

# Hamilton Creek Metropolitan District

## 2013 Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report For Calendar Year 2012 PWSID #159063

The Hamilton Creek Metropolitan District is pleased to present you with our annual Water Quality Report. Consumer concerns for our environment, the air we breathe and the food we eat also extends to the tap water we drink. All water provided during 2012 was from our surface water source. Since August 2003 the District has been providing water to residents that meet all water quality standards. This report provides information from our monitoring for the period January 1 to December 31, 2012 unless otherwise noted.

The Water Quality Report is designed to inform you about the water and services we deliver to you each day. If you have any questions about your water or the information in this report, please contact Bob Polich, Administrator of the Hamilton Creek Metropolitan District at (970) 668-5500 Extension 12, [admin@hamiltoncreek.org](mailto:admin@hamiltoncreek.org). Information can also be obtained from the District web site [www.hamiltoncreek.org](http://www.hamiltoncreek.org). A Board of Directors consisting of five elected residents governs the District. The Board holds public meetings quarterly concerning the operations of the District.

*Esta es informacion importante. Si no la pueden leer, necesitan que alguien se la traduzcan.*

### General information about drinking water

All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. 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, and infants can be particularly at risk of infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. More information about contaminants and potential health effects, or to receive a copy of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and microbiological contaminants call EPA *Safe Drinking Water Hotline* at 1-800-426-4791.

Nationwide 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 that may come from sewage treatment facilities, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, recreational activities and wildlife.

**Inorganic contaminants** such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm 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 stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants** including synthetic and volatile organics which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum products, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

**Radioactive contaminants** that can occur naturally or as the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which provides the same protection for public health.

### Source of Hamilton Creek Water.

Since August of 2003 the water source has been the physical Creek that the Hamilton Creek subdivision derived its name from. The Creek source is providing excellent water to users meeting all State and Federal Water Quality guidelines. The District has two backup 700-foot deep wells located near Hamilton Creek at 311 Lakeview Circle. The wells are located approximately 50 feet apart. The water quality is similar, but slightly different for each well. The wells will only be utilized on an emergency basis.

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has provided us with a Source Water Assessment Report for our water supply. You may obtain a copy of the report by visiting <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/sw/swapreports/swapreports.html>, clicking on **Summit County** and selecting **159063; Hamilton Creek Md** or by contacting **Bob Polich** at **970-668-5500**. For general information about Source Water Assessment please visit <http://www.cdphe.state.co.us/wq/sw/swaphom.html>.

Potential sources of contamination in our source water area come from high intensity residential; low intensity residential, urban recreational grasses; deciduous forest; evergreen forest; mixed forest; septic systems; and road miles.

The Source Water Assessment Report provides a screening-level evaluation of potential contamination that **could** occur. It does not mean that the contamination **has or will** occur. We can use this information to evaluate the need to improve our current water treatment capabilities and prepare for future contamination threats. This can help us ensure that quality finished water is delivered to your homes. In addition, the source water assessment results provide a starting point for developing a source water protection plan.

### Water treatment

Hamilton Creek surface water is filtered using a bag filtration process. The filtration process is monitored constantly by computer equipment registering the particulate count and the turbidity. Should the turbidity reach too high of a level, the system automatically stops taking water from the Creek. Prior to being released into the distribution system, the water is chlorinated as a protection against microbial contaminants. The District continues to research optimum future treatment methods. The infiltration gallery in the Creek is regularly blown out with compressed air to improve the natural filtration process of the water before it is drawn into our treatment facility.

# Water Conservation

The Creek in Hamilton Creek has been the water source since August 2003. This is a high quality water source, but has a limited quantity. High water flows during the spring can limit the amount of water that can be produced. Drought periods drastically reduce the stream flow. The Hamilton Creek area was never intended to be a community of formal lawns with extensive irrigation. The Design Guidelines and Covenants restrict landscaping. The water source should be adequate in most situations if residents follow sensible water usage and limit outside irrigation. If you use water outside for irrigation please only apply it before 10 AM or after 6 PM to limit evaporation. Properly installed drip systems efficiently apply water and are encouraged.

## Table of Detected Contaminants

*We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The State of Colorado requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year, or the system is not considered vulnerable to this type of contamination. Some of our data, though representative, may be more than one year old.*

**Note:** Only detected contaminants sampled within the last 5 years appear in this report. If no tables appear in this section, that means that Hamilton Creek Metropolitan District did not detect any contaminants in the last round of monitoring.

All data is from January 1, 2012 to December 31, 2012 unless otherwise noted

### Water Quality Data and Definitions

The Hamilton Creek Metropolitan District monitors water quality through testing on a continual basis. Most of this testing is for internal operating purposes. Specialized contract laboratories are used to test for contaminants. These laboratories report their findings to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment which is the agency monitoring that you are receiving safe water. This report contains testing that was done in 2012. Any regulated contaminants detected in the water, even at very low levels, are listed here. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk.

**The report makes use of the following definitions:**

**BDL or Below Detectable Level.** The result is below a level that can be recorded on the testing equipment.

**MCL or Maximum Contaminant Level.** The "Maximum Allowed" is the highest level of contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

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

**MRDL or 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 or 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 contaminants.

**ppm or Parts per million or mg/L Milligrams per liter.** One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

**ppb or Parts per billion or ug/L Micrograms per liter.** One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

**pCi/L or Picocuries per liter.** Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

**AL or Action Level.** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**RAA or Running Annual Average.** An average of monitoring results for the previous 12 calendar months.

### Lead in Drinking Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems (especially for pregnant women and young children). It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. Additional information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

	TT Requirement	Level Found	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Turbidity	Maximum 5 NTU for any single measurement	Highest single measurement: 1.49 NTU	Multiple dates in May, June, & Nov	Soil run off. Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches.
	In any month, at least 95% of samples must be less than 1 NTU	Lowest monthly percentage of samples meeting TT standard for our technology: 100%	Month: December 2011	

Inorganic Contaminants				Detected Level	Sample Date	Likely Source of Contamination
Unit	MCL	MCLG				
Barium	ppm	2	2	0.01	2012	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	ppm	4.0	4.0	0.2	2012	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate	ppm	10	10	0.1	2012	Run off from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Lead and Copper				90th Percentile		
Contaminant	Unit	AL			Date	
Copper	ppm	1.3		0.2	2011-2013 5 samples	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	ppb	15		1	2011-2013 5 samples	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits;
Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts						
Unit	MCL	MCLG	Range		Date	
HAA5	ppb	60	n/a	Average 56 Range 38 to 79 Highest 59	2012 4 samples	By-product of drinking water disinfection. Some people who drink water containing HAA in excess of MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
TTHM	ppb	80	n/a	Average 52 Range 38 - 58 Highest 60	2012 4 samples	By-product of drinking water disinfection. Some people who drink water containing TTHM in excess of the MCL over many years may experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or central nervous systems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Disinfectants						
Unit	MCL	MCLG	Range		Date	
Chlorine	ppm	4.0	4.0	0.3 to 2.2	2011	Water additive used to control microbes
Secondary Contaminants				Average	Range	Secondary Standard
Sodium	ppm		6	6	2012	1 sample