Additional Health Information

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes limits on the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791 or at *www.epa.gov/safewater* on the internet.

Does bottled water have fewer contaminants than drinking water?

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 water poses a health risk. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

What types of contaminants can be found in untreated source water?

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 radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

What if I have special health concerns? Am I at risk from drinking water contaminants?

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than is 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 are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

How can I get involved in decisions affecting my community's drinking water?

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water system. If you have any questions about this report or your water system, please call Mark Ritterbush, Water Quality Specialist, at 970-243-9636. Additional information about City water can be found on the City of Grand Junction's internet web site at *www.gjcity.org.* The City of Grand Junction welcomes community participation in all its decisions. The City Council holds regular meetings the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The meetings are held at the City Hall Auditorium, 250 N. 5th Street.

While boats and float craft are not allowed on the City's reservoirs, you may occasionally see a member of the lab staff conducting water quality tests on the reservoirs. Steve Kolar, Water Quality Analyst, is shown here at Juniata Reservoir this spring.

Why boats and float craft are not allowed on City reservoirs

Purdy Mesa and Juniata, the City of Grand Junction's drinking water storage reservoirs, hold approximately one year's supply of water. As the public knows, boats and float craft are not allowed on them in order to protect the water supply from contamination from invasive species hitchhiking on your crafts picked up from other bodies of water. These hitchhikers as well as uncontrolled direct human contact, have the potential to foul these pristine reservoirs. However, starting last spring, approximately once a month you may have seen the water laboratory staff using a boat equipped with lake monitoring and sampling instruments taking measurements and samples at different depths to monitor any changes within the reservoirs. The scientific test results from this intensive reservoir study will allow water plant staff to make informed decisions in treating your source drinking water. Additionally, this information will be used to better manage the reservoirs to ensure that they remain in healthy condition and provide our customers with the highest quality water possible.