

# 2013 Paint Brush Hills Metropolitan District PWSID #CO0221690

## CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT (CCR) for Calendar Year 2012

*EN ESPANOL: Esta es informacion importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzca.*

The Paint Brush Hills Metropolitan District (PBHMD) is pleased to present you with this year's Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). This report is designed to inform you about the quality of water and services we deliver to you. As a public water system, our constant goal is to provide you with clean, safe, pleasant and dependable drinking water. If you have questions about this report or wish to learn more about water quality issues, please contact Steve Knepper, Operator in Responsible Charge (ORC), at 9830 Liberty Grove Drive, Falcon, CO 80831, [pbhmd@pbhmd.com](mailto:pbhmd@pbhmd.com) or 719.495.8188.

### General Information

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 the water poses a health risk. For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, call the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1.800.426.4791. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons who have undergone organ transplants, persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, 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 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's Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1.800.426.4791.

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. Contaminants 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 metals, which can occur naturally or result from urban stormwater 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 organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can occur naturally or result from oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) prescribes regulations limiting the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

### Lead in Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems (especially for pregnant women and young children). It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for thirty (30) seconds to two (2) minutes before using water for

drinking or cooking. Additional information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1.800.426.4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

## **Source Water Assessment and Protection (SWAP)**

CDPHE has provided us with a Source Water Assessment Report for our water supply. For a copy of this report, as well as general information, please visit <http://wqcdcompliance.com/ccr>. The report is located under “Source Water Assessment Reports”, and then “Assessment Report by County”. Select EL PASO County and find 221690; Paint Brush Hills Metropolitan District or by contacting PBHMD’s ORC, Steve Knepper, at 719.331.8832. The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that **could** occur. It **does not** mean that the contamination **has or will** occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan. Potential sources of contamination in our source water area come from: pasture/hay, deciduous forest, evergreen forest, and road miles.

Please contact us to learn more about what you can do to help protect your drinking water sources, any questions about this CCR, to learn more about our system, or to attend any scheduled public meetings. We want you, our valued customers, to be informed about the services we provide and the quality water we deliver to you every day.

<b>OUR WATER SOURCES</b>			
<b>Source</b>	<b>Source Type</b>	<b>Water Type</b>	<b>Potential Source(s) of Contamination</b>
Well #1 (A-1)	Well	Groundwater	Existing and/or Abandoned Mine Sites; Commercial/Industrial Transportation; Fallow; Pasture/Hay Land Uses; and Road Miles.
Well #2 (A-2)	Well	Groundwater	Existing and/or Abandoned Mine Sites; Commercial/Industrial Transportation; Fallow; Pasture/Hay Land Uses; and Road Miles.
Well #7 (LFH-3)	Well	Groundwater	Existing and/or Abandoned Mine Sites; Commercial/Industrial Transportation; Fallow; Pasture/Hay Land Uses; and Road Miles.
Well #8 (A-5)	Well	Groundwater	Existing and/or Abandoned Mine Sites; Commercial/Industrial Transportation; Fallow; Pasture/Hay Land Uses; and Road Miles.
Well #9 (LFH-4)	Well	Groundwater	Existing and/or Abandoned Mine Sites; Commercial/Industrial Transportation; Fallow; Pasture/Hay Land Uses; and Road Miles.
Well #10 (A-6)	Well	Groundwater	Existing and/or Abandoned Mine Sites; Commercial/Industrial Transportation; Fallow; Pasture/Hay Land Uses; and Road Miles.
Well #11 (LFH-5)	Well	Groundwater	Existing and/or Abandoned Mine Sites; Commercial/Industrial Transportation; Fallow; Pasture/Hay Land Uses; and Road Miles.
Purchased Water from Meridian Service Metropolitan District (PWSID #CO0121455)	Well		Existing and/or Abandoned Mine Sites; Commercial/Industrial Transportation; Fallow; Pasture/Hay Land Uses; and Road Miles.

During 2012 PBHMD obtained its water from seven (7) deep groundwater wells and also from Meridian Service Metropolitan District (MSMD) through an interconnection facility. Some PBHMD wells draw water from the Arapahoe aquifer and range in depth from 1700 feet to 2200 feet; other PBHMD wells draw water from the Laramie-Fox Hills aquifer at depths of 2500 to 2900 feet. MSMD obtains its water primarily from these same two aquifers. Not all of PBHMD’s wells were in service during 2012. PBHMD operates and maintains its own water distribution and wastewater collection systems plus two (2) water tanks with a combined storage capacity of 1.5 million gallons. Production of a safe drinking water supply for PBHMD is accomplished through onsite disinfection (chlorination) at each well site within the District. The finished water obtained through the MSMD interconnect is monitored the same as a raw water source. In-line sand separators constitute the only other treatment your drinking water may receive prior to reaching your tap.

## **Terms and Abbreviations**

- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant allowed in drinking water.
- **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 and other regulatory requirements.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** – The 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)** – 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.
- **Violation (No Abbreviation)** – Failure to meet a Colorado Primary Drinking Water Regulation.
- **Formal Enforcement Action (No Abbreviation)** – Escalated action taken by the State (due to the risk to public health, or number or severity of violations) to bring a non-compliant water system back into compliance.
- **Variance and Exemptions (V/E)** – Department permission not to meet a MCL or treatment technique under certain conditions.
- **Gross Alpha (No Abbreviation)** – Gross alpha particle activity compliance value. It includes radium-226, but excludes radon 222, and uranium.
- **Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** – Measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Compliance Value (No Abbreviation)** – Single or calculated value used to determine if regulatory contaminant level (e.g. MCL) is met. Examples of calculated values are the 90<sup>th</sup> Percentile, Running Annual Average (RAA) and Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA).
- **Average (x-bar)** – Typical value.
- **Range (R)** – Lowest value to the highest value.
- **Sample Size (n)** – Number or count of values (i.e. number of water samples collected).
- **Parts per million = Milligrams per liter (ppm = mg/L)** – One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per billion = Micrograms per liter (ppb = ug/L)** – One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Parts per trillion = Nanograms per liter (ppt = ng/L)** – One part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.
- **Parts per quadrillion = Picograms per liter (ppq = pg/L)** – One part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.
- **Not Applicable (N/A)** – Does not apply or not available.

## **Detected Contaminants**

PBHMD routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table(s) show all detections found in the period of January 1 to December 31, 2012 unless otherwise noted. The State of Colorado 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. Therefore, some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old. Violations and Formal Enforcement Actions, if any, are reported in the next section of this report.

**NOTE:** Only detected contaminants sampled within the last five (5) years appear in this report. If no tables appear in this section, that means no contaminants were detected in the last round of monitoring.

<b>LEAD AND COPPER SAMPLED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM</b>								
<b>Contaminant Name</b>	<b>Monitoring Period</b>	<b>90th Percentile</b>	<b>Number of Samples</b>	<b>Unit of Measure</b>	<b>Action Level</b>	<b>Sample Sites Above Action Level</b>	<b>AL or TT Violation?</b>	<b>Typical Sources</b>
Copper	8/25/11 to 8/30/11	0.063	10	ppm	1.3	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.

### DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS SAMPLED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range (Low - High)	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	Highest Compliance Value	MCL Violation?	Typical Sources
Total Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2012	1.07	0 to 1.5	4	ppb	60	N/A	1.5	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2012	6.93	4.4 to 11.7	4	ppb	80	N/A	11.7	No	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

### INORGANIC CONTAMINANTS SAMPLED AT THE ENTRY POINT TO THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Contaminant Name	Year	Average of Individual Samples	Range of Individual Samples (Low - High)	Number of Samples	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation?	Typical Sources
Barium	2012	0	0 to 0.01	2	ppm	2	2	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	2012	1.3	1.1 to 1.4	3	ppm	4	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories.
Nitrate	2012	0.01	0 to 0.02	6	ppm	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrite	2012	0.02	0 to 0.04	5	ppm	1	1	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate-Nitrite	2012	0.03	0 to 0.06	5	ppm		10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.

### UNREGULATED OR SECONDARY CONTAMINANTS\*\*

\*\*Secondary standards are non-enforceable guidelines for contaminants that may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin, or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water.

Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range (Low - High)	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	Secondary Standard
Total Dissolved Solids	2008	262.14	130 to 466	7	ppm	500

### RADIONUCLIDES SAMPLES AT THE ENTRY POINT TO THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Contaminant Name	Year	Average	Range (Low - High)	Sample Size	Unit of Measure	MCL	MCLG	MCL Violation?	Typical Sources
Gross Beta Particle Activity	2011	6	6 to 6	1	pCi/L*	50	0	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.

\*The MCL for Gross Beta Particle Activity is 4 mrem/year. Since there is no simple conversion between mrem/year and pCi/L, EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for Gross Beta Particle Activity.

### **Violations, Significant Deficiencies, and Formal Enforcement Actions**

There were no Violations or Formal Enforcement Actions to report that occurred during 2012.

### **System Information**

PBHMD is committed to ensuring high quality drinking water and utility service to our customers. If you have questions about this CCR, please contact Steve Knepper, ORC, at 719.331.8832 or by email to [pbhmd@pbhmd.com](mailto:pbhmd@pbhmd.com), or by calling the PBHMD Office at 719.495.8188.

## **Paint Brush Hills Metropolitan District**