

What is an exceedance ?

An exceedance is when the monitoring level(s) are above Federal Drinking Water Quality Standards for that contaminate. When a water system has an exceedance the system will issue a public notice (PN) explaining what the health risks are and how to reduce these risks.

(See page 3 of this PDF to view PN)

Following is list of Corrective Action statuses to help explain what ADEQ and/or water system are doing to resolve the issue.

Corrective Action Status	Description
ADEQ Providing Compliance/Technical Assistance	ADEQ is assisting facility with the legal and/or technical requirements in order to be in compliance with state and federal regulations.
ADEQ/Facility Collecting Additional Samples	ADEQ or Facility are collecting additional samples to determine if the exceedance is a recurring event or a single event.
Facility Notified of Potential Deficiencies	ADEQ has informed facility that they have an exceedance of a permit limit or surface water standard (i.e. myDEQ Report and/or Phone call/email)
Facility Notified of Alleged Violations	Facility has received a Notice of Violation or Notice of Opportunity to Correct Deficiencies from ADEQ or delegated authority for exceeding a permit limit or surface water standard.
ADEQ/Facility Agree Upon Path Forward	ADEQ and Facility have entered into a formal agreement which puts them on a path to return to compliance (i.e. Consent Order or Consent Judgment)
Facility Improvement in Process	A structural, treatment, and/or operational improvement is currently being implemented at facility.
Compliance/Technical Assistance Was Unsuccessful	Elevating the issue to ADEQ Leadership and the Water System, to seek additional Compliance/ Technical Assistance with the goal help the water system return-to-compliance with state and federal regulations.



Drinking Water | Federal Water Standards Exceedance Report

Data Pull Date: 3/7/19

Facility: Cottonwood Municipal Water VV6

County	PWS #	Name	Contaminant	Source	Status
YAVAPAI	AZ0413106	COTTONWOOD MUNICIPAL WATER VV6	ARSENIC	Exceeds Rule Limit	Facility Notified of Alleged Violations

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER
SYSTEM NAME: Cottonwood Municipal Water PWS # 13-106
Well Site 6-2
The Level of Arsenic Exceeded the Drinking Water Standards

The level of arsenic in well site 6-2 in the Cottonwood Municipal Water System PWS#13-106 recently exceeded the drinking water standard. The level of exceedance is not considered to be an emergency, but as our customer it is important that you are aware of the situation, what you should do if anything and what steps have been taken to correct the problem. The city currently samples and tests quarterly for the presence of arsenic as required by the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ). The current standard for arsenic in drinking water is 10 parts billion (ppb), which was formerly 50 ppb prior to 2006. The level of arsenic in the sample we collected and had analyzed in the 4th quarter of 2018 was 14 ppb. A second sample was collected and analyzed to confirm the initial sample and the level of arsenic in the second sample was 8 ppb. In addition to taking the quarterly samples, we calculate the running annual average of the four previously collected quarterly samples. The running annual average for 2018 was 13.26 ppb, which is above the accepted 10 ppb for drinking water.

What should you do?

You DO NOT need to do anything at this time and you do not need to use an alternative (e.g. bottled) water supply. There is no immediate health risk. If there was an immediate health risk, you would have been notified immediately and instructed on what steps to take in order to prevent any serious health risks from occurring. It has been reported that some people drinking water with arsenic levels in excess of the current standard of 10 ppb for many years may experience skin irritations, circulatory problems and an increased risk of cancer. If you should have specific health concerns, it is recommended you consult your personal physician.

What steps have been taken to correct the situation?

The city investigated and determined the resin bead media used in the arsenic treatment units for removing arsenic was exhausted and in need of replacement. On January 27 and 31, 2019, the resin bead media and internal vessel appurtenances were replaced. The city will continue to test this site quarterly as required and you will continue to receive these notifications until the running annual average is consistently below the 10 ppb standard.

For more information, please contact Roger Biggs at (928) 634-0186 ext. 3307 or via email at rbiggs@cottonwoodaz.gov

**Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

This notice is being sent to you by Cottonwood Municipal Water VV6
Public Water System ID#: AZ-04-13106
Date distributed: February 2019.

Click to Return to the My Community Drinking Water Map

