

# Spanish Springs Water System

PWS ID: NV0001086



Great Basin Water Co.™

## Annual Water Quality Report 2018

### Message from Wendy Barnett, President

Dear Great Basin Water Company (GBWC) Customers,

I am pleased to share your Annual Water Report for 2018. As your community water utility, this direct communication is part of our continuing effort to emphasize to our customers that we understand “water is local.”

Our team is committed to providing safe, reliable and cost effective service to our customers. All of our employees share in our commitment to act with integrity, protect the environment, and enhance the local community.

**We are proud to share this report which is based on water quality testing through December 2018. You will find that we supply water that meets or exceeds all federal and state water quality regulations at your tap.**

These results don't happen by chance. A dedicated local team of water quality experts is working in the community everyday ensuring that our customers are our top priority and providing the highest quality drinking water and service - now and in the years to come.

Best regards,

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

*Su agua potable **cumple o supera** todos los estándares federales y estatales de agua potable.*

### Source of Drinking Water

Our water sources comes from 2 Wells. We treat your water to remove several contaminants and we add disinfectant to protect you against microbial contaminants.

Source Name	Source Water Type
Well Ss6	Ground Water
Well Ss1a	Ground Water

### Source Water Assessment

The Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) requires states to develop a Source Water Assessment (SWA) for each public water supply that treats and distributes raw source water in order to identify potential contamination sources. Results of the source water assessment can be obtained at the NDEP's Bureau of Safe Drinking Water 901 South Stewart Street, Suite 3001, Carson City, NV 89701 (775-687-9520).

*Your drinking water **meets or exceeds** all federal and state drinking water standards.*

### Simple Water-saving Tips

Have you ever been out in the yard hand watering new plants you just added to the landscape, or decided to run a sprinkler on a hose to water a dry spot in the lawn?

Maybe you are adding water to your fish pond or cattle trough and you decide to let the water run while you do something else. Perhaps the phone rings and you are distracted. The hand watering you thought would save water now becomes a water-waster. One of the easiest ways to prevent this is to put a hand timer on all hose bibs. These simple devices cost around \$10 and could possibly save hundreds of dollars in wasted water over their lifetime. Most hardware stores and big box stores sell timers. They work much like a kitchen timer. Simply attach one to each hose bib and when watering turn it past the 60 minute mark and then back to the amount of time you want to run the hose. The next time you run a sprinkler to water that dry spot in the lawn or flood some new vegetables or plants in the garden, you won't have to worry about being distracted and have water running down the street.



For more information visit [www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense), and check with your local University Cooperative Extension office or visit online at [www.unce.unr.edu](http://www.unce.unr.edu).

*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.*

MY UTILITY CONNECT

### DOWNLOAD OUR MOBILE APP!

- Pay utility bill
- Manage account settings
- Monitor usage
- Connect with Customer Service

How Easy Is My Utility Connect to Find?

Go to [www.GreatBasinWaterCo.com](http://www.GreatBasinWaterCo.com)

or search “MyUtilityConnect” in the App Store or Google Play Store.

## EPA Wants You To Know

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:**

- A. **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- B. **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.
- C. **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- D. **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 stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- E. **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## What measures are in place to ensure water is safe to drink?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the EPA prescribes regulations, which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

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.

## Special notice from EPA for the elderly, infants, cancer patients and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system problems

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 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 microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## Information Concerning Lead in Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Great Basin Water Company is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. 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. If you

are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

Water that remains stationary within your home plumbing for extended periods of time can leach lead out of pipes joined with lead-containing solder as well as brass fixtures or galvanized pipes. Flushing fixtures has been found to be an effective means of reducing lead levels. The flushing process could take from 30 seconds to 2 minutes or longer until it becomes cold or reaches a steady temperature. Faucets, fittings, and valves, including those advertised as "lead-free," may contribute lead to drinking water. Consumers should be aware of this when choosing fixtures and take appropriate precautions. Visit the NSF Web site at [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org) to learn more about lead-containing plumbing fixtures.

## Drain Disposal Information

Sewer overflows and backups can cause health hazards, damage home interiors, and threaten the environment. A common cause is sewer pipes blocked by grease, which gets into the sewer from household drains. Grease sticks to the insides of pipes. Over time, the grease can build up and block the entire pipe. Help solve the grease problem by keeping this material out of the sewer system in the first place:

- Never pour grease down sink drains or into toilets. Scrape grease into a can or trash.
- Put strainers in sink drains to catch food scraps / solids for disposal.

## Prescription Medication and Hazardous Waste

Household products such as paints, cleaners, oils, and pesticides, are considered to be household hazardous waste. Prescription and over-the-counter drugs poured down the sink or flushed down the toilet can pass through the wastewater treatment system and enter rivers and lakes (or leach into the ground and seep into groundwater in a septic system). Follow the directions for proper disposal procedures. **Do not flush hazardous waste or prescription and over-the-counter drugs down the toilet or drain.** They may flow downstream to serve as sources for community drinking water supplies. Many communities offer a variety of options for conveniently and safely managing these items. For more information, visit the EPA website at: [www.epa.gov/hw/household-hazardous-waste-hhw](http://www.epa.gov/hw/household-hazardous-waste-hhw).

## FREE

**Water Conservation Kit to all of our single and multi-family residential customers featuring water-saving plumbing retrofit fixtures. These one kit per household are available at no charge to help make conserving water that much easier**

## Water Conservation Rebates

**Apply within 60 days of purchasing**

For more information and eligibility call 844-694-4404 Or  
Email: [BeWaterSmart@greatbasinwaterco.com](mailto:BeWaterSmart@greatbasinwaterco.com)

Download forms at: [www.GreatBasinWaterCo.com](http://www.GreatBasinWaterCo.com)

**The Safe Drinking Water Act** was passed in 1974 due to congressional concerns about organic chemical contaminants in drinking water and the inefficient manner by which states supervised and monitored drinking water supplies. Congress' aim was to assure that all citizens served by public water systems would be provided high quality water. As a result, the EPA set enforceable standards for health-related drinking water contaminants. The Act also established programs to protect underground sources of drinking water from contamination.

**Understanding This Report** In order to help you understand this report, we want you to understand a few terms and abbreviations that are contained in it.

Action level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
Average (Avg)	Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly samples .
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency.
Maximum contaminant level (MCL)	The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCL's are set as close to the MCLG's as feasible using the best available treatment technology.
Maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG)	The "goal" is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected health risk. MCLG's allow for a margin of safety.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)	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.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)	The level of a 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.
Not Applicable (N/A)	Information not applicable/ not required for that particular water system or for that particular Rule.
Not Detected (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 (ug/l)	One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or a single penny in \$10,000,000.
Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)	A measure of radioactivity in the water.
Running Annual Average (RAA)	Calculated running annual average of all contaminant levels detected.

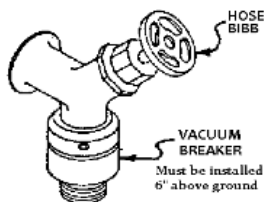
**Why Save Water?**

Did you know that less than 1% of all the water on Earth can be used by people? The rest is salt water (the kind you find in the ocean) or is permanently frozen and we can't drink it, wash with it, or use it to water plants.

As our population grows, more and more people are using up this limited resource. Therefore, it is important that we use our water wisely and not waste it

**Help Protect Your Water**

- ◆ Don't submerge hoses in buckets, pools, tubs, ponds, etc.
- ◆ Don't connect piping from water softeners or other treatment units to a sewer connection or submerged drain pipe, etc.
- ◆ Don't use a hose to unplug blocked toilets, sewer pipes, etc.
- ◆ Don't leave garden hoses lying on the ground, especially if there is no spray nozzle attached.
- ◆ Do keep the ends of hoses clear of all contaminants.
- ◆ Do install hose bibb vacuum breakers on all threaded faucets around your location. These devices are inexpensive and generally available at hardware stores.
- ◆ Do evaluate the backflow prevention device installations for the need of freeze protection.
- ◆ Do manually test Temperature & Pressure (T&P) relief valves on hot water heaters. (Note: This can cause T&P valve to leak; we recommend checking the manufacturer's instructions)



group. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. **Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in the table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2018.** The EPA or the State 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. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, maybe more than one year old.

*MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, 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.*

**If You Have Questions Or Want To Get Involved**

GBWC does not currently hold regular public meetings. Should the Utility hold a public meeting, you will be notified through the mail or public notice. If you have any questions about this report or your water utility, please call GBWC-Spring Creek at 844.694.4404. We want our customers to be informed about their water utility.

**Visit us online at [www.GreatBasinWaterCo.com](http://www.GreatBasinWaterCo.com) to view the Water Quality Reports. Also visit our website for water conservation tips and other educational material.**

**Violations**

In 2018, Great Basin Water Co. performed all required monitoring for contaminants and did not exceed any allowable levels of these contaminants. In addition, we received **no violations** from the Nevada Division of Water and was in compliance with their applicable testing and reporting requirements. **Ninguna violaci3n de agua potable fue reportada en el a1o 2018.**

**Monitoring Your Water**

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The following table(s) lists all the drinking water contaminants that were detected in the last round of sampling for the particular contaminant

Microbiological	Violation	Result	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source
No Detected Microbiological Contaminants Were Found In the Calendar Year of 2018.					



## Water Quality Test Results

Detected Substance (units)	Sample Date	Highest Level	Range	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Sources of Contaminants
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>							
ARSENIC (ppb)	9/13/2018	12**	6 – 12	10	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
FLUORIDE (ppm)	5/11/2016	0.1	<0.1 – 0.1	2	4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
NITRATE (ppm)	11/13/2018	8.7	4.6 - 8.7	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE-NITRITE (ppm)	8/22/2012	6.0	5.0 – 6.0	10	10	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
BARIUM (mg/l)	8/22/2012	0.17	0.048 – 0.17	2.0	2.0	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
CHROMIUM (mg/l)	8/22/2012	0.003	0.002 – 0.003	0.10	0.10	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills; Erosion of natural deposits
SELENIUM (mg/l)	8/22/2012	0.005	<0.005 – 0.005	0.05	0.05	No	Discharge from petroleum and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines

**\*\*Compliance is based on a Running Annual Average of samples taken. The Running Annual Average for Arsenic was below the MCL of 10 ug/L, therefore there was not a violation.** While your drinking water meets EPA's standard for **Arsenic**, it does contain low levels of arsenic. EPA's standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the costs of removing arsenic from drinking water. EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

- The State of Nevada has set forth a more stringent MCL of 2.0 mg/L for **Fluoride** than the federal limit of 4.0 mg/L assigned nationally. 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. Fluoride in drinking water at half the MCL or more may cause mottling of the teeth of children, usually in children less than nine years old. Mottling, also known as dental fluorosis, may include brown staining and/or pitting of the teeth, and occurs only in developing teeth before they erupt from the gums.
- **Nitrate** in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant, you should ask for advice from your health care provider.

### Radionuclides

COMBINED RADIUM (-226 & -228) (pCi/l)	5/28/2015	0.248	0.214 - 0.248	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
URANIUM (ug/l)	8/14/17	10	3 - 10	30	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
GROSS ALPHA, INCL. RADON & U (pCi/l)	8/14/2017	11.0	3.38 – 11.00	15	0	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
GROSS BETA PARTICLE ACTIVITY (pCi/l)	8/14/2017	4.74	4.39 – 4.74	50	0	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
RADIUM-226 (pCi/l)	5/28/2015	0.172	0.0565 – 0.172	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIUM 228 (pCi/l)	5/28/2015	0.157	0.0762 – 0.157	5	0	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Note: EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

Disinfection By-Products (units)	Sample Date	RAA	Range	MCL	MCLG	Violation	Sources of Contaminants
HAA5 (ppb)	2018	4.1	4.1	60	N/A	No	By-product of disinfection
TTHM (ppb)	2018	10	9.7	80	N/A	No	By-product of disinfection
CHLORINE (ppm)	2018	0.77	0.50 – 1.09	MRDL=4.0	MRDLG=4.0	No	Water additive to control microbes

Lead and Copper (Units)	Sample Date	Report Level 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile	Range of Detects	# of sites found above AL	ALG	AL	Sources of Contaminants
Copper (ppm)	2017	0.22	0.002 – 0.170	0	1.3	1.3	Household Plumbing
Lead (ppb)	2017	9	<1.0 – 12	0	0	15	Household Plumbing

Your water meets EPA's standard for Lead, but if at elevated levels, this contaminant can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant woman and young children.

Secondary Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Value	Range	Unit	Secondary Standard
CHLORIDE	5/11/2016	76	67 - 76	mg/L	400
MAGNESIUM	5/11/2016	30	22 - 30	mg/L	150
MANGANESE	5/11/2016	0.026	0.002 - 0.026	mg/L	0.1
NICKEL	3/2/2010	0.002	0.002	mg/L	0.1
pH	5/11/2016	8.18	7.91 - 8.18	pH	8.5
SODIUM	9/13/2018	47	26 - 47	mg/L	200
SULFATE	5/11/2016	82	64 - 82	mg/L	500
TDS	5/11/2016	560	430 - 560	mg/L	1000
ZINC	5/11/2016	0.07	0.02 - 0.07	mg/L	5

