to 1 milligram per liter (mg/L).

**Parts per billion (ppb)** – One part per billion is a unit that represents 1 part contaminant in 1,000,000,000 parts water. In water applications, one part per billion is also equivalent to 1 microgram per liter (ug/L).

**Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L)** – Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

**Treatment Technique (TT)** – EPA requires process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Year Sampled** – WCWCD is allowed to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some data, though representative, are more than one year old.

### **Retail Water Line Ownership**

A retail water line is a pipe that connects a property to a public retail provider's main water line. The Washington County Water Conservancy District owns the segment of each retail water line that connects the main water line to the water meter. After the meter, the customer owns the retail water line. Any repairs to or replacement of water lines after the water meter are the responsibility of the property owner.