Water hardness
Water hardness is a result of water dissolving small amounts of minerals as it moves through or over soil and rock. These minerals, mainly calcium and magnesium, are then held in solution resulting in water hardness. Hard water requires more soap and synthetic detergents for laundry and washing, and can also contribute to scaling in boilers and other equipment. Water hardness is usually expressed in grains per gallon (gpg), or parts per million (ppm) (or the equivalent milligrams per liter (mg/L)).

U.S. Department of Interior and Water Quality Association Water Hardness Scale			**Colorado Springs Utilities (PWSID CO0121150)****		**Fountain Valley Authority (PWSID CO0121300)** [purchased water source]**	
Grains per gallon (gpg)	**Parts per million (ppm)**	**Classification**	**Grains per gallon (gpg)**	**Parts per million (ppm)**	**Grains per gallon (gpg)**	**Parts per million (ppm)**
Less than 1.0	Less than 17.1	Soft				
1.0-3.5	17.1-61	Slightly hard				
3.5-7.0	60-120	Moderately hard	1.5 – 2.8	26 - 49		
7.0-10.5	120-180	Hard				
Over 10.5	Over 180	Very hard			8.4–10.1	143-174
***Ranges developed from five years (2011 - 2015) of Finished Water Total Hardness results.*						

For more water quality information, questions about the report, or to request additional copies, call 719-668-4560.