

WHAT'S UP WITH THE ANIMAS?



Multiple organizations, including Mountain Studies Institute (MSI), are monitoring the Animas River in Durango to provide science-based information.

180+

NUMBER OF WATER QUALITY SAMPLES INDEPENDENTLY ANALYZED BY MSI FROM THE ANIMAS RIVER IN DURANGO IN 2015 AND 2016

FOR LATEST RESULTS

TO GET THE MOST RECENT WATER QUALITY RESULTS, VISIT: MOUNTAINSTUDIES.ORG/ANIMASRIVER

CAN I DRINK CITY WATER?

City of Durango water is treated and meets drinking water quality standards. The drinking water for the City of Durango is primarily sourced from the Florida River. The Safe Drinking Water Act requires the City to meet health-based water quality standards and provide results to the public.

CAN I SWIM OR RAFT?

Based on guidance from the Environmental Protection Agency, metals in the Animas River are at levels considered safe for recreational users who accidentally swallow river water while rafting or swimming. Additionally, metals in water do not readily pass through skin to internal organs upon contact.

WHAT ABOUT PETS?

There are no water quality standards specifically for pets, but recreational water quality standards that apply to humans should also be protective of pets.

CAN I WATER MY GARDEN?

According to water quality standards set by the state of Colorado, metals in the Animas River are at levels considered safe for agricultural use.

WWW.MOUNTAINSTUDIES.ORG/ANIMASRIVER

WHERE CAN I LEARN MORE?

All organizations currently monitoring the Durango stretch of the Animas River have found that metals in the river are at levels considered safe for recreational and agricultural use.



WATER QUALITY AND AQUATIC LIFE



Mountain Studies Institute (MSI) is monitoring river health by collecting, analyzing, and interpreting water quality samples and surveying aquatic insect populations. For recent results and more information, visit www.mountainstudies.org/AnimasRiver

San Juan Basin Health Department is monitoring water quality and sediment at multiple locations along the Animas River. They advise washing with soap and water after exposure to untreated water and sediment. For more recommendations, visit <http://sjbhd.org/public-health-news/animas-river-health-updates/> and colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/animas-river-spill

PUBLIC HEALTH



ANIMAS RIVER ALERTS



La Plata County has installed an emergency notification system, which uses real time instruments in the river to detect changes in water quality that could pose a risk to human health. You can sign up for Code Red notifications at: www.co.laplata.co.us/emergency

CODE
RED

Animas Watershed Partnership is working to improve the health of the Animas River in Colorado and New Mexico. animaswatershedpartnership.org

RIVER HEALTH

