

# 2020 Consumer Confidence Report

The City of Fortuna is pleased to present the 2020 Consumer Confidence Report. We value our customers and want to inform you of our effort to provide a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We test the water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of monitoring for the period of January 1 through December 31, 2020 and may include earlier data. We hope this report will help you make informed choices that affect the health of you and your families.

Este informe contiene la información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse la Ciudad de Fortuna a (707) 725-7600 para asistirlo en español.

### About Our Water

The City of Fortuna provides water to approximately 12,000 people and over 4,500 service connections. The City's distribution system includes 40 miles of pipeline, 4 reservoirs comprising over 8 million gallons of water, and 8 booster pump stations, including 3 hydro-pneumatic stations. The City's water originates from groundwater sources, located on Eel River Drive between Drake Hill Road and Kenmar Road. The City has 5 wells at this location. Last year we produced approximately 463 million gallons of drinking water.

Source Water Assessments for all of the city's wells were completed in April, 2003. The sources are considered most vulnerable to human and animal activity, including agricultural irrigation and drainage, grazing, and septic systems.

### How Our Water is Treated

The City of Fortuna's water supply is treated to raise the pH, which makes the water less corrosive and acidic to comply with State and Federal requirements for lead and copper. This treatment process aerates the water and removes carbon dioxide gas, which is naturally dissolved in the water. As required by the California State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water, after the water is aerated, it is then chlorinated to prevent any bacteriological contamination.

### Reservoirs and Pump Stations

The 4 City-owned reservoirs and 8 pump stations are inspected on a daily basis. In addition to inspections and maintenance, City staff regularly lower and fill these reservoirs to ensure the freshest water is available to customers.

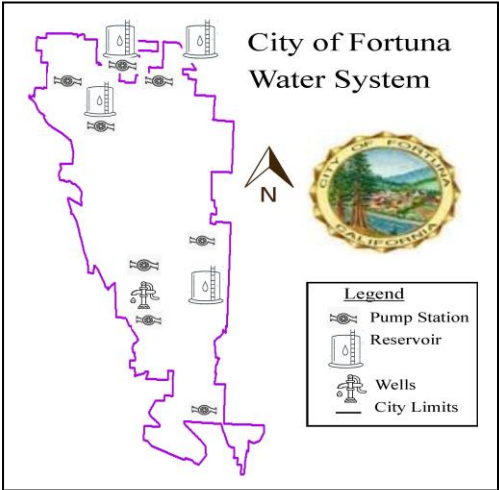
The City's current water improvement projects include replacing Well #5, re-coating the exterior of two reservoirs, and installing generators at two booster pump stations to ensure a safe and reliable drinking water system into the future.

### Cross Connection Control Program

The Cross Connection Control Program protects the public water system from contamination due to backflow. A back-flow condition is created when water from the consumer's plumbing flows back into the City water mains. The California State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water and Fortuna City Code both require backflow prevention assemblies to be installed at all actual or potential sources of contamination. Such sources of contamination include hospitals, mortuaries, fire sprinkler systems, sewage treatment plants and customers with their own water system, such as a well. These assemblies are required to be tested annually to ensure proper operation.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

You may attend the City of Fortuna Council meetings which are held the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays of the month at 6:00PM. These meetings are located in the City Hall Council Chambers at 621 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Fortuna, CA 95540 ■ (707) 725-7600 ■ FAX (707) 725-7610 ■ You may also access the agenda on the web at [www.friendlyfortuna.com](http://www.friendlyfortuna.com)



### Terms Used in This Report:

**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 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. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).

**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 Environmental Protection Agency.

**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.

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

**SDWS: Secondary Drinking Water Standards.** MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

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

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

**N/A:** Not Applicable; **ND:** Non-Detected.

**ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L). Equal to 1 second in 11.5 days.

**ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L). Equal to 1 second in nearly 32 years.

**µS/cm:** Microsiemens per centimeter.

### The Sources of Drinking Water

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 from the presence of animals or from human activity.

### Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

■ **Microbial Contaminants:** Viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

■ **Inorganic Contaminants:** 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:** May come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.

■ **Organic Chemical Contaminants:** Include 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:** Can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

### Safe Drinking Water

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the 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. These agencies set water quality standards and establish testing methods and monitoring requirements for water utilities. They require utilities to give public notice whenever a violation occurs.

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 the 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).

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 for infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>.

Lead-Specific Language

If present, elevated levels of 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 Fortuna is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Water Quality Monitoring Results

The City of Fortuna routinely monitors for constituents in your drinking water according to state and federal laws. The State Water Board allows monitoring for certain contaminants less than once per year due to infrequent changing of the concentrations of these contaminants. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old. Any violation of an AL, MCL, or MRDL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in the report. You can contact the State Water Board at (1-530-224-4800) or <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/>.

2020 Table of Chemicals or Constituents

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA

MICROBIOLOGICAL CONTAMINANTS	HIGHEST # OF DETECTIONS	# OF MONTHS IN VIOLATION	MCL	MCLG	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Total Coliform Bacteria (state Total Coliform Rule)	(In a month) 1	0	1 positive monthly sample (a)	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and <i>E. Coli</i> (state Total Coliform Rule)	(In the year) 0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or <i>E. Coli</i> positive	0	Human and animal fecal waste
<i>E. coli</i> (federal Revised Total Coliform Rule)	(In the year) 0	0	(b)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) Two or more positive monthly samples is a violation of the MCL  
(b) Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is *E. coli*-positive or system fails to take repeat samples following *E. coli*-positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for *E. coli*.

SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER (Required every 3 years, last tested in 2020)

LEAD AND COPPER (and reporting units)	# OF SAMPLES	90th PERCENTILE	# OF SITES EXCEEDING AL	AL	PHG (MCLG)	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Lead (ppb)	33	3.3	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	33	0.2	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

CONSTITUENT (and reporting units)	SAMPLE DATE	Average Level Detected	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Sodium (ppm)	2014	10.7	9.4 - 12	NONE	NONE	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2014	195	180 - 210	NONE	NONE	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

CONSTITUENT (and reporting units)	SAMPLE DATE	Average Level Detected	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	MCL or [MRDL]	PHG, (MCLG) or [MRDLG]	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Barium (ppm)	2014	0.19	0.18 - 0.2	1	2	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	2020	2.5	2.3 - 3	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2014	0.15	0.15	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
TTHMs [Total Trihalo-methanes] (ppb)	2020	11	8.3 - 14	80	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
HAA5 [Sum of 5 Halo-acetic Acids] (ppb)	2020	2.5	1.8 - 3.6	60	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (ppm)	2020	0.3	0.1 - 0.7	[MRDL = 4.0 (as Cl2)]	[MRDLG = 4 (as Cl2)]	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

CONSTITUENT (and reporting units)	SAMPLE DATE	Average Level Detected	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Chloride (ppm)	2014	11.5	11 - 12	500	NONE	Runoff/ leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Manganese (ppb)	2014	29	27 - 30	50	NONE	Leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (uS/cm)	2020	372	310 - 420	1,600	NONE	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Total Dissolved Solids [TDS] (ppm)	2014	240	230 - 250	1000	NONE	Runoff/ leaching from natural deposits

DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

CONSTITUENT (and reporting units)	SAMPLE DATE	Average Level Detected	RANGE OF DETECTIONS	MCL	PHG	TYPICAL SOURCE OF CONTAMINANT
Bromide (ppm)	2020	0.07	N/A	NONE	NONE	Naturally occurring element found in surface waters and groundwater
Total Organic Carbon [TOC] (ppm)	2020	0.64	N/A	NONE	NONE	Natural organic substances, insecticides, herbicides, & other agricultural chemicals

Water Conservation Tips for Consumers

Did you know that the average U.S. household uses approximately 400 gallons of water per day or 100 gallons per person per day? Luckily, there are many low-cost and no-cost ways to conserve water. Small changes can make a big difference – try one today and soon it will become second nature.

- Take short showers – a 5 minutes shower uses 4 to 5 gallons of water compared to up to 50 gallons for a bath.
- Shut off water while brushing your teeth, washing your hair, and shaving and save up to 500 gallons a month.
- Use a water-efficient showerhead. They are inexpensive, easy to install, and can save you up to 750 gallons a month.
- Run your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full. You can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Water plants only when necessary.
- Fix leaking toilets and faucets. Faucet washers are inexpensive and take only a few minutes to replace. To check your toilet for a leak, place a few drops of food coloring in the tank and wait. If it seeps into the toilet bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Fixing it or replacing it with a new, more efficient model can save up to 1,000 gallons a month.
- Adjust sprinklers so only your lawn is watered. Apply water only as fast as the soil can absorb it and during the cooler parts of the day to reduce evaporation.
- Teach your kids about water conservation to ensure a future generation that uses water wisely. Make it a family effort to reduce next month's water bill!
- Visit <https://www.epa.gov/watersense> for more information.