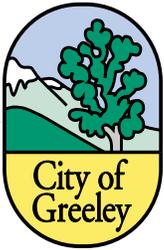


# Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

*City of Greeley, Colorado  
for Reporting Year 2000*





June 2001

Dear Water Customer:

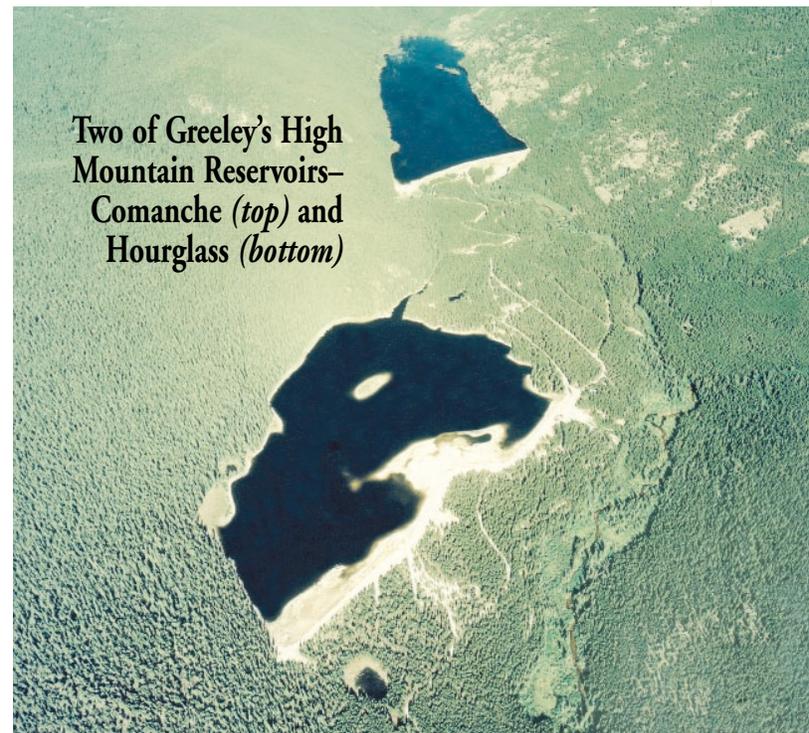
This is the third annual water quality report for the City of Greeley's drinking water system. This report covers calendar year 2000 and provides important information about the quality of your drinking water. Please take a few minutes to review the report, and contact us with any questions or comments about the information it contains.

Greeley operated without violation, variance, or exemption regarding drinking water quality requirements during all of 2000. Your water meets or exceeds all applicable federal, state, and local standards for drinking water quality. We intend to continue to provide you with a high quality product at the lowest possible cost, protecting public health to the utmost of our ability.

Some people who drink Greeley water are not billed directly, and may not receive a copy of this report. If you own or operate a facility that provides water to customers, employees, or tenants (such as campgrounds, manufacturing facilities, apartment complexes, dormitories, mobile home parks), whom we do not bill individually, please post copies of this report on a message board or other common area so everyone who relies on Greeley's water can see the quality.

Sincerely,

Jon G. Monson, Director  
Water and Sewer Department



**Two of Greeley's High Mountain Reservoirs—  
Comanche (*top*) and  
Hourglass (*bottom*)**

*Cover Photo:* Water and Sewer Department's first contribution to "Art in Public Places." It was erected Summer of 2000 at the 23rd Avenue Reservoir. The figures were taken from a 1908 photograph of the City Council and Mayor standing in front of the first Greeley Water Works.

**S E R V I N G   O U R   C O M M U N I T Y   .   I T ' S   A   T R A D I T I O N**

*We promise to preserve and improve the quality of life for Greeley through timely, courteous and cost effective service.*



"This report provides an excellent opportunity for our customers to increase their knowledge of the quality of the water they consume."



Greeley treats the water from its various sources at either the Boyd Lake Filter Plant near Loveland, or the Bellvue Filter Plant north of Fort Collins. The Boyd Lake facility normally operates April through October to accommodate increased demand from lawn watering, and the Bellvue plant operates year-round. The treated water is then piped to Greeley where it is directly distributed to customers, or stored in one of three finished water reservoirs prior to distribution. The multiple treatment plants and finished water reservoirs provide important redundancy and operational flexibility necessary to help ensure a safe and adequate water supply under reasonably anticipated operating conditions. The map on page 2 shows the geographic extent and layout of the City's water supply system.



Greeley also has agreements with neighboring water purveyors whereby Greeley may provide water to, or receive water from, these entities under special circumstances, such as water main repair, unusual demand, or plant shutdown. Pursuant to these agreements, Greeley received water from the City of Loveland, the East Larimer County Water District, and the North Weld Water District totaling about 85.5 million gallons. This is a tiny fraction (about 0.009%) of the 9.5 billion gallons Greeley provided to its customers in 2000. Such a small percentage should have no real impact on the data presented in this report. However, if you wish to obtain a water quality report from these entities, please call 350-9812.

## What Contaminants are Common 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 accumulate 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, 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production or mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") limits the amount of certain contaminants allowed in drinking water provided by public water systems. Similarly, the United States Food and Drug Administration ("FDA") limits the amount of contaminants allowed in bottled water.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

## Special Considerations for Immuno-Compromised Individuals

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons, such as those 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/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).

## What is the Quality of the Water Delivered to My Tap?

The Safe Drinking Water Act establishes the standards for most drinking water systems in the country, including Greeley's. Greeley complied with all applicable standards in 2000 without operating under any variance or exemption (*i.e.*, state or federal permission not to meet a standard under certain conditions). The City routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. Table 1 identifies drinking water contaminants that Greeley detected in its water, the contaminant levels detected, and the maximum allowable levels for these contaminants. All such contaminants were detected at levels well below applicable health limits. Table 2 identifies the contaminants for which the City was required to test, but which were not detected, along with maximum allowable levels for such contaminants. Sampling was performed between January 1 and December 31, 2000, unless otherwise indicated. The definitions below will help you understand the information presented in the tables.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:	Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL:	Action Level:	Treatment Technique:
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.	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.	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Table 1: Detected Contaminants

Contaminant (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected in Greeley Finished Water	Violation Yes/No	Major Source of This Contaminant In Drinking Water
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>					
Turbidity (NTU) <sup>(A)</sup>	n/a	Treatment Technique	Highest Single Value: 0.471  Lowest Single Monthly Percentage of Samples Meeting the Turbidity Limits: 100%	No	Soil runoff
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>					
Barium (ppm)	2	2	Range: 0.019 to 0.077	No	Discharge of drilling wastes: Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) <sup>(B)</sup>	1.3	Action Level=1.3	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value: 0.29 <sup>(C)</sup>  Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level: 0 out of 40	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Fluoride (ppm)	4	4	Range: 0.72 to 0.74	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth
Lead (ppb) <sup>(B)</sup>	0	Action Level=15	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Value: 4 <sup>(C)</sup>  Number of Sites Exceeding Action Level: 1 out of 40	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems
Selenium (ppb)	50	50	Range: Non-detect to 2	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>					
TTHMs (Total trihalomethanes) (ppb)	n/a	100	Average: 49.03 <sup>(D)</sup> Range: 25.53 to 57.33 <sup>(E)</sup>	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination

## Key To The Tables:

MCL=Maximum Contaminant Level

MCLG=Maximum Contaminant Level Goal

n/a=Not Applicable

Non-Detect=(laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present)

NTU=Nephelometric Turbidity Units (a measure of turbidity or cloudiness)

pCi/l=picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppm=parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/l) (one ppm corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000)

ppb=parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (ug/l) (one ppb corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000)

ppt=parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (one ppt corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000)

ppq=parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter (one ppq corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000,000)

- (A) Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. The City monitors turbidity because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.  
 (B) The data presented are from the most recent testing performed in accordance with the regulations (September 1999).  
 (C) This statistical expression is used to measure compliance. It indicates that 90% of all sample results were equal to or lower than this value.  
 (D) This figure represents the highest yearly running average during 2000.  
 (E) These figures represent the range of the levels detected during 2000.

*Table 2: Regulated Contaminants Tested for but Not Detected*

Contaminant (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected in Greeley Finished Water	Violation Yes/No	Major Source of This Contaminant In Drinking Water
<b>Microbiological Contaminants</b>					
Total Coliform Bacteria	0	For systems that collect 40 or more samples per month (such as Greeley's), 5% of the monthly samples are positive	Non-detect <sup>(A)</sup>	No	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and <i>E. coli</i>	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive	Non-detect	No	Human and animal fecal waste
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>					
Beta/photon <sup>(B)</sup> emitters (pCi/l)	0	50 <sup>(C)</sup>	Non-detect	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Alpha emitters <sup>(B)</sup> (pCi/l)	0	15	Non-detect	No	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>					
Antimony (ppb)	6	6	Non-detect	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; Fire retardants, Ceramics, Electronics and Solder
Arsenic (ppb)	n/a	50	Non-detect	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Beryllium (ppb)	4	4	Non-detect	No	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; Discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
Cadmium (ppm)	5	5	Non-detect	No	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from metal refineries; Runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chromium (ppb)	100	100	Non-detect	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
Mercury [inorganic] (ppb)	2	2	Non-detect	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from refineries and factories; Runoff from landfills; Runoff from cropland
Nitrate/Nitrite (ppm)	10	10	Non-detect	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage
Thallium (ppb)	0.5	2	Non-detect	No	Leaching from ore-processing sites; Discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants (Including Pesticides and Herbicides)</b>					
2,4-D (ppb)	70	70	Non-detect	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
2,4,5-TP [Silvex] (ppb)	50	50	Non-detect	No	Residue of banned herbicide
Alachlor (ppb)	0	2	Non-detect	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops

*"Your water meets or exceeds all applicable federal, state and local standards for drinking water quality."*



Contaminant (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected in Greeley Finished Water	Violation Yes/No	Major Source of This Contaminant In Drinking Water
<b>Synthetic Organic Contaminants (Including Pesticides and Herbicides)</b>					
Atrazine (ppb)	3	3	Non-detect	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Benzo(a)pyrene [PAH] (ppt)	0	200	Non-detect	No	Leaching from linings of water storage tanks and distribution lines
Carbofuran (ppb)	40	40	Non-detect	No	Leaching of soil fumigant used on rice and alfalfa
Chlordane (ppb)	0	2	Non-detect	No	Residue of banned termiticide
Dalapon (ppb)	200	200	Non-detect	No	Runoff from herbicide used on rights of way
Di(2-ethylhexyl)-adipate (ppb)	400	400	Non-detect	No	Discharge from chemical factories
Di(2-ethylhexyl)-phthalate (ppb)	0	6	Non-detect	No	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Dibromochloropropane (ppt)	0	200	Non-detect	No	Runoff/leaching from soil fumigant used on soybeans, cotton, pineapples and orchards
Dinoseb (ppb)	7	7	Non-detect	No	Runoff from herbicide used on soybeans and vegetables
Diquat (ppb)	20	20	Non-detect	No	Runoff from herbicide use
Endothall (ppb)	100	100	Non-detect	No	Runoff from herbicide use
Endrin (ppb)	2	2	Non-detect	No	Residue of banned insecticide
Ethylene dibromide (ppt)	0	50	Non-detect	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Heptachlor (ppt)	0	400	Non-detect	No	Residue of banned pesticide
Heptachlor epoxide (ppt)	0	200	Non-detect	No	Breakdown of heptachlor
Hexachlorobenzene (ppb)	0	1	Non-detect	No	Discharge from metal refineries and agricultural chemical factories
Hexachlorocyclopentadiene (ppb)	50	50	Non-detect	No	Discharge from chemical factories
Lindane (ppt)	200	200	Non-detect	No	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on cattle, lumber and gardens
Methoxychlor (ppb)	40	40	Non-detect	No	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on fruits, vegetables, alfalfa and livestock
Oxamyl [Vydate] (ppb)	200	200	Non-detect	No	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on apples, potatoes and tomatoes
PCBs [Polychlorinated biphenyls] (ppt)	0	500	Non-detect	No	Runoff from landfills; Discharge of waste chemicals
Pentachlorophenol (ppb)	0	1	Non-detect	No	Discharge from wood preserving operations
Picloram (ppb)	500	500	Non-detect	No	Herbicide runoff
Simazine (ppb)	4	4	Non-detect	No	Herbicide runoff
Toxaphene (ppb)	0	3	Non-detect	No	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on cattle

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*Table 2: Regulated Contaminants Tested for but not Detected*

Contaminant (Units)	MCLG	MCL	Level Detected in Greeley Finished Water	Violation Yes/No	Major Source of This Contaminant In Drinking Water
<b>Volatile Organic Contaminants</b>					
Benzene (ppb)	0	5	Non-detect	No	Discharge from factories; Leaching from gas storage tanks and landfills
Carbon tetrachloride (ppb)	0	5	Non-detect	No	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities
Chlorobenzene (ppb)	100	100	Non-detect	No	Discharge from chemical and agricultural chemical factories
o-Dichlorobenzene (ppb)	600	600	Non-detect	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
p-Dichlorobenzene (ppb)	75	75	Non-detect	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1,2-Dichloroethane (ppb)	0	5	Non-detect	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
1,1-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	7	7	Non-detect	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	70	70	Non-detect	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	100	100	Non-detect	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Dichloromethane (ppb)	0	5	Non-detect	No	Discharge from pharmaceutical
1,2-Dichloropropane (ppb)	0	5	Non-detect	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Ethylbenzene (ppb)	700	700	Non-detect	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Styrene (ppb)	100	100	Non-detect	No	Discharge from rubber and plastic factories; Leaching from landfills
Tetrachloroethylene (ppb)	0	5	Non-detect	No	Discharge from factories and dry cleaners
1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene (ppb)	70	70	Non-detect	No	Discharge from textile-finishing factories
1,1,1-Trichloroethane (ppb)	200	200	Non-detect	No	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
1,1,2-Trichloroethane (ppb)	3	5	Non-detect	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Trichloroethylene (ppb)	0	5	Non-detect	No	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
Toluene (ppm)	1	1	Non-detect	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries
Vinyl chloride (ppb)	0	2	Non-detect	No	Leaching from PVC piping; Discharge from plastics factories
Xylenes (ppm)	10	10	Non-detect	No	Discharge from petroleum refineries; Discharge from chemical factories

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- (A) Testing for total coliforms actually showed three positive samples out of a total of 983 samples analyzed in 2000. We believe that the three positive samples were an error reflecting contamination that occurred during sample handling, because the chlorine level in the sample was high enough to be expected to eliminate coliform bacteria in the water. Results of follow-up testing showed non-detect.
- (B) Colorado allows monitoring for some contaminants less often than once per year because the concentration of these contaminants do not frequently change. This data is from the most recent testing performed according to the regulations (August 1998).
- (C) EPA considers 50 pCi/l to be the level of concern for beta particles. However, the MCL identified in EPA's regulation is 4 millirem ("mrem") per year. Millirem is a measure of radiation absorbed by the body. If a water system detects beta particles above 50 pCi/l, it must calculate whether the 4 mrem limit has been exceeded.

In addition to sampling for the foregoing regulated contaminants, Greeley sampled for numerous unregulated contaminants. Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps EPA identify where certain contaminants occur, and determine whether it should regulate those contaminants in the future. Greeley detected one unregulated contaminant in 2000:

**Sodium:** Range of levels detected 7.6 to 31 ppm  
Average of the levels detected 19.3 ppm<sup>(1)</sup>

Greeley also analyzed samples for the following unregulated contaminants in 2000, the results of which were all non-detects:

3-Hydroxycarbofuran; Aldicarb; Aldicarb Sulfone; Aldicarb Sulfoxide; Aldrin; Butachlor; Carbaryl; Dicamba; Dieldrin; Methomyl; Metolachlor; Metribuzin; Propachlor; 1,1-Dichloroethane; 1,1-Dichloropropene; 1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane; 1,1,2,2-Tetrachloroethane; 1,2,3-Trichlorobenzene; 1,2,3-Trichloropropane; 1,2,4-Trimethylbenzene; 1,3-Dichloropropane; 1,3-Dichloropropene; 1,3,5-Trimethylbenzene; 2,2-Dichloropropane; Bromobenzene; Bromochloromethane; Bromomethane; Chloroethane; Chloromethane; Dibromomethane; Dichlorodifluoromethane; Fluorotrichloromethane; Hexachlorobutadiene; Isopropylbenzene; m-Dichlorobenzene; Naphthalene; n-Butylbenzene; n-Propylbenzene; o-Chlorotoluene; p-Chlorotoluene; p-Isopropyltoluene; Sec-Butylbenzene; Tert-Butylbenzene.

**A Word About Cryptosporidium** Cryptosporidium is a microorganism that is found in rivers and lakes across Colorado. It can cause a severe intestinal disorder in people, and consequently, is receiving increasing attention by drinking water professionals. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people face a greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to ask their doctor about appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water.

In 2000, Cryptosporidium was detected in untreated water samples taken from the Cache la Poudre River. Current test methods do not allow us to determine whether the organisms were dead or capable of causing disease. Cryptosporidium is eliminated from drinking water by an effective treatment combination, including coagulation, sedimentation, filtration, and disinfection (all of which Greeley does). The City did not detect the organism in its treated water supplies.

**How Can I Help Protect Greeley's Water Supply?** To a great extent, the quality of finished drinking water depends on the quality of the untreated source water. Activities occurring on or near source waters (for example, boating, septic tank use, chemical spills, residential or agricultural fertilizer application, residential or industrial development, vehicular traffic) can harm source water quality. It is therefore important to ensure, to the extent possible, the integrity of our untreated water supply.

Public water suppliers, state drinking water authorities, and other interested parties across the country are establishing a preventive program designed to help protect water supplies from contamination. This process, known as "source water assessment and protection" ("SWAP"), is intended to identify existing or potential future adverse impacts to such waters, and help develop ways to protect this important asset. The State of Colorado will perform the source water assessments for public water supplies across the State. When the assessments are complete, the information will be available to the public. For more information on Colorado's SWAP Program, visit <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/sw/swaphom.html>.



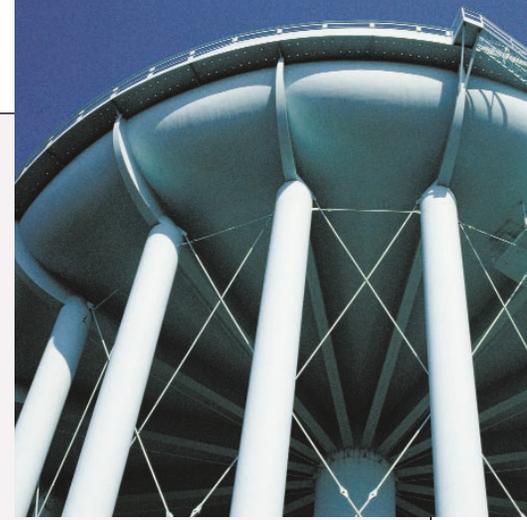
City of Greeley personnel performing Snow Survey. Such surveys indicate how much water will be available for the upcoming summer season.

<sup>(1)</sup> EPA has not set an enforceable limit on sodium in drinking water. It has identified a non-enforceable guidance level of 20 ppm, which even the Agency admits is probably too conservative.

*“As part of its overall master plan, Greeley will continue to expand the current water conservation program to help meet future water needs.”*



Public participation is a primary element of the SWAP program. As a Greeley water customer, you have a stake in protecting our source waters. The City actively participates in two regional watershed groups that will interface with the State in its preparation of source water assessments for the Big Thompson and Cache la Poudre Rivers. The City encourages your involvement. For further information on the Big Thompson Watershed Forum, call (970) 613-7951 or visit <http://www.btwatershed.org/>. For more information on the Cache la Poudre Watershed Forum, call (970) 350-9811. Also, for information on EPA's national pilot source water assessment for the Cache la Poudre River, visit <http://ccdd.uccs.edu/EPAM/SourceWater/Cachelapoudre/>.



## Potential Water Quality Impacts From the Bobcat Gulch Fire

Images of last summer's Bobcat Gulch wildfire are now mostly a distant memory. The fire burned 10,800 acres in the lower Big Thompson Watershed between June 13 and 23, 2000. Emergency rehabilitation of the burn area commenced soon after the fire was controlled, and the area has mostly returned to the routines of life. However, impacts from the fire still linger.

Due to the loss of vegetation, we can expect substantial soil erosion in the burn area after heavy rainfalls. Greeley is developing an emergency response plan to protect its source water from such erosion. We do not expect the fire's impacts to present any health concerns for our customers. However, based on Denver Water's experience with the Buffalo Creek Fire in 1996, you may notice some changes in the taste and odor of your drinking water at certain times. Moreover, due to the length of time it takes for a burned area to re-vegetate in a dry climate like ours, the effects may last for years. We will make every effort to minimize such effects. Please call 350-9812 to report any concerns that you may have with your drinking water. Customer input on taste and odor helps us address potential problems and ensure a quality product.

**Water Conservation** The average Greeley water customer uses 190 gallons of water each day. This may surprise you, especially if you consider that other front range communities use an average of 160 gallons per person each day. You may even question this – thinking only of the amount of water you drink. However, the amount that we actually drink is very insignificant – about 0.1% of our total water use.

Outdoor use, mostly lawn watering, accounts for the vast majority of Greeley's water consumption. As you might expect, demand peaks during the hot summer months. Average water demand for the year 2000 was about 26.2 million gallons per day. However, the greatest demand for a single day in the year 2000 was about 50.4 million gallons (almost twice the average).

Obviously, the City cannot design its drinking water facilities to accommodate just average demand, but rather must ensure that its system can satisfy peak demand levels, which will continue to increase as Greeley grows. This means purchasing expensive additional treatment and transmission capacity, which, in turn, means higher water rates. Conservation is a way to lower peak demand and thus control water rates by postponing the need for purchasing additional treatment capacity. As part of its overall master plan, Greeley will continue to expand the current water conservation program to help meet future water needs.

## More About Greeley's Water From the Director

The present quality and future reliability of your drinking water are the two issues at the forefront of our thinking and planning today at Greeley Water.

The Bobcat Gulch fire last summer may affect the quality of your drinking water this summer. Denver had the Buffalo Creek fire five years ago and they are still dealing with a "smokey" taste coming from the filter plant that treats Buffalo Creek water. Greeley's position is a little better than Denver's because when the rains come, and wash the ash and soot and mud down from Bobcat Gulch, Greeley can let much of the muck go by our reservoirs, not into them. Another good reason to have a little surplus water in the bank, so we can afford to let the "smokey" tasting raw water continue down stream. If some gets by us and you do experience less than perfect water quality, give us a call. We want to know. Purity is our first concern.

On the reliability side, Greeley has always welcomed growth and prepared for growth. For almost a hundred years now, Greeley has bought more water than we needed at the moment, always with the confidence that the city would grow. The best example of this forward thinking is the purchase of Colorado-Big Thompson ("CBT") water in 1955 that tripled Greeley's water supply. And the city has grown. In the last 45 years, our population has more than tripled, using up much of the CBT water bought for that purpose.

Today, we face even faster growth with fewer new water supplies to choose from. We will maximize the water resources we have, by using untreated ditch water delivered from Boyd Lake to irrigate new soccer fields at Monfort Park, for instance. We will ask for, and in a drought demand, water conservation and wise water use to extend and stretch your water supplies.

But given just modest growth, Greeley's population will again triple during the next 50 years. Even with significant conservation and the use of non-potable ditch water, Greeley's water supply will have to at least double to keep up. In the next several months and years, we will be coming to you, the rate-payers, to ask if you wish to continue to welcome and prepare for growth by pre-purchasing additional water supplies. We fear that if Greeley does not secure additional supplies within the next ten years, the price will be enormously higher later, if the water is available at all. When Greeley bought CBT water in 1955, we paid what amounts to \$23 for enough water for a family of four; today that same quantity of CBT water costs about \$12,000.

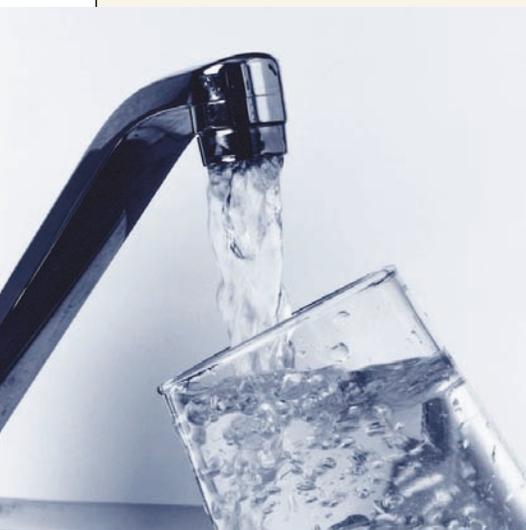
Pure water is scarce and valuable here in the semi-arid American West, and plentiful pure water is essential for the quality of life we all desire. At the moment, the window of opportunity is open and there are still some high quality water supplies available at reasonable prices. (Sounds like a sales pitch, doesn't it?) But it really is your choice; you the rate-payer. If growth occurs without new water supplies, the reliability of your service will drop. But not the purity; we will never compromise purity.

— Jon G. Monson, Director, Water and Sewer

## Where Can I Get Further Information?

If you would like further information on the material covered in this report, call Norma Wegher at (970) 350-9812. You can also access information about drinking water in general on EPA's drinking water web site at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/>. Additionally, interested persons may attend public meetings of the City's Water and Sewer Board, which are usually held on the third Wednesday of every month at the Greeley City Hall. For more information on the times, dates, and location of Water and Sewer Board meetings, call Norma Wegher.

*"The present quality and future reliability of your drinking water are the two issues at the forefront of our thinking and planning today at Greeley Water."*



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Water & Sewer Dept.  
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Greeley, CO 80631*

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## Greeley Water Customer

970 . 350 . 9812

[www.ci.greeley.co.us](http://www.ci.greeley.co.us)

### IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Billing Questions.....	350 . 9720
Emergencies (Day 8-5).....	350 . 9811
Emergencies (after hours).....	350 . 9600
Español.....	350 . 9720
Line Locates.....	1 . 800 . 922 . 1987
Sewer Line Questions .....	350 . 9322
Taste and Odor Concerns.....	350 . 9324
Water Conservation .....	350 . 9874
Water Line Questions .....	350 . 9320
Water Quality Report .....	350 . 9812