

City of

FOWLER

COMMUNITY • CONNECTION • COMMERCE

2025

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS

Dear Residents,

Fiscal Year 2025-2026 was a year of important progress for the City of Fowler Public Works Department as we continue to better serve our residents. Throughout the year, significant advancements were made to strengthen water quality and reliability, including completion of the Well 7 TCP Treatment Facility and development of a new groundwater well.

The City of Fowler is pleased to share this report to provide updates on these projects and other efforts from FY 25-26, as well as an overview of the community's calendar year 2025 water quality. Inside, you'll find:

- Updates on services and programs for residents
- Project updates
- Water quality information

The City remains committed to providing reliable drinking water while keeping residents informed about the work being done to serve the community. From production and treatment to distribution, we are dedicated to every step of the process to help ensure clean, dependable water for our residents.

Thank you for taking the time to read this report.

Sincerely,

Eric Rocha

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Assistant City Manager, Director of Public Works and Public Utilities

For more information or questions related to your drinking water, contact the City of Fowler's Water Division at (559) 834-3113 or email Public Works & Public Utilities Manager David Koons at dkoons@ci.fowler.ca.us.



STAY INFORMED!

Visit fowlercity.org for the latest updates on City news, water service, City council meetings, and more. You can also look for important information included with your water bills.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Por favor comunicarse City of Fowler's Water Division a (559) 834-3113 para asistirlo en español.

WHERE DOES OUR WATER COME FROM?

The City of Fowler's water supply comes from six groundwater well sites located throughout the City, which work together to serve residents' water needs. To strengthen long-term water supply reliability and resilience, the City began construction on an additional well site, Well 9. Recent progress includes well drilling and underground piping installation within the well site.

IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION FROM THE EPA

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised 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, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

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 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 at (800) 426-4791.

WATER SERVICES & SUPPORT FOR FOWLER RESIDENTS

Hydrant Program

Maintaining reliable fire hydrants remains an important part of protecting public safety and water system maintenance. Through the City's Hydrant Flush, Repair, and Flow Verification Program, hydrants are regularly tested, repaired, and flushed to ensure proper operation during emergencies and improve water quality by removing sediment from water lines. Geographic Information Systems (GIS) based tracking technology is also used to document hydrant locations, flow data, and maintenance activities to support long-term system management and efficiency. Additionally, the City continues piloting an automated flushing system to streamline maintenance efforts.

Water Conservation Program

The City remains dedicated to promoting water conservation and helping residents use water more efficiently. A program currently in development will provide educational resources and incentives for reducing water use in irrigation, landscaping, and daily activities. Planned efforts include rebates or giveaways for water-efficient appliances and smart irrigation timers, along with tools and resources to support everyday conservation.

Valve Exercising Program

To support reliable water service and emergency response, the City regularly inspects and tests water distribution valves through its Valve Exercising Program. This proactive approach helps ensure valves remain functional, accessible, and ready for emergency shutoffs or routine maintenance.

Neptune MY360 Customer Portal

Work is underway to launch the Neptune MY360 Customer Portal, which will allow residents to access water account information online, track real-time water usage, view billing details, and monitor meter status. The City is also developing an additional public-facing tool to improve transparency, support water conservation, and enhance customer engagement. Residents will be notified when these tools become available.

IMPROVING OUR COMMUNITY'S WATER QUALITY

Well 7 TCP Treatment Facility Complete

The City of Fowler recently completed construction of the Well 7 TCP Treatment Facility, an important investment in local water quality. Built to address elevated levels of 1,2,3-trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP) first detected in 2018, the facility is now fully operational and actively treats water before it enters the distribution system. Construction began in 2025 and was completed in March 2026 as part of the City's ongoing efforts to provide safe, dependable drinking water for the community.



Investing in our Water System

In 2025, the City continued investing in water system updates to help provide reliable service for the community. Upgrades at well sites included improvements to pumps, control systems, and monitoring equipment to improve efficiency, strengthen reliability, and extend the life of the City's infrastructure. The City also modernized its Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system, enhancing real-time monitoring, cybersecurity protections, backup systems, and communication network. These improvements help staff respond more quickly to system conditions, support emergency response efforts, and help ensure continuous water service.

YOUR WATER SYSTEM AT WORK

2,428

55 MILES

TOTAL SERVICE CONNECTIONS



450 +
MILLION GALLONS OF WATER
SERVED TO CUSTOMERS IN 2025

OF PIPELINE



650
WATER TESTS
CONDUCTED IN 2025

Substance	Year Tested	Unit of Measurement	MCL	PHG	Detected Average	Range (Low - High)	In Compliance	Source
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	2025	ppt	5	0.7	8	ND - 9.3	No	Discharge from industrial and agricultural chemical factories; leaching from hazardous waste sites; cleaning and maintenance solvent, paint and varnish remover, and degreasing agents; by-product of other compounds and pesticides
1,2-Dibromo-3-Chloropropane [DBCP]	2025	ppt	200	3	70	ND - 180	Yes	Banned nematocide that may still be present in soils due to runoff/leaching from former use on soybeans, cotton, vineyards, tomatoes, and tree fruit
Arsenic	2025	ppb	10	0.004	3.2	2 - 4.6	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Chromium, Hex	2025	ppb	10	0.02	1.3	0.63 - 1.9	Yes	Runoff from agriculture, wastewater discharge, and septic system leakage
Combined Uranium	2025	pCi/L	20	0.43	6.11	6.11	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits and mining activity
Fecal Coliform and E. Coli	2025	positive samples	0	0	0	ND	Yes	Human and animal waste
Gross Alpha Particle Activity	2025	pCi/L	15	N/A	2.72	0.974 - 4.56	Yes	Naturally occurring with breakdown of radioactive elements such as uranium and radium
Nitrate as N	2025	ppm	10	10	1.9	0.26 - 5.5	Yes	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Perchlorate	2025	ppb	6	1	2.4	ND - 2.4	Yes	Use industrial/land military activities in rocket fuel, fireworks, and explosives
Substance	Year Tested	Unit of Measurement	AL	PHG	90th Percentile	Samples > AL	In Compliance	Source
Copper	2025	ppm	1.3	0.3	0.0053	0 of 6	Yes	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead	2025	ppb	15	0.2	ND	0 of 6	Yes	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

Substance	Year Tested	Unit of Measurement	SMCL	PHG	Detected Average	Range (Low - High)	In Compliance	Source
Fluoride	2025	ppm	2	1	0.13	ND - 0.14	Yes	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Iron	2022	ppb	300	NS	ND	N/A	Yes	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste
Manganese	2022	ppb	50	NS	ND	N/A	Yes	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor, Threshold	2022	TON	3	NS	ND	N/A	Yes	Naturally occurring organic materials
Sulfate	2022	ppm	500	NS	14	2.7 - 49	Yes	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste
Turbidity	2022	NTU	5	NS	ND	N/A	Yes	Soil runoff
Zinc	2022	ppm	5	NS	ND	N/A	Yes	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial waste

WATER QUALITY DEFINITIONS

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): This 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 are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) or Public Health Goal (PHG): 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. Environmental Protection Agency.

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

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): 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 (MRDLG): The level of 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.

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

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

ABBREVIATIONS

NA: Not applicable

ND: Not detected; indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis

NS: No standard

PCI/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radiation

PPM (parts per million) [mg/L]: One part substance per million parts water, or milligrams per liter; can be viewed as one drop in a hot tub.

PPB (parts per billion) [ug/L]: One part substance per billion parts water, or micrograms per liter; can be viewed as one drop in an Olympic size swimming pool.

PPT (parts per trillion) [ng/L]: One part substance per trillion parts water, or nanograms per liter; can be viewed as one drop in a 6-acre lake.

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.

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

POTENTIAL SUBSTANCES FOUND IN DRINKING WATER

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 byproducts 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 be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) 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.



IMPACTS OF LEAD IN DRINKING WATER

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 Fowler 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 for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, 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 in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact the City of Fowler's Water Division at (559) 834-3113. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

STAY ENGAGED — ATTEND A FOWLER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Regular city council meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:00PM in the City Council Chambers, located at 128 S. 5th St., Fowler, CA 93625. For agendas and more information visit fowlercivty.org/agendas-minutes.