

# ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

June 2026



**City of Santa Barbara  
Water Resources Department**

PWS ID#: CA4210010

## Message From the Water Resources Director

You don't often hear directly from me, and in many ways, that's a good thing. It means your water and wastewater systems are working exactly as they should, reliably delivering safe, clean drinking water to your tap every day and protecting public health and the environment through effective wastewater treatment. This water quality report is one important way we keep you informed, and I'm proud to share how your Water Resources Department has been working to serve you.

Every dollar collected through your water bills is reinvested directly into our public water system. The City's water and wastewater utilities operate as not-for-profit organizations, meaning all revenues go toward providing you with safe, reliable water and wastewater services. The Water Resources Department does not receive revenue from local taxes, nor does it receive or provide financial support to the City's General Fund. When you pay your water bill, you are investing in our community's most essential resources.

Those investments are working. Santa Barbara has developed one of the most diverse water supply portfolios in the state of California, drawing from surface water, desalinated seawater, groundwater, recycled wastewater, and imported State Water Project supplies. While you may be hearing about the effects of low snowpack levels on California's water supplies this year, I want to assure you that the City's supplies are well positioned for years to come. This year, the City updated its Urban Water Management Plan, a comprehensive 25-year road map for water supply reliability. A key finding: the City has sufficient supplies to meet community demands through 2050 under normal, dry, and multiyear drought conditions. This is a testament to the flexibility and resilience of our diversified supply portfolio.

The ultimate result is water you can count on—diverse, reliable supplies carefully treated to deliver safe, high-quality drinking water to your tap every day. City laboratory staff conduct more than 40,000 water quality tests each year, and as this annual water quality report demonstrates, the City's drinking water met or exceeded state and federal standards for drinking water quality.



Thank you for placing your trust in us as your water and wastewater service provider. We take that responsibility seriously and remain committed to earning that trust every day.

Sincerely,

**Joshua Haggmark**  
Water Resources Director  
City of Santa Barbara Water Resources Department

## Source Water Description

Most of the City's drinking water comes from Lake Cachuma, Gibraltar Reservoir, and the Charles E. Meyer Desalination Plant. A portion of the City's water comes from groundwater and imported State Water Project sources.

## Source Water Assessment

### Limited Potential for Contamination

The City has evaluated the vulnerability of its water supplies. Gibraltar Reservoir's remote location and restricted access limits opportunities for contamination. Water contact activities at Lake Cachuma are prohibited. The Desalination Plant and Cater Plant use advanced treatment technologies. City groundwater supplies are located deep beneath the surface. Nevertheless, contaminants from sources such as gas stations and dry cleaners could potentially reach City water supplies. All water sources are carefully monitored to ensure pollutants do not exceed state and federal standards. For more information, call the City's Water Resources Laboratory at (805) 568-1008.

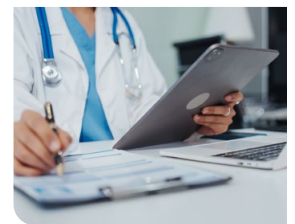


## Public Meetings

The City of Santa Barbara Water Commission meets at 9:00 a.m. on the third Thursday of each month at 630 Garden Street. For information on the Water Commission, including meeting agendas, upcoming and past meetings, and how to watch meetings live, please visit [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WC](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WC).

## Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 people, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health-care providers. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791) or [epa.gov/safewater](http://epa.gov/safewater).



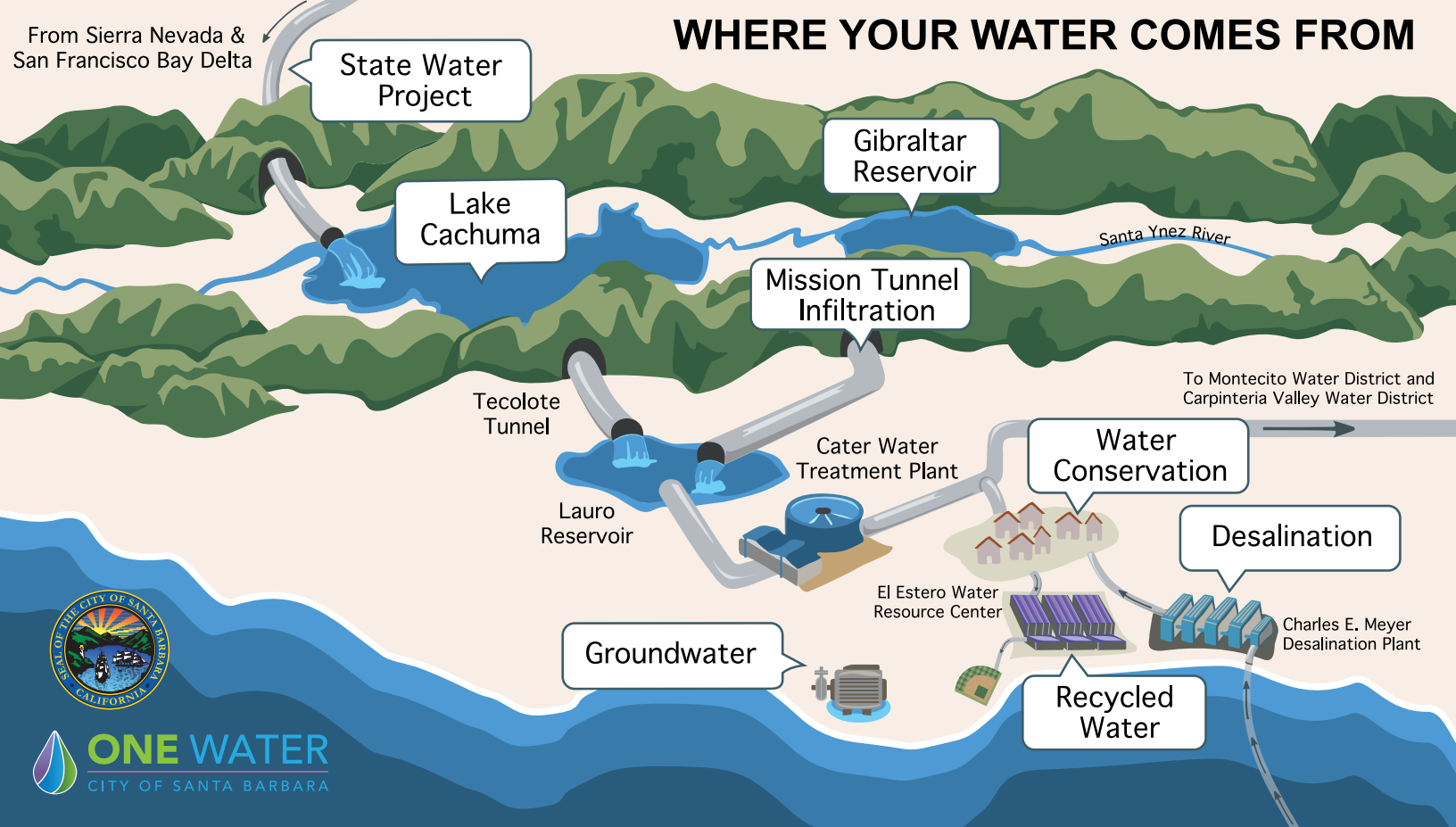
## QUESTIONS?

For questions about water quality, contact the Water Resources Laboratory at [WaterLab@SantaBarbaraCA.gov](mailto:WaterLab@SantaBarbaraCA.gov) or call (805) 568-1008.

For questions about the City's water system, call (805) 564-5387 or visit [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Water](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Water).



# WHERE YOUR WATER COMES FROM



## Substances That Could Be in Water

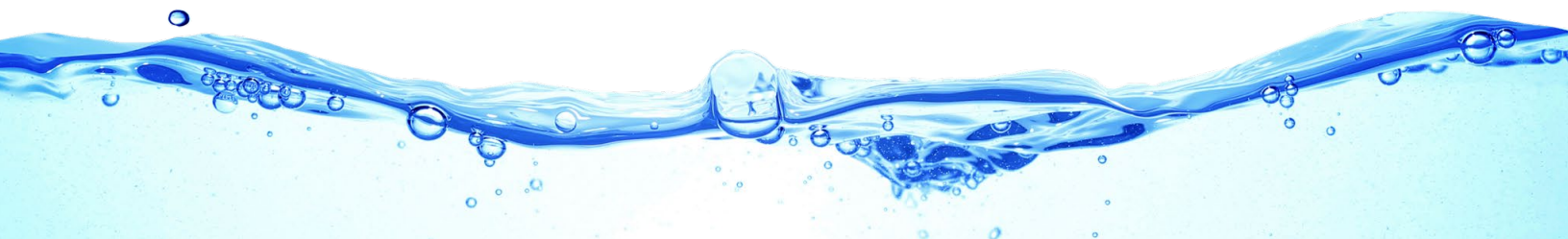
Nationwide, the sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material and 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, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and Herbicides that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- Radioactive Contaminants that can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).



## Lead in Home Plumbing

The City's water system does not contain any lead water mains or City-owned service lines. As required by federal law, the City conducted an inventory in the summer of 2024 to determine the pipe material of customer-owned water service lines (water pipes from the water meter to the home or business). The City field-verified approximately 1,750 locations and found no lead lines. A link to the inventory, as well as water quality FAQs, can be found on the City's website at [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/LCRSampling](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/LCRSampling).

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. The City of Santa Barbara Water Resources Department 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. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes by running your tap, taking a shower, or doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead and wish to have your water tested, contact the City of Santa Barbara Water Resources Department at (805) 564-5387. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at [epa.gov/safewater/lead](http://epa.gov/safewater/lead).

## How are Constituents Measured?

Constituents are measured and reported in extremely small quantities such as parts per million, parts per billion, and in some cases, parts per trillion. These comparisons help explain the measurements:

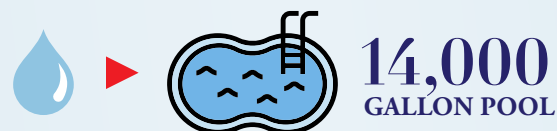
### Milligrams per liter (mg/L) or parts per million (ppm)

1 drop in 14 gallons



### Micrograms per liter (ug/L) or parts per billion (ppb)

1 drop in 14,000 gallons



### Nanograms per liter (ng/L) or parts per trillion (ppt)

1 drop in 14,000,000 gallons



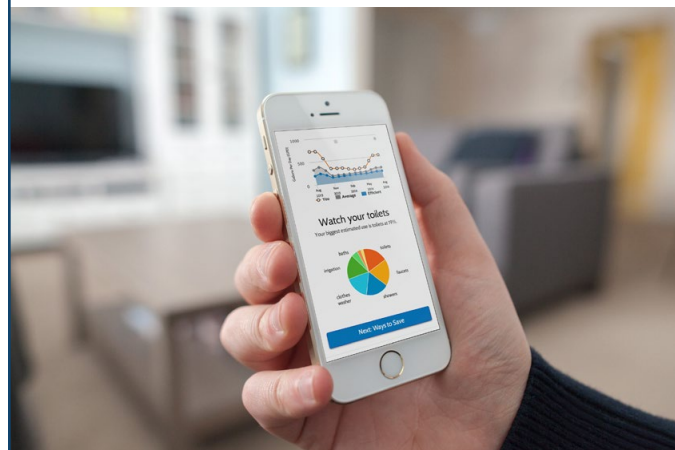
## WaterSmart – Get Water Leak Alerts and Protect Your Home

Did you know you can now track your water use from anywhere with an internet connection? WaterSmart is the City's customer portal that gives you 24/7 access to online tools to manage water use and pay bills.

With WaterSmart you can:

- Monitor water usage by the hour, day, and month;
- Receive automated leak alerts;
- Pinpoint reasons behind a high bill; and
- Customize alerts for unusual water use.

Signing up is easy and fast! Just enter your account number and zip code at [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterSmart](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterSmart).



*Have peace of mind while you're away – keep an eye on your water use from anywhere with cell or Wi-Fi service.*

## PFAS Information

The City has been following the emerging health concerns from the family of contaminants often referred to as PFAS for several years now. PFAS is shorthand for polyfluoroalkyl and perfluoroalkyl substances, a family of more than 3,000 manufactured chemicals that have been widely used since the 1940s because of their resistance to heat, water, and oil. The City sampled the water system for PFAS in 2014, 2019, and 2024. We sampled 13 different water sources including groundwater, surface water, and desalinated water for up to 29 different PFAS chemical including PFOA and PFOS. The results showed that for all sources, PFAS was not detected. The City participated in the Fifth Unregulated Contaminants Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) required by the EPA with sampling occurring 2023-2024. Samples collected from the treatment plants show no detection of PFAS at the 2.0-5.0 parts per trillion level. Learn more at [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/PFAS](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/PFAS).

## Recommended Water Softener Settings

**Surface Water:** 21-29 grains/gallon

**Desal Water:** 2.5-4.5 grains/gallon

*1 grain/gallon = 17.1 milligrams per liter*

Desal water distribution map:  
[SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Desal](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/Desal)

## Do We Have Your Current Contact Information?

Keeping your contact details up to date helps us serve you better! Have you recently changed your email address or phone number? Did you open your City utility account 15 or more years ago with former contact info? It's important that we have your latest information so we can reach you when it matters most, like if:

- There's an issue with your account;
- There is a planned or unplanned water service outage;
- We detect unusually high water use (which could indicate a leak); or
- Your payment method for autopay has expired or is no longer valid.

### Here's how to update your information:

- Log in and update your phone number online at [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterSmart](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/WaterSmart).
- Email addresses can't be changed online — please call us at (805) 564-5343.
- Not on WaterSmart? Call our Utility Billing Customer Service team directly at (805) 564-5343.

## Recycled Water Quality

Recycled water is used at over 50 sites for irrigation at parks, schools, and golf courses. Recycled water is also used at some sites for toilet flushing, dust control, and sidewalk cleaning. The recycled water distribution system uses completely separate pipelines from the City's drinking water system and is denoted by purple pipes, purple color-coded irrigation systems, and signs. Recycled water quality is monitored by the City and updated online at [SantaBarbaraCA.gov/RecycledWater](http://SantaBarbaraCA.gov/RecycledWater).



## Definitions

**90th %ile:** The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

**AL (Regulatory Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**DNQ:** Detected but not quantified; the concentration is too low for a laboratory to measure with mathematical certainty.

**Groundwater:** The City did not use or distribute groundwater resources to the community during the 2025 calendar year.

**Herbicide:** Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.

**MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level):** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

**MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. EPA.

**MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level):** 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.

**MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**NA:** Not applicable.

**ND (Not detected):** Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

**NS:** No standard.

**NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**pCi/L (picocuries per liter):** A measure of radioactivity.

**PDWS (Primary Drinking Water Standard):** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.

**Pesticide:** Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

**PHG (Public Health Goal):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California EPA.

**ppb (parts per billion):** One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

**ppm (parts per million):** One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

**Surface Water:** All water open to the atmosphere and subject to surface runoff such as lakes, reservoirs, rivers and oceans. Lake Cachuma and Gibraltar Reservoir waters are treated at the William B. Cater Water Treatment Plant, while Pacific Ocean water is treated at the Charles E. Meyer Desalination Facility. These sources constitute the City's surface water supplies.

**TON (Threshold Odor Number):** A measure of odor in water.

**TT (Treatment Technique):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**umho/cm (micromhos per centimeter):** A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.



## Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

**A detected contaminant is any contaminant detected at or above its detection level for purposes of reporting (DLR). Contaminants that are not detected, or are detected below the DLR, are not included in this Consumer Confidence Report (CCR).**

Not listed are more than 100 regulated and unregulated substances that were below the laboratory detection level. Additionally, Groundwater well sources were not used in 2025.

The state allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, is more than a year old. Most of the data presented in the tables is from calendar year 2025, except for the following:

For desalinated water: Potassium is from 2023.

For surface water: Boron is from 2016 and 2017. Gross alpha particle activity is from 2024. Gross beta particle activity is from 2023.

We participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if it needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

### REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Surface Water		Desalinated Water		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED AVERAGE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED AVERAGE	RANGE LOW-HIGH		
Aluminum (ppm)	2025	1	0.6	ND	NA	0.19	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Fluoride (ppm)	2025	2.0	1	0.45	0.42–0.50	ND	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2024	15	(0)	ND	NA	1.83 <sup>1</sup>	0.582–3.74 <sup>1</sup>	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2023	50 <sup>2</sup>	(0)	ND <sup>3</sup>	NA	7.52 <sup>1</sup>	5.73–11.4 <sup>1</sup>	No	Decay of natural and human-made deposits
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	2025	10	20	ND	NA	0.3	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; transformation of naturally occurring trivalent chromium to hexavalent chromium by natural processes and human activities such as discharges from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities
Nickel (ppb)	2025	100	12	ND	NA	29	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal factories
Nitrate (ppm)	2025	10 <sup>4</sup>	10	0.056	0.031–0.11	ND	NA	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits

### MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Systemwide		VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
				AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH		
Total Coliform Bacteria (positive samples)	2025	TT	NA	0	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Indicator <i>E. coli</i> [Ground Water Rule] (positive samples)	2025	0	(0)	0	NA	No	Human and animal fecal waste
Turbidity (NTU)	2025	TT	NA	0.09	NA	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity (lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit)	2025	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	100%	NA	No	Soil runoff

LEAD & COPPER RULE												
Water samples were collected at individual household taps throughout the community. The City's system contains no lead. <sup>6</sup>												
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	RANGE LOW-HIGH	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE				
Copper (ppm)	2023	1.3	0.3	0.62	0.042–2.00	1/31	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives				
Lead (ppb)	2023	15	0.2	3.7	ND–71.0	1/31	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits				
SECONDARY SUBSTANCES												
						Surface Water		Desalinated Water				
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED AVERAGE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED AVERAGE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE			
Chloride (ppm)	2025	500	NS	16	14–18	132	100–160	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence			
Color (units)	2025	15	NS	ND	NA	ND	ND–2	No	Naturally occurring organic materials			
Copper (ppm)	2025	1.0	NS	0.025	0.012–0.067	0.023	NA	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives			
Iron (ppb)	2025	300	NS	ND	NA	50	NA	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes			
Odor, Threshold (TON)	2025	3	NS	8	NA	NA	NA	No	Naturally occurring organic materials			
pH (units)	2025	6.5–8.5	NA	7.72	7.54–7.89	8.74	8.45–8.88	No	Naturally occurring			
Specific Conductance (µmho/cm)	2025	1,600	NS	975	964–1,051	541	444–672	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence			
Sulfate (ppm)	2025	500	NS	286	250–330	1.1	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes			
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2025	1,000	NS	666	568–748	275	190–370	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits			
Turbidity (NTU)	2025	5	NS	0.03	0.02–0.09	0.10	0.05–0.59	No	Soil runoff			
Zinc (ppm)	2025	5.0	NS	0.011	0.0074–0.020	0.16	NA	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes			
DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS, DISINFECTION RESIDUALS, AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCT PRECURSORS												
						Systemwide		Surface Water		Desalinated Water		
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED AVERAGE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED AVERAGE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED AVERAGE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE	
Bromate (ppb)	2025	10	0	NA	NA	3.3	ND–3.6	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Chlorine (ppm)	2025	[4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	[4 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )]	0.79	ND - 1.61	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment	
Control of DBP precursors - Total Organic Carbon (TOC) (ppm)	2025	TT	NA	NA	NA	1.89	1.55–2.52	NA	NA	No	Various natural and human-made sources	
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb)	2025	60	NA	12	3.7 - 18	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	2025	80	NA	38	0.81 - 56	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Bromochloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2025	NA	NA	3.0	ND - 4.4	NA	NA	NA	NA		By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2025	NA	NA	8.0	DNQ - 18	NA	NA	NA	NA		By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Bromoform (ppb)	2025	NA	NA	ND	DNQ - 5.6	NA	NA	NA	NA		By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Chloroform (ppb)	2025	NA	NA	14	ND - 28	NA	NA	NA	NA		By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Dibromoacetic Acid (ppb)	2025	NA	NA	1.7	DNQ - 2.7	ND	NA	3	1 - 4		By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	2025	NA	NA	5.3	DNQ - 13	NA	NA	NA	NA		By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Dichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2025	NA	NA	5.8	ND - 11	NA	NA	NA	NA		By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Trichloroacetic Acid (ppb)	2025	NA	NA	4.0	ND - 7.5	NA	NA	NA	NA		By-product of drinking water disinfection	

## UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES<sup>7</sup>

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	Systemwide		Surface Water		Desalinated Water		TYPICAL SOURCE
		AMOUNT DETECTED AVERAGE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED AVERAGE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED AVERAGE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	
Alkalinity (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	189	173–204	48	40–50	NA
Boron <sup>8</sup> (ppm)	2016, 2017	NA	NA	0.38	0.37–0.39	0.86 <sup>1</sup>	0.65–1.15 <sup>1</sup>	NA
Calcium (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	95.4	83.3–106	18	16–31	NA
Hardness, Total [as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ] <sup>9</sup> (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	420	360–464	54	44–102	NA
Lithium (ppb)	2024 <sup>10</sup>	22.7	ND–42.5	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Magnesium (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	44	38–49	2	1–9	NA
Potassium (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	2.8	2.3–2.9	4 <sup>3</sup>	NA	NA
Sodium (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	51	48–53	78	59–104	NA

<sup>1</sup> Sampled in 2025.

<sup>2</sup> The SWRCB considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

<sup>3</sup> Sampled in 2023.

<sup>4</sup> Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 10 ppm may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant or you are pregnant, you should ask for advice from your health-care provider. The City's highest nitrate level in 2025 was 0.11 ppm.

<sup>5</sup> Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

<sup>6</sup> These results are from the triennial sampling event in 2023.

<sup>7</sup> Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps the U.S. EPA and SWRCB determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

<sup>8</sup> The babies of some pregnant people who drink water containing boron in excess of the notification level may have an increased risk of developmental effects based on studies in laboratory animals.

<sup>9</sup> For water softeners, the City's water has a hardness range of 21 - 27 grains per gallon for surface water and 2 - 6 grains per gallon for desalinated water. One grain per gallon equals 17.1 ppm.

<sup>10</sup> As required by the U.S. EPA, UCMR5 data reflects all detected contaminants from July 2023 through December 2024.

