



CITY OF AVONDALE WATER QUALITY REPORT • 2008/2009 CALENDAR

The YEAR in MOVIES



WWW.AVONDALE.ORG

4.7 BILLION GALLONS!

4.7 BILLION GALLONS — That's how much water Avondale delivered in 2007. We take pride in making sure that the water that comes from your tap is the best quality possible. It is our pleasure to present the 2007 Avondale Water Quality Report.

This report features the talented men and women from our Water Resources Department. As you thumb through the calendar, you'll recognize scenes from some of Hollywood's most famous movies to help us tell the story of water in Avondale.

Our employees had fun putting this calendar together, and while none of them are actual movie stars, they are true professionals who take pleasure in serving you.

This edition covers water quality testing completed from January through

December 2007. We are pleased to report that your drinking water is safe and in full compliance with all Federal and State requirements.

I hope you enjoy a look at our more humorous side while learning more about how we deliver the best water to you, each and every day of the year.

Sincerely,

**Charlie "He's not Evil Enough"
McClendon**
City Manager
City of Avondale, AZ

Este informe contiene informacion importante acerca de su agua potable. Si Ud. desea una copia en Español o tiene pregunta sobre el, llame a Esmie Avila al (623) 333-4400.



Austin Powers: © 1997
New Line Cinema
Charlie McClendon
as Dr. Evil

Inspiration and Cast of Characters

All of the models featured in Avondale's Water Quality Report calendar are real employees of the Water Resources Department and the City of Avondale. As you look through the cast of characters, remember that our goal this year was to entertain you by taking a tour of some popular Hollywood movies, but on a small town budget. We hope that you are able to see the star potential in each and every employee!



Star Wars: © 1977 Twentieth Century-Fox Film Corporation & Lucasfilm Ltd.
Harley Maniago as Darth Vader
Greg Beard as Obi Wan Kenobi



Titanic: ©1997
 Paramount
 Pictures &
 Twentieth
 Century Fox
**Barbara
 Kirkland as Rose**



The Wizard of Oz:
 © 1939
 Metro-Goldwyn-
 Mayer (MGM)
**Leticia Ronquillo
 as Dorothy**



The Terminator:
 © 1984
 Orion Pictures
**Steve Ruppenthal
 as the Terminator**



Pirates of the
 Caribbean: The Curse
 of the Black Pearl
 © 2003 Touchstone
 Pictures
**Eric Riojas as
 Captain Jack
 Sparrow**



A Christmas Story: © 1983
 MGM/Warner Brothers/Turner Entertainment
**Micah Leigh as Schwartz, Eric Riojas as Flick
 Amy Bolton as Ralpie**



Psycho: © 1960
 Paramount Pictures
**Crystal Orth as
 Marion Crane**



Austin Powers:
 © 1997
 New Line Cinema
**Maria Hinojos as
 Austin Powers**



Field of Dreams:
 © 1989
 Universal Pictures
**Lari Spire as
 Ray Kinsella**



Singin' in the Rain:
 © 1952
 Metro-Goldwyn-
 Mayer (MGM)
**Micah Leigh as
 Don Lockwood**



Raiders
 of the Lost Ark:
 © 1981
 Paramount Pictures
**Mike Ruggles as
 Indiana Jones**



Karate Kid: © 1984 Columbia Pictures
**Melqui Esparza as Mr. Miyagi and
 John Mendez as Daniel Larusso**



An epic battle of good vs. evil is waged everyday in Avondale on a microscopic level. “Good Bugs” also known as ciliates and flagellates are actually bred and used to breakdown the components of wastewater. The “good bugs” digest the “bad bugs,” (nematodes and rotifers) – those things that if left untreated, would threaten the public’s health. By battling the dark side, the good bugs help ensure that harmful bacteria found in wastewater return to an eco-friendly state suitable to go back into the environment for further purification by Mother Nature.

So next time you flush, know that *the force is with you!*

FUN FACT: Avondale's Water Reclamation Facility (WRF), pictured above, currently processes 4.8 million gallons of wastewater per day. An expansion of the WRF is underway to boost the plant's capacity to 9 million gallons of wastewater per day.

JULY 2008

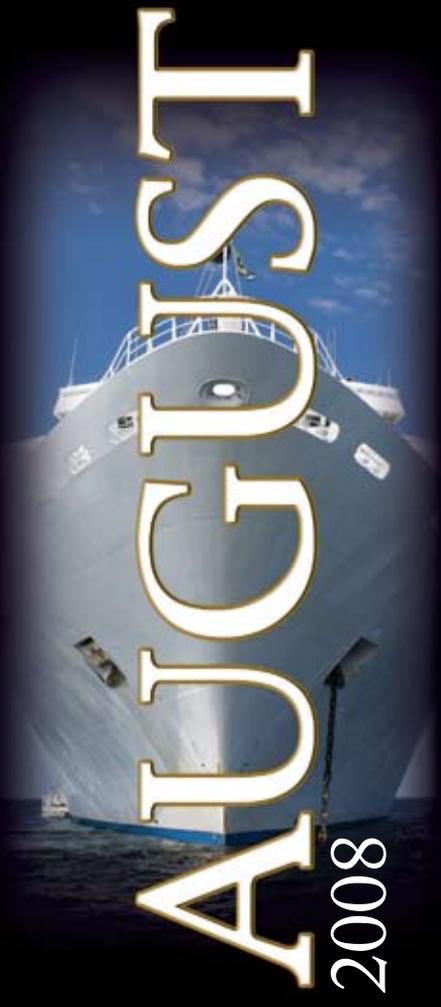
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1	2	3	4 <i>Independence Day</i> City Observed Holiday Offices Closed	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

TITANIC



The impact of water in the desert is nothing short of titanic. Without water, life as we know it would not be possible. Instead of looking out and seeing a vast, thriving skyline — without water — our Valley would be a sea of dry land. Although it's easy to take for granted when the service is so convenient and consistent, next time you turn on your tap, think for a moment about how much you depend on Avondale's water. Without water, development sinks. That's why we feel on top of the world when we think about how our work will sustain the quality of life you enjoy in the desert!

TIP: Don't go overboard watering plants. Learn the best way to water and care for desert plants by attending a free class or picking up a free watering guide. Call (623) 333-4422 for more information.



AUGUST

2008

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						



Follow the Yellow Striped Road



Just like Oz, there is a curious world right under your own two feet that very few people ever get to see. If you followed every yellow striped road in Avondale, you'd find 321 miles of water distribution pipeline and 233 miles of wastewater collection pipeline that weave their way under the streets, delivering fresh water to your home and taking away waste.

FUN FACT: A portion of Avondale's underground water pipeline system was first installed in 1949, just 10 years after the Wizard of Oz was filmed!

TIP: If you notice a water leak on a city street, report it to (623) 333-4400 during business hours or (623) 333-7001 after hours. Crews are on standby 24 hours a day to help ensure that emergencies are handled right away.

September 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>Labor Day</i> City Observed Holiday Offices Closed	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

FUTURISTIC



TECHNOLOGY

Just like in the famous futuristic movie, Avondale's water meter readers will be back, month after month to ensure that you receive an accurate account of your water usage. The old way of manually reading meters has been terminated! These days, the industry has the benefit of several different technological advances that make quick and accurate work of meter reading. From the wand (pictured above) that automatically reads, records and stores readings to a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) that maps out the city's water infrastructure, the Avondale Water Resources Department utilizes advanced technology to better serve you in a timely and efficient manner.

TIP: Use technology to YOUR advantage! Install a multi-programmable irrigation timer to save water and money. Learn about the latest water saving technologies by visiting: www.wateruseitwisely.com and www.epa.gov/watersense.

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

OCTOBER 2008



A man dressed as a pirate stands on a boat, looking off to the side. He has long black hair, a beard, and is wearing a white shirt, a blue vest, and a red bandana. A skull and crossbones are visible on his head. Above him is a large yellow banner with the text "PIRATES of the RIPARIAN" in a stylized font. The background shows a clear blue sky and a line of trees on the horizon.

PIRATES *of the* RIPARIAN

Avondale is home to a natural oasis in the Sonoran desert. The Base & Meridian Wildlife Area, also known as Tres Rios, where three rivers – the Gila, Agua Fria and Salt – converge, is home to many species of wildlife, including more than 150 species of birds, not to mention mammals, fish, reptiles and amphibians. The historical significance of this riparian site is remarkable. Monument Hill, which stands above the confluence of these rivers, was designated as Arizona's "Initial Point" in 1865, making it the reference point from which all maps of the state of Arizona are surveyed. This year, Tres Rios was designated as a Significant Bird Area by the Audubon Society.

TIP: Be sure to mark your calendar for the annual Tres Rios Nature and Earth Festival happening every spring. To find out more about the celebration, and how you can get involved in preserving this natural hidden treasure, visit www.tresriosnaturefestival.com.

NOVEMBER 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 <i>Veteran's Day</i> City Observed Holiday Offices Closed	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i> City Observed Holiday Offices Closed	28 City Observed Holiday Offices Closed	29
30						



WE TRIPLE DOG DARE YOU!

We're so confident about the value of Avondale's water that we're willing to jump right past the dare and go for the triple-dog-dare! You simply won't find a better, more convenient value for your money when it comes to refreshing drinking water. Forget gas prices! Did you know that a gallon of bottled water can cost you as much as \$1.50? Compare that to \$.003 for a gallon of Avondale water. Make the smart choice — tap into quality and the better value! Turn to the tap for your drinking water.



DECEMBER 2008

TIP: Tap water makes financial sense and helps save the environment.
Consider this: one plastic water bottle takes 700 years to decompose in a landfill and increases our need for oil.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25 <i>Christmas Day</i> City Observed Holiday Offices Closed	26	27
28	29	30	31			

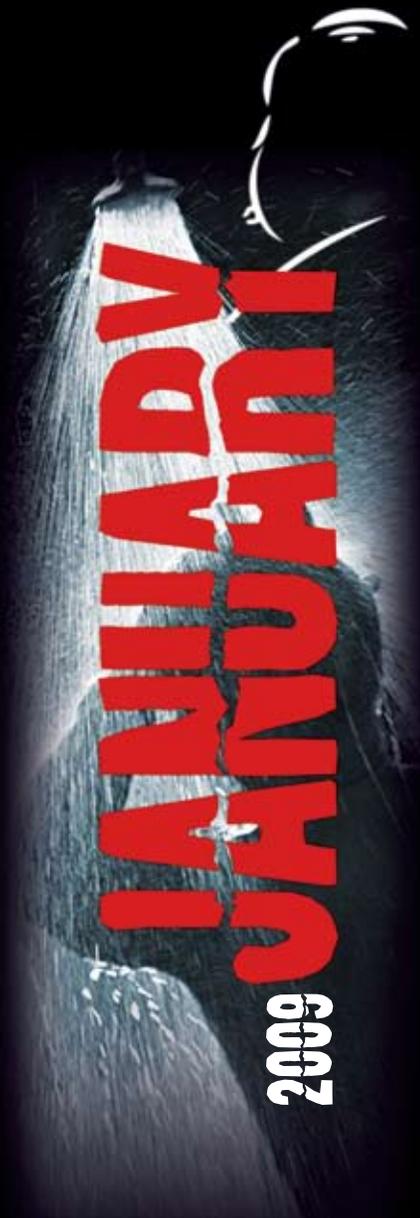


Wasting water is just plain

PSYCHO!

Avondale is serious about water conservation. In addition to an ordinance to deter wasteful water practices, Avondale also offers free xeriscape classes that promote low water use landscape options and conservation incentive rebates. Avondale's Water Conservation Office is eager to help you find ways to save water. For useful and easy ways to save water (and save on your water bill), visit www.avondale.org/water or call (623) 333-4422.

TIP: Time your showers to 5 minutes or less and save 1,000 gallons of water every month! You can also save water and money by installing a low-flow showerhead. They're inexpensive, easy to install, and can save your family more than 500 gallons a week.



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 <i>New Year's Day</i> City Observed Holiday Offices Closed	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 <i>Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</i> City Observed Holiday Offices Closed	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

AVONDALE WATER

GROOVY BABY!



Since its incorporation in 1946, the City of Avondale has been hard at work against Dr. Drought- continuously planning and managing our water resources for the future while providing quality drinking water to the residents of the City.

TIP: Turn off the water while you brush your teeth and save 4 gallons a minute. That's 200 gallons a week for a family of four.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 <i>President's Day</i> City Observed Holiday Offices Closed	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

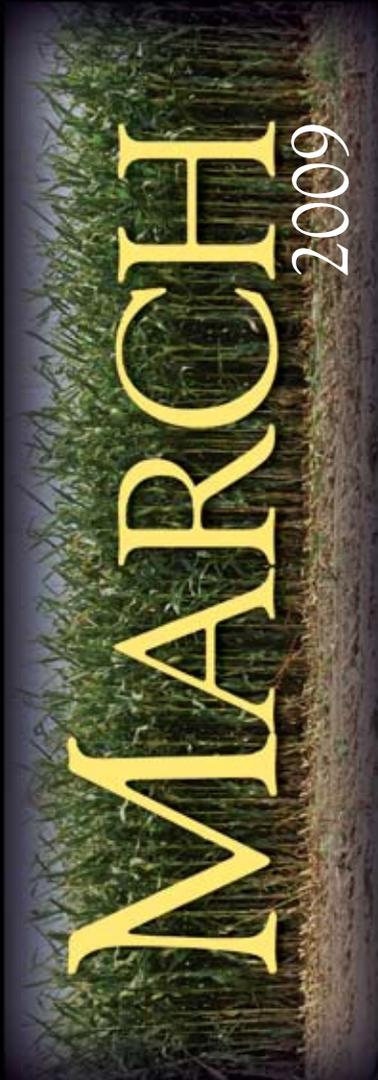


WE ARE BUILDING IT BECAUSE THEY HAVE COME



Because so many people have chosen Avondale to live, work and visit, we're upgrading the capacity of our Water Reclamation Facility (WRF). This facility collects, cleans and disinfects wastewater to reintroduce it back into nature's water cycle where it will naturally filter through the soil and rock as it trickles down to the water table, eventually replenishing our aquifers. Next year, this effluent produced by the WRF will be recovered to irrigate the fields in our parks and eventually trickle down into the water table, recharging our ground water supply. This efficient use of water is just one way that Avondale ensures there will be enough water available to sustain life in the desert for generations to come.

TIP: Keep our water supply safe! Always pick up after your pet and do not dump chemicals down the drain!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
		<i>National Groundwater Awareness Week March 8 - 14</i>				
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
					<i>World Water Day</i>	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

We really are this happy to serve you! Each and every day of the year, rain or shine, Avondale's 58 Water Resources employees are working hard to serve the 75,000 people living in the City. Our collective goal is to ensure an adequate, safe water supply and to deliver efficient wastewater services to you every day of the year- even in the rain!

**TIP: If you've noticed an employee going above and beyond, we want to know about it!
Share your experience so that we can recognize and reward excellent service. Call (623) 333-4400.**



APRIL 2009

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
			<i>Earth Day</i>		<i>Arbor Day</i>	

ARIZONA MIKE

and the
**OUTFALL
CHANNEL**



This beautiful water repository and natural habitat, dubbed the “outfall channel,” has been created over decades through the distribution of effluent water that is discharged by the Water Reclamation Facility. Not only does it create a natural habitat for many forms of wildlife, the outfall channel provides a way for Avondale to recharge the groundwater supply.

TIP: Arizona Mike urges you to "Call before you dig!" There are many buried water, power and utility lines in the ground. To be safe, you should always call Arizona Blue Stake at (602) 263-1100 before digging in the ground. Visit www.azbluestake.com for more information.



MAY 2009

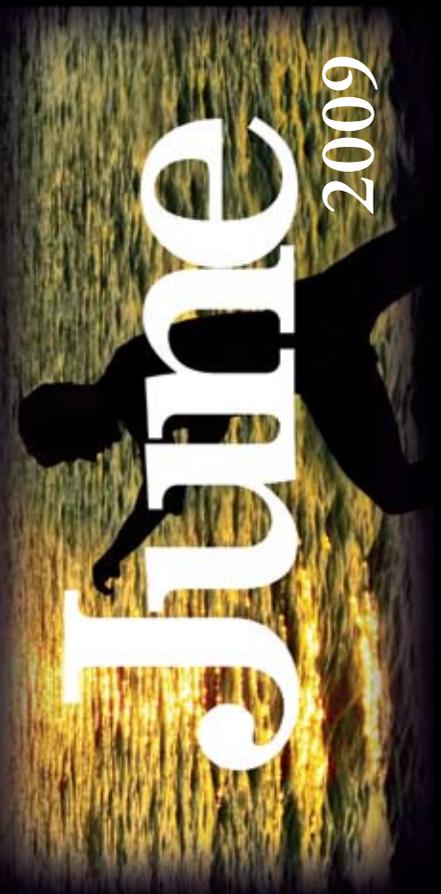
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	National Drinking Water Week May 3 - 9					
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Memorial Day City Observed Holiday Offices Closed	26	27	28	29	30
31						

The Pipeline Kid



Turn on, turn off. Turn on, turn off. Avondale's Water Specialists are true masters of the water business. You can be sure that our service is consistent from year to year because the masters of our business are always looking for ways to mentor other members of the team. By passing on their knowledge, these highly skilled and trained seasoned members of the Avondale Water Resources Department are preparing the next generation of water warriors to serve you.

**TIP: You can pay your water bill online or via telephone 24 hours a day, 365 days a year!
Visit www.avondale.org and look for "Pay My Utility Bill" on the left hand side or call (623) 333-2005 and choose option 3.**



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT 2007 • RANGE: THE HIGHEST AND LOWEST MEASUREMENTS REPORTED DURING THE YEAR.

	Year Tested	MCL	MCLG	Average Detected	Range Low - High	Violations	Likely Source
Inorganic contaminants are salts and metals which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.							
*Arsenic (mg/L)	2007	0.05	0	0.004	0.002 - 0.006	No	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards, naturally occurring
Asbestos (MFL)	2007	7	7	< .02	ND - <0.02	No	Decay of asbestos cement in water mains, erosion of natural deposits
Barium (mg/L)	2007	2	2	0.12	0.03 - 0.18	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium (mg/L)	2007	0.1	0.1	0.022	0.007 - 0.01	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills, erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (mg/L)	2007	4	4	0.39	0.017 - 1.21	No	Water additive that promotes strong teeth; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
**Nitrate (mg/L)	2007	10	10	5.51	2.42 - 9.11	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (mg/L)	2007	1	1	< 0.10	< 0.10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (mg/L)	2007	0.05	0.05	0.002	ND - <0.02	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines
Volatile organics include synthetic and natural chemicals that are by-products of industrial processes, petroleum production, urban stormwater runoff, and gas station and septic system leaks and/or spills.							
Xylenes (mg/L)	2007	10	10	0.002	ND - 0.0019	No	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories
Disinfection by-products form when disinfectants are added to drinking water to kill germs. They react with naturally-occurring organic matter in water.							
Bromodichloromethane (mg/L)	2007	N/A	0	0.001	0.0006 - 0.0030	No	By product of drinking water chlorination
Bromoform (mg/L)	2007	N/A	0	0.006	0.0012 - 0.0139	No	By product of drinking water chlorination
Chloroform (mg/L)	2007	N/A	0.07	0.001	0.0005 - 0.0007	No	By product of drinking water chlorination
Dibromochloromethane (mg/L)	2007	N/A	N/A	0.002	0.0008 - 0.0108	No	By product of drinking water chlorination
Total Halocetic Acids (mg/L) RAA	2007	0.060	0	0.0014 **RAA	ND - 0.0026	No	By product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (mg/L) RAA	2007	0.08	0	0.0078 **RAA	0.0068 - 0.01047	No	By product of drinking water chlorination
**RAA means Running Annual Average.							
Synthetic organics are pesticides and herbicides which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.							
Dibromochloropropane (mg/L) (DBCP)	2007	0.002	0	0.000	0.00002 - 0.00019	No	Runoff/ leaching from soil fumigant used on soybeans, cotton and pineapple orchards
Pentachlorophenol (mg/L)	2007	0.001	0	0.000	ND - 0.00007	No	Discharge from wood-preserving factories
Radiochemical contaminants can be naturally occurring or are the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.							
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2007	15	0	3.47	2.5 - 4.6	No	Erosion of natural deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation
Beta Proton & Photon Radioactivity (mrem/yr)	2007	4	0	< 4.0	ND - < 4.0	No	May occur due to contamination from facilities using or producing radioactive materials
†Radon (pCi/L)	2007	1420	0	209	17 - 221	No	Decay of natural and synthetic deposits of certain minerals that are radioactive and may be forms of radiation known as photons and beta radiation
Radium 226 & 228 (pCi/L)	2007	5	0	< 0.38	< 0.3 - 0.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ug/L)	2007	30	0	3.27	<1.101 - 6.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Microbiological Contaminants							
Total Coliform 960 Annual Routine Samples	2007	Such viruses and bacteria may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.					
	Present in not more than 5% of monthly samples	0	0	0		No	Naturally present in the environment
<i>For water systems that collect fewer than 40 routine samples per month, no more than one sample can be total-coliform positive per month.</i>							
Total Chlorine Residual (mg/L)	2007	MRDL 4.0	MRDLG N/A	1.22	0.93 - 1.38	No	Water additive used to control microbes
Lead & Copper							
in drinking water is derived from either naturally occurring deposits or from the corrosion of household plumbing systems. New federal regulations require all cities to test for lead and copper at selected customers' taps at least once every three years. In the summer of 2007, the city conducted one round of lead and copper tap sampling. The next round of lead and copper sampling will be in July - September 2010. The concentration of both lead and copper in the City's drinking water are well below the regulatory levels.							
Lead (mg/L) compliance based on samples taken at customer's tap (30 Sites)	2007	0.015	0	0	ND - 0	No	No corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
City Wells - Lead (mg/L)	2007			< 0.005	ND - < 0.005	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (mg/L)	2007	1.3	1.3	0.212	ND - 0.212	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits
City Wells - Copper (mg/L)	2007			< 0.01	ND - < 0.01	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Analysis from distribution system (non-enforceable standards)							
Alkalinity (mg/L)	2007	N/A	N/A	152	115 - 180	No	Source Water Assessment: The Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has performed an evaluation of the City of Avondale's sources of water (wells, surface water intakes, and springs) that provide drinking water to public water systems in Arizona. This evaluation determines the degree to which the source of water is protected. Arizona's Source Water Assessment Program was approved by the EPA in November 1999. Based on the information currently available on the hydrogeologic settings of and the adjacent land uses that are in the specified proximity of the drinking water sources, ADEQ has given a low risk designation for the degree to which this public water system drinking water source is protected. A low risk designation indicates that most source water protection measures are either already implemented, or the hydrogeology is such that the source water protection measures will have little impact on protection.
Hardness Total (mg/L)	2007	N/A	N/A	260.9	37 - 584	No	
Grains per Gallon (Gr/Gal)	2007	N/A	N/A	15.3	2 - 34	No	
PH (standard unit)	2007	N/A	N/A	7.72	7.4 - 8.0	No	
Sodium (mg/L)	2007	N/A	N/A	97.7	72 - 152	No	
Sulfate (mg/L)	2007	N/A	N/A	75	34.8 -	No	
Temperature Celsius	2007	N/A	N/A	14.4	8.8 - 20.5	No	
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	2007	N/A	N/A	546	251 - 907	No	

DEFINITIONS:

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

Gr/gal (Grains per Gallon): Water hardness measure.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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.

MRDL (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 (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 contamination.

mg/L (milligrams per liter): Unit of measure equal to parts per million (ppm). One part per million (or milligrams per liter) is equivalent to one penny in \$10,000.

MFL: million fibers per liter larger than 10 microns.

N/A: Not available.

ND: None detected.

pCi/L (pico-Curies per liter): Measurement of radioactivity.

ug/L (micrograms per liter): Unit of measure equal to parts per billion (ppb). One part per billion (or micrograms per liter) is equivalent to one penny in \$10,000,000.

Range: The highest and lowest measurements reported during the year.

*ARSENIC

In 2002 the EPA finalized new regulations for arsenic in drinking water. The new regulation took effect in January of 2006 and has lowered the MCL for arsenic, established in 1942, from 0.050 mg/l to 0.010 mg/l. Arsenic is a naturally occurring mineral in the environment. In groundwater, arsenic is largely the result of minerals dissolving naturally from weathered rocks and soils. As a result, most drinking water – especially in the Southwest – contains some levels of arsenic.

In 2006 the City completed construction of its first Arsenic Treatment Facility. The facility is supplied by two wells that require arsenic treatment. Due to the variation of the arsenic concentration, the City is providing the following statements as required by the EPA.

Arsenic Educational Statement: While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which 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.

Arsenic Health Effects Statement: Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

**NITRATE

The EPA requires water providers to explain what high nitrate concentrations in drinking water means to you. 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. The City is providing the following statement as required by the EPA: Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/l

is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health provider.

†RADON

Radon is a naturally occurring radioactive gas that may cause cancer, and may be found in drinking water and indoor air. While ingesting radon in drinking water has a small risk, inhaling radon is a primary health concern, particularly for smokers or ex-smokers. Radon diffusing up from the soil into homes and buildings is usually the main source of radon in indoor air. Only about 1-2 % of radon in indoor air comes from drinking water. The EPA does not currently have a final regulation for radon in drinking water. Test results indicate that the City has fairly typical concentrations of radon in the water supply.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Unregulated Contaminants were tested for in 2001 and 2003. These are contaminants for which EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist EPA in determining the occurrence of unregulated contaminants in drinking water and whether future regulation is warranted. The following contaminants were tested for but not found:

Acetochlor; 2,4 – Dinitrotoluene; 2,6 – Dinitrotoluene; 4,4 - DDE; DCPA –acid metabolites; EPTC; Molinate; MTBE; Nitrobenzene; Terbacil and Perchlorate.

Although over 127 contaminants were tested for, not all were detected. Only those detected are shown in the table above. If you would like to see the entire list of possible contaminants please contact the Water Resources Department at (623) 333-4400.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Where does our water come from?

Avondale's drinking water source is 100% groundwater. Our water supply is not exposed to air and is not subject to direct pollution and contamination like river or reservoirs. All of our water is pumped through production wells that are located throughout the city and draw from the West Salt River Valley Sub-Basin aquifer.

How much water was consumed in 2007?

Avondale consumed over four billion gallons or 14,626 acre-feet of water in 2007. Each acre-foot of water is equivalent to 325,851 gallons or as much water as it would take to fill an entire football field filled with one foot of water.

How is my water treated?

The water delivered to your tap is naturally 99.9% microbial free. Avondale maintains a specific level of chlorine throughout the entire water distribution system for total disinfection.

How is my water tested?

Every production well and reservoir is tested to ensure that the water at your tap is safe and refreshing. Every year, 960 drinking water samples are collected by our highly trained staff for microbiological analysis. These samples are analyzed by a laboratory certified by the Arizona Department of Health Services and are approved by Maricopa County Environmental Services Department.

How will I know if there's a problem with my water?

If the amount of a contaminant exceeds a pre-determined safe level in your drinking water, we will notify you via newspapers, radio, TV and other means within 24 hours. With this notification, you will be instructed on what appropriate actions you can take to protect your family's health.

SPECIAL NOTES

Special notice to Users of Kidney Dialysis Machines and Fish Owners

It is important for all customers who use specialized treatments such as kidney dialysis machines or who have unique water quality needs such as fish owners to make the necessary adjustments in water treatment to adequately remove any chlorine residual.

SUBSTANCES EXPECTED TO BE IN DRINKING WATER

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribes regulations that limit 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, which must provide the same protection for public health.

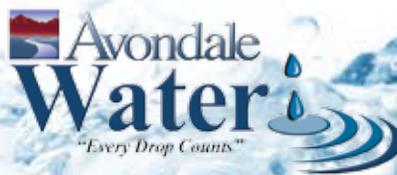
Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). Information on bottled water can be obtained from the FDA.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PEOPLE AT RISK OF INFECTIONS

Note: 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, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly persons and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA and the Center for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Contaminants that may be present in source water include the following:

1. Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may be from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife.
2. 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.
3. Pesticides and herbicides, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.
4. Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and
5. Radioactive contaminants which occur naturally or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.



CONTACT US

Avondale's Water Resources Department is here to serve you!

399 E. Lower Buckeye Rd.
Avondale, AZ 85323
(623) 333-4400
www.avondale.org\water

After Hours Water Quality or Main Breaks: (623) 333-7000
Water Bill Customer Service: (623) 333-2005

GET INVOLVED!

We welcome you to attend City Council meetings or other public forums. Council meetings are every first and third Monday of the month. Public meeting notices are posted on the City's web site at www.avondale.org and outside of Avondale City Hall, located at 11465 W. Civic Center Drive, Avondale.

LEARN MORE ABOUT WATER

United States Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline:

(800) 426-4791 ♦ www.epa.gov/safewater

Arizona Department of Environmental Quality

(602) 771-2300

www.adeq.state.az.us/environ/water/index.html

Maricopa County Environmental Services Department

(602) 505-6666 ♦ www.maricopa.gov/envsvc/Wwmd.asp

WATER CONSERVATION

Avondale's Water Conservation Office is here to help you save water. We offer free workshops, publications and even rebates to encourage water conservation. To learn more, call (623) 333-4422 or email eavila@avondale.org to request a packet of information that can help you learn about native plants, rebate programs, watering guidelines and conservation.

AVONDALE'S WATER PARTNERS

The City of Avondale actively partners with other agencies and organizations to enhance the range of resources and information available to you.

Water, Use it Wisely

Avondale partners with Valley cities in this campaign to promote easy ways to save water. Learn how to make wise water decisions - visit www.wateruseitwisely.com.



Water Conservation Education Links & School Programs

Contact the Water Resources Department at (623) 333-4422 for free water conservation presentations or log on to www.avondale.org \water for cool interactive water games for kids.



Tap into Quality

Learn more about the safety, convenience and affordability of tap water. "Tap Into Quality" is a public education campaign designed to keep you informed about tap water. To learn more, visit www.tapintoquality.org.



Water Sense Partner

A partnership program with a goal of protecting the future of our nation's water supply by promoting and enhancing the market for water-efficient products and services. For WaterSense resources visit: www.epa.gov/watersense



Arizona Rinse Smart

Replace your high water use, low pressure pre-rinse spray valves with lower water use, higher pressure valves. If you are a restaurant or school in Avondale that would like to participate in this free program please contact the water conservation staff at (623) 333-4422.



PRESERVE OUR ENVIRONMENT AND GROUND WATER SUPPLY!

Prevent Stormwater Drain Pollution

- ✓ Pick up pet waste
- ✓ Use "non-toxic" cleaners
- ✓ Save hazardous waste for city collection events
- ✓ Use kitty litter to absorb oil and grease on pavement

Remember - what goes into the ground and down the drain may wind up in our drinking water!

CREDITS

Thank you to the many people who participated in the production of this calendar. Without their hard work, patience, dedication and sense of humor- this calendar would not be possible.

A very special thanks goes to the Avondale Fire Department for making it rain at the "Singin' in the Rain" photo shoot.





City of Avondale, Outfall Channel



Water Resources Department
399 E. Lower Buckeye Rd. • Avondale, AZ 85323
www.avondale.org/water

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