

# Los Cerros Water Company, Inc.

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## 2013 Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

**American Property Exchange, Inc manages Los Cerros Water Company, Inc.** We are pleased to report that our water meets all state and federal standards for drinking water. This annual Consumer Confidence Report, required by the Safe Drinking Water Act, tells you where your water comes from, what it contains, and other general information you should know about your drinking water.

### Water Source

In 2013 Los Cerros Water Company, Inc. received its supply of groundwater from 4 wells located within our service area. Each well site is equipped to chlorinate the system (with calcium hydrochloride tablets) to protect against bacteriological contaminants at a rate of .4 parts per million. Los Cerros Water Company, Inc. serves a portion of the Catalina, Arizona area. Our service area includes the East ½ of Section 16, all of Section 15, the Southwest ¼ of Section 22 in Township 11 South, Range 14 East in Pima County, Arizona. As of December 2013 we had approximately 850 customers.

### Testing Requirements

Los Cerros Water Company, Inc. tests for microbiological contaminants (4 samples) each month. We test chlorine levels monthly, Haloacetic Acids (THAA5) and Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's) annually. The next test will be done in August 2014.

Los Cerros Water Company, Inc. is on a reduced monitoring schedule for Lead & Copper. Tests were completed in June 2011. The next set of tests will be done within a 3-year period or by July 2014.

The Monitoring Assistance Program (MAP) is responsible for testing inorganic compounds and volatile organic compounds. MAP is also responsible for Nitrites/Nitrate Testing. Nitrate testing was done in March 2013.

The company has applied for and received monitoring waivers for several testing requirements.

### Educational Information

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. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons 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 (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 be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses.

\*Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can come from 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

**Los Cerros' new well site @ 4184 East Golder Ranch Drive, EPDS #005, was added to the system in February 2014. This new well is an addition to our system to help during high demand periods and other growth demands.**

## Terms

**MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL)** – The highest level of a contaminant that is 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)** – The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. Clogs allow for a margin of safety.

**SECONDARY MCL (SMCL)** – The MCL that is set by the secondary drinking water rules opted by the state.

AL – Action Level

NA – Not Applicable

ND – Not Detected

Pci/L – Pico curies per Liter

Ppm – Parts Per Million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l)

Ppb – Parts Per Billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l)

EPDS – Entry Point into Distribution System

ADEQ MAP (Monitoring Assistance Program) tested for Volatile Organic Contaminants, Inorganic Contaminants, and Synthetic Organic Contaminants as required by the Safe Drinking Water Act. There were no contaminants detected by a state-licensed laboratory that exceeded the trigger level.

As you can see from the chart, the contaminants listed are well below the maximum contaminant level (MCL/MCLG).

These test results are further evidence that Los Cerros Water Company's water is safe.

## Health Effects

**ARSENIC** – Arsenic is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

**TOTAL TRIHALOMETHANES (TTHMs)** - May cause irritation to the throat and eyes.

**NITRATE** – Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue baby syndrome.

**COPPER** – Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.

**LEAD** – Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level could experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children could show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years could develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

\*Lead and Copper testing is done inside randomly selected homes. Domestic plumbing is the primary source of metals containing lead and copper. Therefore, the above results are not related to our water's original source. Please note that the random test results shown are below levels of concern.

### Is My Water Safe to Drink?

The Safe Drinking Water Act regulations are intended to protect consumers. However, some people may be more vulnerable to infections from drinking water than the general population. These "at-risk" consumers include: immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, organ transplant recipients, and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, and in some cases, the elderly and infants. If you are in doubt, please contact your health care provider.

### Can I Make My water Taste Better?

Water drawn from the tap may have a chlorine odor. If your water has been standing for a period of time, you may try drawing it after other water uses. This brings fresh water to the tap. You can store your water either on the counter or in the refrigerator, depending on which temperature you prefer. If you store water in the refrigerator, be sure it is capped to prevent picking up other odors.

Regulated Detected Contaminants

Contaminant/ Date Sampled	MCL/ MCLG	Results	Detection Level
TOTAL COLIFORMS Monthly (4)	≤5.0%/ 0	ND	Presence/ Absence
<b>Major Sources in Drinking Water:</b> Natural in environment			

ARSENIC Feb-12	10 ppb	0.005 <.001	
<b>Major Sources in Drinking Water:</b> Mining			

*TTHM's THAA5's Aug-13	80 ppb 60 ppb	0.001325 <.0018	
*(4 samples Taken) Results range from <.0005 to .0022			
<b>Major Sources in Drinking Water:</b> Formed when chlorine combines with naturally occurring material in water.			

EPDS#			
NITRATE Mar-13	10 ppm/ 10 ppm	#001 - 1.3 #002 - 2.6 #003 - 1.2 #004 - 2.6	0.01 ppm
<b>Major Sources in Drinking Water:</b> Fertilizer runoff, leaking from septic tanks, erosion of natural deposits			

COPPER* Jun-11	AL = 1.3	0.092	.001 ppm
<b>Major Sources in Drinking Water:</b> Corrosion of household plumbing, natural erosion, leaching from wood preservatives			

LEAD* Jun-11	AL= .015	0.0048	.001 ppm
<b>Major Sources in Drinking Water:</b> Corrosion of household plumbing, natural erosion			

Next Copper & Lead Testing Due in July 2014

### Help Protect Our Groundwater

Los Cerros Water takes samples each year to ensure we all have safe drinking water. You can help protect our drinking water supply by correctly disposing of household hazardous waste at one of three free disposal sites.

The closest collection site for Catalina residents is at the Pusch Ridge Christian Church, 440 West Calle Concordia, Oro Valley.

For hours & information please call:

(520) 888-6947

### Water Conservation Tips:

- Check regularly for leaks, both inside and out.
- Adjust your drip irrigation and sprinkler systems according to the season.
- Maintain your drip irrigation and sprinkler systems.
- Water with infrequent, deep soaks.
- Landscape with drought-tolerant plants.
- Practice water harvesting techniques.
- Put a layer of mulch around trees & plants to slow the evaporation of moisture.
- Sweep, don't hose off your driveway & porches.