

East Dillon Water District

Water Quality Report PWSID #159045

The East Dillon Water District is pleased to present you with our annual Water Quality Report. Consumer concerns for our environment, the air we breathe and the food we eat also extends to the tap water we drink. The mission of the District is to continue to provide users with quality water, protect our natural resources and operate with sound fiscal management. This report provides information from our monitoring for the period January 1 to December 31, 2002 unless otherwise noted. The District is proud to deliver a high quality product at an average cost to residents of less than 1 cent per gallon.

The Water Quality Report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you each day. If you have any questions about your water or the information in this report, please contact Bob Polich, Administrator of the East Dillon Water District at (970) 668-5655 Extension 12. Information can also be obtained from the District web site www.eastdillon.com. A Board of Directors consisting of five elected residents governs the District. The Board holds public meetings quarterly concerning the operations of the District.

Esta es informacion importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzcan.

General information regarding water sources and drinking water contaminants

Nationwide 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.

Before treatment, source water contaminants may include:

Microbial contaminants such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment facilities, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, recreational activities and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants such as salts and metals, which can occur naturally or result from urban storm 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 organics which are produced as by-products of industrial processes and petroleum productions, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants that can occur naturally or as the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which provides the same protection for public health.

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk. Further information on this subject can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater on the Internet.

Source of the East Dillon Water. The District water source is ground water from the Soda Creek alluvium. The District has a series of seven 60-foot deep wells that draw water from the green belt of Summit Cove where Soda Creek flows north of the Summit Cove Elementary School play fields.

The District and the State of Colorado source water protection study has defined a wellhead protection area that in general terms is the highest point of the peaks surrounding our valley. Snowmelt and rain from this watershed area drains toward Soda Creek and percolates into the ground, recharging the alluvium our water is drawn from. The District conducts testing and closely monitors any results that may show contamination of our water source from the Keystone Golf Course, Elementary School and surrounding residential landscapes.

The District will be activating two new replacement wells in 2003 that will better utilize the alluvium that is our water source. These wells are designed to increase the pumping capacity of the District and to expand our information database regarding the capacities of the alluvium

Water Distribution. The water from the wells is pumped to a pump station located on Grey Fox Lane. Water cascading into the pump station has chlorine and fluoride added. The water is stored in a 80,000 gallon clear well. The water is pumped from the clear well into the distribution system of the District. Storage is provided from a million gallon water tank located north of Hwy 6 and a 1.5 million gallon tank at the top of the Snowberry subdivision.

While the District has the water rights and distribution capacity to serve build out for domestic in home usage, the use of water outside the home for landscaping places a much higher demand on the system. Well field improvements are designed to maximize the pumping capacity from the existing Soda Creek aquifer. It is questionable whether the aquifer can provide adequate water for all uses in the District during periods of drought. The water rights of the District provide the possibility of using other sources of water to meet these needs. However, access to new water sources would be expensive and potentially have lower quality water. The water tank storage within the District is designed to meet the build out storage demands of the area. Finally, since the District has only one source of water, a connection has been installed between the District and the Snake River Water District (service provider for the Keystone area). This connection could be utilized in emergency situations.

Water Conservation

The District is a strong proponent of water conservation. The District utilizes an escalating rate schedule to discourage excess water usage. Individual homeowners can conserve water by monitoring usage, installing restrictive usage plumbing, fixing all water leaks usually in toilets and dripping facets, and utilizing natural water efficient landscaping around their homes.

Without conservation the District may be forced to develop alternative sources of water. These alternate sources of water may not have the same water quality as our existing source. The most likely source would be the Snake River aquifer or surface water. Homeowners are probably already aware of the water quality issues associated with the Snake River caused by mine tailings and affected by snow making operations. The cost of water treatment and additional water connections may affect the cost of water provided to users. Water conservation can be a prime factor in maintaining a high quality of water delivered to your home at a reasonable cost.

As a resident of the District, you live in your water source. All activities within the area of your residence have some eventual influence on your water quality. As an individual, your proper use and disposal of pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, hazardous materials and petroleum products is critical to maintaining the availability of quality water. While we are fortunate to live in an area where our water source is free from major pollutants, it is also a fragile ecosystem susceptible to human and natural occurring contaminants.

Water Quality Data and Definitions

The East Dillon Water District monitors water quality through testing on a continual basis. Most of this testing is for internal operating purposes. Specialized contract laboratories are used to test for contaminants. These laboratories report their findings to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment which is the agency monitoring that you are receiving safe water. This report contains testing that was done in 2002. The State permits monitoring for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of this data, though representative, are more than one year old. Any regulated contaminants detected in the water, even at very low levels, are listed here. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

The East Dillon Water District did not operate under any regulatory variances or exemptions from meeting drinking water standards in 2002. **The District had NO water contamination violations.**

The report makes use of the following definitions:

MCL or Maximum Contaminant Level. The highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG or Maximum Contaminant Level Goal. The level of contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL or Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level. 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.

MRDLG or Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal. The level of 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.

ppm or Parts per million. One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

ppb or Parts per billion. One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

pCi/L or Picocuries per liter. Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

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

Table of Detected Contaminants

The state requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old.

All data is from January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002 unless otherwise noted

Inorganic Contaminants	Unit	MCL	MCLG	Detected Level	Sample Date	MCL Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.088	Mar-02	NO	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	ppm	4	4	1.20	Mar-02	NO	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminium factories
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	ppm	10	10	1.01	Mar-02	NO	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Lead & Copper							
Copper	ppm	AL=1.3	1.3	0.97	2000	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	ppb	AL=15	0	5	2000	NO	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
Radioactive Contaminants							
Beta/proton emitters	pCi/l	4	0	0.9	Feb-01	NO	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Alpha emitters	pCi/l	15	0	0.4	Feb-01	NO	Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Contaminants							
Sodium	ppm	Not regulated		6.8	Mar-02		
Sulfate	ppm	Not regulated		10	Feb-99		

The state has issued our system waivers (testing not required) for dioxin, glyphosate, nitrite, cyanide, and asbestos.