

2002
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

We're pleased to present to you this year's Annual Quality Water Report. This report is designed to inform you about the quality water and services we deliver to you every day. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water. Our water source is from ground water currently pumped from two municipal wells that draw from the Snake River Aquifer.

We have a well head protection plan available from our office that provides more information such as potential sources of contamination.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Jim Taylor, Public Works Director, or Janice Yerton, Water Superintendent, at the City of Kuna 922-3397. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled City Council meetings. They are held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:00 p.m., at the Kuna Senior Citizen Center, 229 Avenue B.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

City of Kuna routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2002. As water travels over the land or underground it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Not Applicable (NA) – Information is not germane to our system or is not required.

Non-Detects (ND) - laboratory analysis indicates that the constituent is not present.

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

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

Parts per trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per liter (nanograms/l) - one part per trillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000,000.

Parts per quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per liter (picograms/l) - one part per quadrillion corresponds to one minute in 2,000,000,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Millirems per year (mrem/yr) - measure of radiation absorbed by the body.

Million Fibers per Liter (MFL) - million fibers per liter is a measure of the presence of asbestos fibers that are longer than 10 micrometers.

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

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

Treatment Technique (TT) - (mandatory language) A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - (mandatory language) The “Goal”(MCLG) is 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.

P = Positive test result for Total Coliform.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Microbiological Contaminants						
1. Total Coliform Bacteria	N	ND		0	presence of coliform bacteria in 5% of monthly samples	Naturally present in the environment
2. Fecal coliform and <i>E.coli</i>	N	ND		0	a routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive	Human and animal fecal waste
3. Turbidity	NA			n/a	TT	Soil runoff
Radioactive Contaminants						
4. Beta/photon emitters	N	2.5	Pci/L	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
5. Alpha emitters	N	3.8	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
6. Combined radium	N		pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants						
7. Antimony	Cedar Butler N	ND ND	ppb	6	6	Discharge from petroleum refineries; fire retardants; ceramics; electronics; solder
8. Arsenic	Cedar Butler N	12 4	ppb	n/a	10	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
9. Asbestos	Cedar Butler N	NA NA	MFL	7	7	Decay of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits

10. Barium	Cedar Butler N	0.5	ppm	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
11. Beryllium	Cedar Butler N	0.5	ppb	4	4	Discharge from metal refineries and coal-burning factories; discharge from electrical, aerospace, and defense industries
12. Cadmium	Cedar Butler N	0.5	ppb	5	5	Corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
13. Chromium	Cedar Butler N	2	ppb	100	100	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; erosion of natural deposits
14. Copper	Cedar Butler N	NA NA	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
15. Cyanide	Cedar Butler N	NA NA	ppb	200	200	Discharge from steel/metal factories; discharge from plastic and fertilizer factories
16. Fluoride	Cedar Butler N	0.78 1.12	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
17. Lead	Cedar Butler N	NA NA	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
18. Mercury (inorganic)	Cedar Butler N	0.2	ppb	2	2	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills; runoff from cropland
19. Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	Cedar Butler N	ND ND	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
20. Nitrite (as Nitrogen)	Cedar Butler N	1 1	ppm	1	1	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
21. Selenium	Cedar Butler N	ND	ppb	50	50	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines

22. Thallium	Cedar Butler N	ND	ppb	0.5	2	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides						
23. 2,4-D	NA		ppb	70	70	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
24. 2,4,5-TP (Silvex)	NA		ppb	50	50	Residue of banned herbicide
25. Acrylamide	NA			0	TT	Added to water during sewage/wastewater treatment
26. Alachlor		ND	ppb	0	2	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
27. Atrazine		ND	ppb	3	3	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
28. Benzo(a)pyrene (PAH)	NA		nanograms/l	0	200	Leaching from linings of water storage tanks and distribution lines
29. Carbofuran	NA		ppb	40	40	Leaching of soil fumigant used on rice and alfalfa
30. Chlordane	NA		ppb	0	2	Residue of banned termiticide
31. Dalapon	NA		ppb	200	200	Runoff from herbicide used on rights of way
32. Di(2-ethylhexyl) adipate		ND	ppb	400	400	Discharge from chemical factories
33. Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate		ND	ppb	0	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
34. Dibromochloro- propane	NA		nanograms/l	0	200	Runoff/leaching from soil fumigant used on soybeans, cotton, pineapples, and orchards
35. Dinoseb	NA		ppb	7	7	Runoff from herbicide used on soybeans and vegetables
36. Diquat	NA		ppb	20	20	Runoff from herbicide use
37. Dioxin [2,3,7,8-TCDD]	NA		picograms/l	0	30	Emissions from waste incineration and other combustion; discharge from chemical factories
38. Endothall	NA		ppb	100	100	Runoff from herbicide use
39. Endrin	NA		ppb	2	2	Residue of banned insecticide
40. Epichlorohydrin	NA			0	TT	Discharge from industrial chemical factories; an impurity of some water treatment chemicals
41. Ethylene dibromide	NA		nanograms/l	0	50	Discharge from petroleum refineries
42. Glyphosate	NA		ppb	700	700	Runoff from herbicide use

43. Heptachlor	NA		nanograms/l	0	400	Residue of banned termiticide
44. Heptachlor epoxide	NA		nanograms/l	0	200	Breakdown of heptachlor
45. Hexachlorobenzene	NA		ppb	0	1	Discharge from metal refineries and agricultural chemical factories
46. Hexachlorocyclopentadiene	NA		ppb	50	50	Discharge from chemical factories
47. Lindane	NA		nanograms/l	200	200	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on cattle, lumber, gardens
48. Methoxychlor	NA		ppb	40	40	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on fruits, vegetables, alfalfa, livestock
49. Oxamyl [Vydate]	NA		ppb	200	200	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on apples, potatoes and tomatoes
50. PCBs [Polychlorinated biphenyls]	NA		nanograms/l	0	500	Runoff from landfills; discharge of waste chemicals
51. Pentachlorophenol	NA		ppb	0	1	Discharge from wood preserving factories
52. Picloram	NA		ppb	500	500	Herbicide runoff
53. Simazine	NA		ppb	4	4	Herbicide runoff
54. Toxaphene	NA		ppb	0	3	Runoff/leaching from insecticide used on cotton and cattle

Volatile Organic Contaminants

55. Benzene		ND	ppb	0	5	Discharge from factories; leaching from gas storage tanks and landfills
56. Carbon tetrachloride		ND	ppb	0	5	Discharge from chemical plants and other industrial activities
57. Chlorobenzene	NA		ppb	100	100	Discharge from chemical and agricultural chemical factories
58. o-Dichlorobenzene		ND	ppb	600	600	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
59. p-Dichlorobenzene		ND	ppb	75	75	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
60. 1,2-Dichloroethane	NA		ppb	0	5	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
61. 1,1-Dichloroethylene	NA		ppb	7	7	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
62. cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	NA		ppb	70	70	Discharge from industrial chemical factories

63. trans - 1,2 - Dichloroethylene	NA		ppb	100	100	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
64. Dichloromethane		ND	ppb	0	5	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories
65. 1,2-Dichloropropane		ND	ppb	0	5	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
66. Ethylbenzene		ND	ppb	700	700	Discharge from petroleum refineries
67. Styrene		ND	ppb	100	100	Discharge from rubber and plastic factories; leaching from landfills
68. Tetrachloroethylene		ND	ppb	0	5	Leaching from PVC pipes; discharge from factories and dry cleaners
69. 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene		ND	ppb	70	70	Discharge from textile-finishing factories
70. 1,1,1 - Trichloroethane		ND	ppb	200	200	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
71. 1,1,2 - Trichloroethane		ND	ppb	3	5	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
72. Trichloroethylene		ND	ppb	0	5	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories
73. TTHM [Total trihalomethanes]	Cedar Butler	ND ND	ppb	0 0	100 100	By-product of drinking water chlorination
74. Toluene		ND	ppm	1	1	Discharge from petroleum factories
75. Vinyl Chloride		ND	ppb	0	2	Leaching from PVC piping; discharge from plastics factories
76. Xylenes		ND	ppm	10	10	Discharge from petroleum factories; discharge from chemical factories

Microbiological Contaminants:

(1) Total Coliform. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.

(2) Fecal coliform/E.Coli. Fecal coliforms and E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems.

(3) Turbidity. 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.

Radioactive Contaminants:

(4) Beta/photon emitters. Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit forms of radiation known as photons and beta radiation. Some people who drink water containing beta and photon emitters in excess of the MCL over many years

may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

(5) Alpha emitters. Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

(6) Combined Radium 226/228. Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Inorganic Contaminants:

(7) Antimony. Some people who drink water containing antimony well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience increases in blood cholesterol and decreases in blood sugar.

(8) Arsenic. 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.

(9) Asbestos. Some people who drink water containing asbestos in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of developing benign intestinal polyps.

(10) Barium. Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience an increase in their blood pressure.

(11) Beryllium. Some people who drink water containing beryllium well in excess of the MCL over many years could develop intestinal lesions.

(12) Cadmium. Some people who drink water containing cadmium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience kidney damage.

(13) Chromium. Some people who use water containing chromium well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience allergic dermatitis.

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

(15) Cyanide. Some people who drink water containing cyanide well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience nerve damage or problems with their thyroid.

(16) Fluoride. Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the MCL over many years could get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Children may get mottled teeth.

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

(18) Mercury (inorganic). Some people who drink water containing inorganic mercury well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience kidney damage.

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

(20) Nitrite. Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrite in excess of the MCL could become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blue-baby syndrome.

(21) Selenium. Selenium is an essential nutrient. However, some people who drink water containing selenium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience hair or fingernail losses, numbness in fingers or toes, or problems with their circulation.

(22) Thallium. Some people who drink water containing thallium in excess of the MCL over many years could experience hair loss, changes in their blood, or problems with their kidneys, intestines, or liver.

Synthetic organic contaminants including pesticides and herbicides:

(23) 2,4-D. Some people who drink water containing the weed killer 2,4-D well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their kidneys, liver, or adrenal glands.

(24) 2,4,5-TP (Silvex). Some people who drink water containing silvex in excess of the MCL over many years could experience liver problems.

(25) Acrylamide. Some people who drink water containing high levels of acrylamide over a long period of time could have problems with their nervous system or blood, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

(26) Alachlor. Some people who drink water containing alachlor in excess of the MCL over many years could have problems with their eyes, liver, kidneys, or spleen, or experience anemia, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

(27) Atrazine. Some people who drink water containing atrazine well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their cardiovascular system or reproductive difficulties.

(28) Benzo(a)pyrene [PAH]. Some people who drink water containing benzo(a)pyrene in excess of the MCL over many years may experience reproductive difficulties and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

- (29) Carbofuran. Some people who drink water containing carbofuran in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their blood, or nervous or reproductive systems.
- (30) Chlordane. Some people who drink water containing chlordane in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver or nervous system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (31) Dalapon. Some people who drink water containing dalapon well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience minor kidney changes.
- (32) Di (2-ethylhexyl) adipate. Some people who drink water containing di (2-ethylhexyl) adipate well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience general toxic effects or reproductive difficulties.
- (33) Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate. Some people who drink water containing di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate in excess of the MCL over many years may have problems with their liver, or experience reproductive difficulties, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (34) Dibromochloropropane (DBCP). Some people who drink water containing DBCP in excess of the MCL over many years could experience reproductive difficulties and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (35) Dinoseb. Some people who drink water containing dinoseb well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience reproductive difficulties.
- (36) Dioxin (2,3,7,8-TCDD). Some people who drink water containing dioxin in excess of the MCL over many years could experience reproductive difficulties and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (37) Diquat. Some people who drink water containing diquat in excess of the MCL over many years could get cataracts.
- (38) Endothall. Some people who drink water containing endothall in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their stomach or intestines.
- (39) Endrin. Some people who drink water containing endrin in excess of the MCL over many years could experience liver problems.
- (40) Epichlorohydrin. Some people who drink water containing high levels of epichlorohydrin over a long period of time could experience stomach problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (41) Ethylene dibromide. Some people who drink water containing ethylene dibromide in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, stomach, reproductive system, or kidneys, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (42) Glyphosate. Some people who drink water containing glyphosate in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their kidneys or reproductive difficulties.
- (43) Heptachlor. Some people who drink water containing heptachlor in excess of the MCL over many years could experience liver damage and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (44) Heptachlor epoxide. Some people who drink water containing heptachlor epoxide in excess of the MCL over many years could experience liver damage, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (45) Hexachlorobenzene. Some people who drink water containing hexachlorobenzene in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver or kidneys, or adverse reproductive effects, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (46) Hexachlorocyclopentadiene. Some people who drink water containing hexachlorocyclopentadiene well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their kidneys or stomach.
- (47) Lindane. Some people who drink water containing lindane in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their kidneys or liver.
- (48) Methoxychlor. Some people who drink water containing methoxychlor in excess of the MCL over many years could experience reproductive difficulties.
- (49) Oxamyl [Vydate]. Some people who drink water containing oxamyl in excess of the MCL over many years could experience slight nervous system effects.
- (50) PCBs [Polychlorinated biphenyls]. Some people who drink water containing PCBs in excess of the MCL over many years could experience changes in their skin, problems with their thymus gland, immune deficiencies, or reproductive or nervous system difficulties, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (51) Pentachlorophenol. Some people who drink water containing pentachlorophenol in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver or kidneys, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (52) Picloram. Some people who drink water containing picloram in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver.
- (53) Simazine. Some people who drink water containing simazine in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their blood.
- (54) Toxaphene. Some people who drink water containing toxaphene in excess of the MCL over many years could have problems with their kidneys, liver, or thyroid, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Volatile Organic Contaminants:

- (55) Benzene. Some people who drink water containing benzene in excess of the MCL over many years could experience anemia or a decrease in blood platelets, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (56) Carbon Tetrachloride. Some people who drink water containing carbon tetrachloride in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (57) Chlorobenzene. Some people who drink water containing chlorobenzene in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver or kidneys.
- (58) o-Dichlorobenzene. Some people who drink water containing o-dichlorobenzene well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, kidneys, or circulatory systems.
- (59) p-Dichlorobenzene. Some people who drink water containing p-dichlorobenzene in excess of the MCL over many years could experience anemia, damage to their liver, kidneys, or spleen, or changes in their blood.
- (60) 1,2-Dichloroethane. Some people who drink water containing 1,2-dichloroethane in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (61) 1,1-Dichloroethylene. Some people who drink water containing 1,1-dichloroethylene in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver.
- (62) cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene. Some people who drink water containing cis-1,2-dichloroethylene in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver.
- (63) trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene. Some people who drink water containing trans-1,2-dichloroethylene well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver.
- (64) Dichloromethane. Some people who drink water containing dichloromethane in excess of the MCL over many years could have liver problems and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (65) 1,2-Dichloropropane. Some people who drink water containing 1,2-dichloropropane in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (66) Ethylbenzene. Some people who drink water containing ethylbenzene well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver or kidneys.
- (67) Styrene. Some people who drink water containing styrene well in excess of the MCL over many years could have problems with their liver, kidneys, or circulatory system.
- (68) Tetrachloroethylene. Some people who drink water containing tetrachloroethylene in excess of the MCL over many years could have problems with their liver, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (69) 1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene. Some people who drink water containing 1,2,4-trichlorobenzene well in excess of the MCL over many years could experience changes in their adrenal glands.
- (70) 1,1,1-Trichloroethane. Some people who drink water containing 1,1,1-trichloroethane in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver, nervous system, or circulatory system.
- (71) 1,1,2-Trichloroethane. Some people who drink water containing 1,1,2-trichloroethane well in excess of the MCL over many years could have problems with their liver, kidneys, or immune systems.
- (72) Trichloroethylene. Some people who drink water containing trichloroethylene in excess of the MCL over many years could experience problems with their liver and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (73) TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes]. Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes 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.
- (74) Toluene. Some people who drink water containing toluene well in excess of the MCL over many years could have problems with their nervous system, kidneys, or liver.
- (75) Vinyl Chloride. Some people who drink water containing vinyl chloride in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (76) Xylenes. Some people who drink water containing xylenes in excess of the MCL over many years could experience damage to their nervous system.

As you can see by the table, our system had no violations. We're proud that your drinking water meets or exceeds all Federal and State requirements. We have learned through our monitoring and testing that some constituents have been detected. The EPA has determined that your water IS SAFE at these levels.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCL's are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated constituents, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Total Coliform: The Total Coliform Rule requires water systems to meet a strict limit for coliform bacteria. Coliform bacteria are usually harmless, but their presence in water can be an indication of disease-causing bacteria. When coliform bacteria are found, special follow-up tests are done to determine if harmful bacteria are present in the water supply. If this limit is exceeded, the water supplier must notify the public by newspaper, television or radio. To comply with the stricter regulation, we have increased the average amount of chlorine in the distribution system.

Nitrates: As a precaution we always notify physicians and health care providers in this area if there is ever a higher than normal level of nitrates in the water supply.

Lead: Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Please call our office if you have questions.

We at the City of Kuna work around the clock to provide top quality water to every tap. We ask that all our customers help us protect our water sources, which are the heart of our community, our way of life and our children's future.

