



Sometimes, a main break or use of fire hydrant can cause large amounts of air to enter the drinking water system. This can cause your faucet to release air and water in spurts. This condition should clear quickly by leaving the faucet open for a minute or two to remove the trapped air from your plumbing (remember to make use of the water, rather than just allowing it to pour down the drain!). If this “spurting” water condition doesn’t clear from the bottom of the glass within several minutes, please contact Tucson Water at 791-3242.



Got Milk(y Water)?



Si usted desea este documento escrito en español, por favor, llame al 791-4331.

City of Tucson TTY# 791-2639

Visit the Tucson Water website at:

www.tucsonaz.gov/water/



Occasionally, a Tucson Water customer will turn on their tap and their water will emerge with a “milky” or “cloudy” appearance. This condition is commonly the result of millions of tiny air bubbles present in the water. They’re harmless and not a health concern, and they will not damage your plumbing or appliances.

Water in the Tucson Water distribution system is under pressure, causing any air present to be trapped in the water until the pressure is released at the tap. If the amount of trapped air is low, your water may appear to sparkle or have small bubbles. If there is a greater amount of trapped air in your water, millions of very tiny bubbles will appear when the pressure is released, giving the water a cloudy or white, milky appearance.



These air bubbles will rise to the surface of the water. The easiest way to test if your “milky” water is the result of trapped air is to fill a clear glass with tap water and set it on the counter. If the milky appearance is due to air bubbles, the water will begin to clear, within minutes, from the bottom of the glass up to the top of the glass.

Some common causes of dissolved air:

- Faucet Aerators – Kitchen faucets are commonly supplied with aerators. They add air to the water, which reduces the water flow but maintains a strong stream. If the

water from an aerated sink shows signs of a milky appearance, but water from an outside hose bib does not, then the aerator is creating the condition. Sometimes, removing and cleaning the aerator with white vinegar to clear away sediment can eliminate this problem.

- Hot Water Heaters – As water is heated, trapped air can be released more readily from the water, causing your hot water to have more of a milky appearance than your cold water.
- Well Pumping – All of Tucson Water’s drinking water supply is pumped from the aquifer, even the Clearwater blend. Trapped air is present in approximately 90% of Tucson Water wells.