City of Montrose
P.O. Box 790
Montrose, CO 81402

New computerized filter consoles with touch screens and ethernet to main computers replacing pneumatic controls and manually operated valves.

PLEASE CALL before YOU dig! 1-800-922-1987 for all underground utilities.

2004 Consumer Confidence Report

2005 Edition

Meeting the water needs of our customers

by working to provide safe, affordable water to the residents of the Uncompahgre Valley. Our goal is to provide you, the consumer, with a constant and dependable supply of safe water. We routinely monitor water supplies for quality.

TO YOUR GOOD HEALTH

The drinking water providers of the Uncompahgre Valley in compliance with the Safe Drinking Water Act are pleased to present this **annual water quality report.** It summarizes information that your water system already routinely collects concerning your domestic water. This report was prepared in cooperation with the Project 7 Water Authority who is responsible for treating our domestic water.

This report includes where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

If you wish to attend the next Board or Council meeting of your water provider, please contact your respective entity at the telephone number provided on this page.

Project 7 and all the water providers in our valley are committed to providing you and your family with safe drinking water that meets or exceeds the highest of standards.

Esta informaciòn es con respeto a la calidad del agua que Usted recibe. Si tiene alguna pregunta o comentario, por favor comuniquese con el Project 7 Water Authority, al 249-5935 en horas de oficina.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL

Project 7 Water	Adam Turner	249-5935
City of Montrose	Elsa Anderson	240-1426
City of Delta	Andy Mitchell	874-7566
Chipeta Water	Matt Collier	249-8871
Menoken Water	John McMillan	249-3242
Town of Olathe	Cheryl Suppes	323-5601
Tri-County Water	Kathleen Margetts	249-3369

GETTING THE LEAD OUT

In August of 2004, Project 7 Water Authority successfully implemented the change to chloramines as the maintenance residual of the distribution system. We are pleased with the dramatic drop in Disinfection By-Products (DBPs) and reduction of chlorine odor complaints. Overall, feedback has been positive.

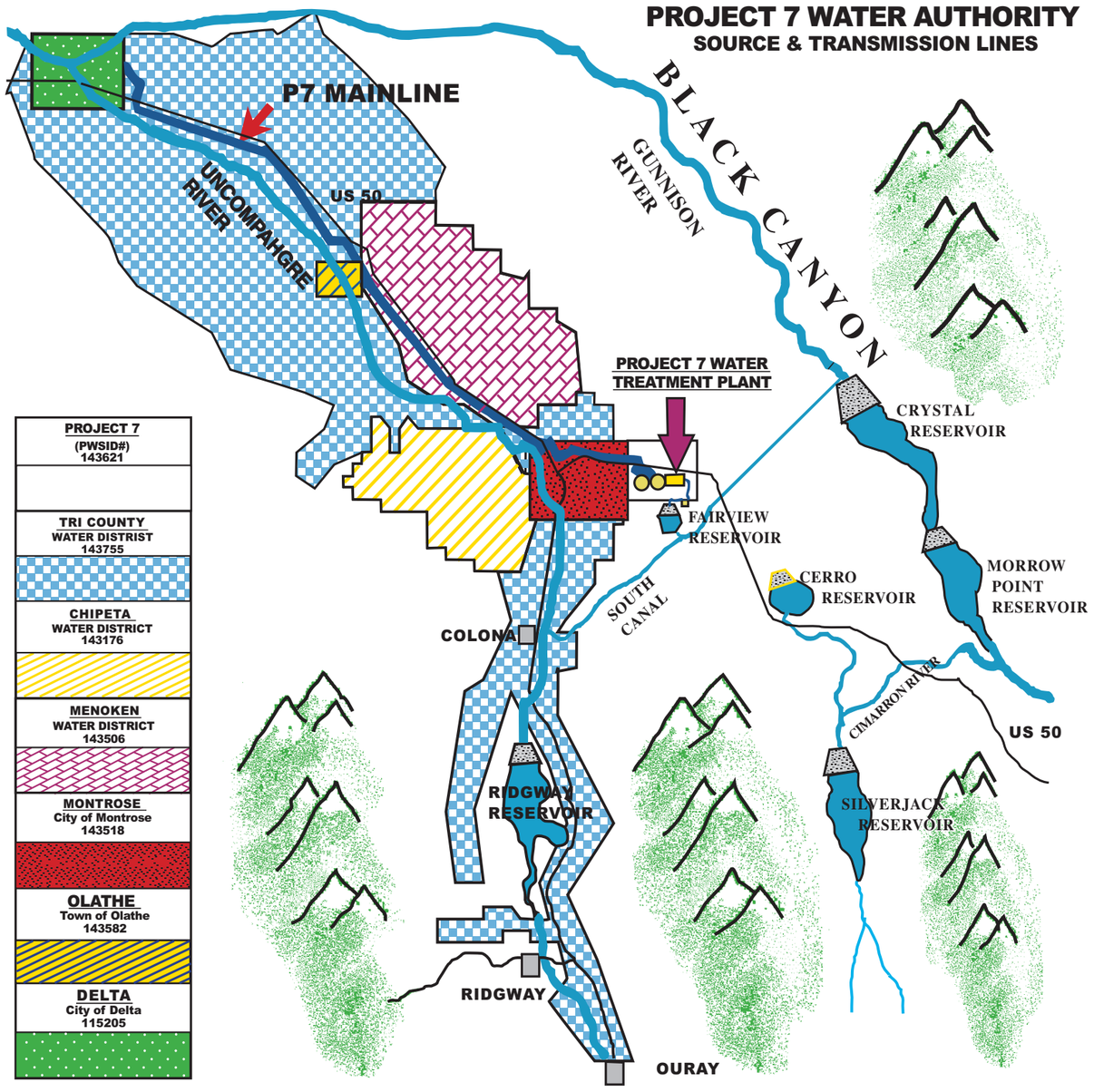
Soon after we made the change, however, Washington, D.C. made the news with elevated lead levels in their drinking water which the media reported as due to a similar switch to chloramines. We braced ourselves for a maelstrom of negative feedback, which did not come. Most of our customers realize that unlike the very old Washington, D.C. system, our systems are all fairly new or in constant state of planned upgrade due to growth. Also, the water we treat is much different, mostly freshly melted snow. We are confident that we will not have the same problems as Washington, D.C. experienced.

With that said, your water provider will be collecting a new set of Lead-Copper samples this June and July to make sure nothing has changed in our systems. This is a routine follow-up of forty samples collected at homeowner taps to make certain our water is not aggressive to household plumbing. The sites have been sampled since 1993 to create a baseline and watch for negative impacts to water quality.

Another positive change is the continual replacement programs in the older systems. The cities of Montrose and Delta continue to replace old cast iron pipes with newer, stronger materials whenever they can. Mostly located in the older downtown business districts, the cast iron is scheduled for street-by-street replacement in long-term plans. One thousand feet of 10" and almost one mile of 4" cast iron were replaced in Montrose in 2004. Our picture above is some of the lead caulking replaced in 2004 as well as the rare "lead service line" (LSL). The flexible pipe is actually made of lead.

Again, this is one of a dozen known LSLs in Montrose, none of which serve homes, as compared to thousands in old Washington, D.C. areas.

Aren't we fortunate?



- Each system has a six digit PWSID# assigned to it by the state for regulatory purposes.
- The majority of the water treated by Project 7 originates in the Gunnison River and the Blue Mesa system. The remainder of our water comes from the Silverjack Reservoir system.
- The treated water is disbursed to the six distribution entities through connections along Project 7's mainline.

TEST RESULTS

The state requires Project 7 to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Some of Project 7's data (e.g., radiological), though representative, is more than one year old.

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. Although all drinking water may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some substances, it is important to remember that the presence of these substances does not necessarily pose a health risk.
More information on this subject can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.
Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- ***Microbial contaminants,*** such as viruses and bacteria that 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 stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- ***Pesticides and herbicides*** that 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and also may come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- ***Radioactive contaminants,*** that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Substance	Sample Date	Violation?	Level Detected	MCL (AL)	MCLG	Likely Source of Substance
Inorganic						
Fluoride	2x/Day	NO	1.01 ppm	4 ppm	4 ppm	Discharge from fertilizer & aluminum factories; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Erosion of natural deposits. Range .51 - 1.19 ppm
Barium	9/23/04	NO	.039 ppm	2 ppm	2 ppm	Discharge from metal refineries; Discharge of drilling wastes; Erosion of natural deposits.
Total Organic Carbon	Running Annual Average	NO	1.7 ppm	TT	N/A	Naturally present in the environment. Range 1.4 - 2.0 ppm
Turbidity Lowest Monthly Percent of readings below the TT limits	6X/Day	NO NO	0.100 NTU 100%	TT	 N/A	Soil runoff; Range .05 - .10 NTU
Volatile Organic						
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) Average of four distribution samples.	3/17/04 6/16/04 9/09/04 12/16/04	NO NO NO NO	32.28 37.78 26.48 22.85	 80 ppb 	0 0 0 0	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Range 19.8 to 41.7 ppb (Avg 29.8 ppb)
Haloacetic Acids (HAAs) Average of four distribution samples.	3/17/04 6/16/04 9/09/04 12/16/04	NO NO NO NO	71.35 38.75 16.23 18.58	 60 ppb 	N/A N/A N/A 	By-product of drinking water chlorination. Range 13.2 to 80.8 ppb (Avg 36.2 ppb)
Samples from Customers' Private Service						
Lead Copper	7/16/02 - 8/22/02 7/16/02 - 8/22/02	NO NO	5.9 ppb 0.53 ppm	(15 ppb) (1.3 ppm)	0 ppb 1.3 ppm	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Range pb<1-55 ppb Cu<.067 - 1.58 ppm

Notes:

Of the 40 homes tested, 2 sites exceeded the action level for lead & 2 sites exceeded the action level for copper.

Listed above are substances detected in our drinking water from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2004. Not listed are many other substances for which Project 7 tested but were not detected. A complete list of substances tested for is available from Project 7 Water Authority. Our systems have waivers for dioxin, glyphosate, cyanide, and asbestos.

Definitions:

MCL - (Maximum Contaminant Level) - The "Maximum Allowed" is the highest level of a substance that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG - (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal) - The "Goal" is the level of a substance in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

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

NTU - (Nephelometric Turbidity Unit) - A measure of the clarity of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

ppb - (parts per billion or micrograms per liter) - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in $10,000,000.

TT - (Treatment Technique) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a substance in drinking water.

Action Level - the concentration of a substance which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Some people may be more vulnerable to substances in drinking water than the general public. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, those with HIV-AIDS or other immune systems 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 or the EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.