

Water Demand High, Canyon Well being used. Arsenic standard being exceeded

Saturday, July 4th, 2015

Westside Water was able to keep a June average arsenic concentration of 7 parts per billion (the Standard is 10.4 ppb) by blending water from the Canyon Well with other source waters – including the new Anderson Well, but the sustained hot weather has increased demand on the system by users beyond that level.

If this hot weather and demand continues, use of the Canyon Well is expected to be necessary above the level at which the standard can be met with arsenic levels predicted in the 15 – 18 ppb range. The arsenic standard allows for exceeding the 10.4 ppb concentration by 25%, 25% of the year (equivalent to a 3-month period) and Westside expects to meet the Standard for the year on an averaged basis.

Please see the Department of Health publication on the health effects of arsenic in drinking water. See especially publication 331-167-4 The emphasis regarding public health is on acute high levels and long term low-level exposure to arsenic.

What you can do:

Limit your water use as much as you (and your plants and animals) can tolerate. Be especially vigilant about leaks – open garden hoses and the like.

Purchase bottled water for drinking

Questions? Call Doug at 715-3805