



Graham County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

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Ft. Thomas Community Water System System# AZ0405001 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report For 2025



We are pleased to provide you with this year's **Annual Water Quality Report**. Our goal is to keep you informed about the quality of the water and the services we have delivered over the past year. Our mission has always been to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water.

Our water source is **groundwater**. Based on currently available information regarding the hydrogeological setting and nearby land uses within the specified proximity of the drinking water sources, the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) has assigned this public water system a **low-risk designation** for source water protection. A low-risk designation indicates that most source water protection measures are already in place, or that the hydrogeology of the area limits the effectiveness of additional protection measures. We operate **four wells**, with the well field located just south of Desert Sage Road at the end of Browns Lane. Water is pumped through a PVC pipeline, disinfected with chlorine, and delivered to our two storage tanks, which together store up to **250,000 gallons**. The system is supported by two 30-horsepower booster pumps and a 4,000-gallon pressure tank to provide consistent water pressure. A **100-kilowatt backup generator** ensures uninterrupted water service during power outages by supplying power to the booster pumps.

Graham County Electric Cooperative routinely monitors drinking water constituents in accordance with Federal and State regulations. The table included in this report presents monitoring results from **January 1 through December 31, 2025**. As water moves over land or underground, it can dissolve naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and may pick up substances from animal or human activities. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain small amounts of contaminants. The presence of these substances does not necessarily indicate health risk.

For more information about contaminants and potential health effects, you may contact the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at **1-800-426-4791**. Graham County Electric Cooperative is pleased to report that our drinking water is **safe and meets all Federal and State drinking water requirements**.

In the following table, you may notice terms and abbreviations that are unfamiliar. To help you better understand this information, the definitions below are provided:

- **Parts per Million (ppm) or Milligrams per Liter (mg/L):** One part per million is equivalent to one minute in two years, or one penny in \$10,000.
- **Parts per Billion (ppb) or Micrograms per Liter (µg/L):** One part per billion is equivalent to one minute in 2,000 years, or one penny in \$10,000,000.
- **Parts per Trillion (ppt) or Nanograms per Liter (ng/L):** One part per trillion equals 1,000 parts per billion.
- **Parts per Quadrillion (ppq) or Picograms per Liter (pg/L):** One part per quadrillion equals 1,000 parts per trillion.
- **Picocuries per Liter (pCi/L):** A measure of the radioactivity in water.
- **Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **No Detect (ND):** The contaminant was not detected or was present at a level below the laboratory's detectable limit.
- **Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** The highest level of contaminant allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close as feasible to the Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs) using the best available treatment technology.
- **Maximum Contamination Level Goal or "MCLG"** means 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.

- **Maximum residual disinfectant level or “MRDL”** means 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:** The Level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLG’s do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
- **Treatment Technique (TT):** There is convincing evidence that the addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

TEST RESULTS

Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Running Annual Average (RAA) OR Highest Level Detected	Range of all Samples	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination	Date Tested
GROSS ALPHA (pCi/L)	N	ND	ND	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits	Feb. 2019
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	N	ND	ND		5	Erosion of natural deposits	Feb. 2019
Copper (ppm)	N	90th percentile =.8	.026-1.1	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems. Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	Aug. 2025
Lead (ppb)	Y	90 th percentile =32	ND-49	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, Erosion of natural deposits	Aug. 2025
Nitrate (ppm)	N	.47	.47 -.70	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks; sewage; erosion of natural deposits	Aug. 2025
TTHM (ppb) (Total Trihalomethanes)	N	9.6	<1-9.6	0	80 (ppb)	By-product of drinking water chlorination	Aug. 2025
HAA5 (ppb) (Haloacetic Acids)	N	ND	ND	0	60 (ppb)	By-product of drinking water chlorination	Aug. 2025
Chlorine (ppm)	N	.41	.03-.74	4	4	Water additive used to control microbes	Monthly 2025
Arsenic (ppb)	N	1.2	1.0-1.9	10	10	Erosion of natural deposits, runoff from orchards, runoff from glass and electronics production wastes	Jun. 2025
Barium (ppm)	N	.048	.048	2	2	Discharge of drilling wastes; discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits	Jun. 2025

Fluoride (ppm)	N	.66	.66	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which Promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	Jun. 2025
Sodium (ppm)	N	16	16	N/A	N/A	Erosion of natural deposits	DEC 2025
PFAS (ppt)	N	ND	ND		2 ng/l		Sept 2024
PFOS (ppt)	N	ND	ND		2 ng/l		Sept 2024
PFOA (ppt)	N	ND	ND		2 ng/l		Sept 2024

Graham County Electric Cooperative sampled its water sources for Synthetic Organic Contaminants in 2025, Volatile Organic Contaminants in 2025, and Inorganic Contaminants in 2025. Lead and copper samples have been taken in 2025. Nitrite samples were taken in 2025.

These are the most current test results and were done in compliance with current regulations.

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, may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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

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.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least some small amounts of contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate the water poses a health risk. Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised people such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people 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. More information about contaminants, their potential health effects, and the appropriate means to less the risk can be obtained by calling

the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or visiting the website

<http://www.epa.gov/safewater>.

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 cost 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. Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than 6 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 advice from your health care provider.

Graham County Electric Cooperative is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk.

To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by Oct 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. The lead service inventory may be viewed online at: <https://pws-ptd.120wateraudit.com/GrahamCountyUtilitiesFortThomas-AZ>. Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.

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. Graham County Electric Cooperative 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, or 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 www.epa.gov/lead.

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.

Thank you for allowing us to continue providing your family with clean, quality water this year. To maintain a safe and dependable water supply we sometimes need to make improvements that will benefit all our customers. These improvements are sometimes reflected as rate structure adjustments. Thank you for understanding.

We at Graham County Electric Cooperative 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.

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Josh Bryce 485-8653 or Ethan Estes at 485-8667. You may also find real-time information about our water system at the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality (ADEQ) Drinking Water Watch website at <https://azdewis.azdeq.gov/DWW>. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you would like, please attend any of our regularly scheduled board meetings. They are held on the first Wednesday of every month. Please call for the time and to make an appointment if you would like to attend.