

2024 DCSD Water Quality Report.

CA PWS ID: 1400098

Water System Name: Darwin Community Services District

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Report Date: June 22, 2025

Number of Service Connections: 63

Water System Information

Type of Water Source(s): Groundwater under the influence of Surface Water (Spring 01)
Source Location: Spring 01 is located in the eastern Sierras, approximately 9 miles south of the service area, on the China Lake Naval Weapons Base.

Drinking Water Source Assessment: Conducted February 2003 by Inyo County Environmental Health Services. The source is considered vulnerable due to proximity to military operations and historic mining sites, though no contaminants have been detected. A 2023 Sanitary Survey was conducted by the California State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water which permitted Darwin the water on February 14, 2024. Documented rights to the water go back to an 1876 claim.

Board Meetings: Held every six weeks on Sunday at 9:30 AM at the Darwin Station (corner of Main St. and Market St.) For more information contact: DCSDwater@gmail.com

Additional Required General Information on Drinking Water

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 from 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).

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. DCSD 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 before using water for drinking or cooking. If you do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants. 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>.

In 2024 all districts nationwide, including Darwin, were required to conduct a Lead Service Line Inventory. Our DCSD lead service line inventory found no probable lead risk to the system. Lead sampling from consumer taps show no detectable level of lead in the water. Periodic lead sampling are a regular part of DCSD's sampling protocol.

For more information, contact: DCSDwater@gmail.com

About This Report

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024.

Important Health Information (in other languages)

Spanish: Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse con Darwin Community Services District al (415) 624-9804 para asistencia en español.

Mandarin: 这份报告含有关于您的饮用水的重要讯息。请用以下地址和电话联系 Darwin Community Services District 以获得中文的帮助: (415) 624-9804.

Tagalog: Ang ulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Tumawag sa Darwin Community Services District sa (415) 624-9804.

Vietnamese: Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Xin vui lòng liên hệ Darwin Community Services District tại (415) 624-9804.

Hmong: Tsab ntawv no muaj cov ntsiab lus tseem ceeb txog koj cov dej haus. Thov hu rau Darwin Community Services District ntawm (415) 624-9804.

Summary of 2024 Water Quality Results

In 2024, Darwin Community Services District conducted extensive monitoring of drinking water. 387 samples were taken in 2024, this includes:

- Monthly Samples taken by Inyo County Health Department
- Daily Sampling for pH and Free Chlorine Residuals by volunteers at the Treatment Plant
- Quarterly / Annual sampling taken by Water Distribution and Treatment Operators and sent to lab.

No coliform bacteria or other microbial contaminants were detected. Several constituents were detected at levels well within regulatory limits. One exceedance occurred for Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs), which triggered a violation notice and required follow-up sampling and public notification. What are TTHM's?

Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) are disinfection byproducts that form when chlorine used to treat drinking water reacts with natural organic matter. Long-term exposure to high levels of TTHMs may increase the risk of certain health effects, including liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems. The regulatory limit for TTHMs is 80 micrograms per liter ($\mu\text{g/L}$) as a running annual average.

Notice of Violation: TTHMs

In May 2024, a sample showed a TTHM level of 150 $\mu\text{g/L}$, exceeding the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 80 $\mu\text{g/L}$. The LRAA for TTHMs temporarily exceeded the standard, triggering a compliance violation. Follow-up sampling confirmed that levels returned to acceptable concentrations. We are working to resolve the violation completely with consecutive quarters of compliant results. Residents were notified in accordance with public notice requirements.

Detected Contaminants (2024)

- Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs): High of 150 $\mu\text{g/L}$ (MCL = 80 $\mu\text{g/L}$, violation occurred)
- Haloacetic Acids (HAA5): High of 59 $\mu\text{g/L}$ (MCL = 60 $\mu\text{g/L}$, no violation)
- Chloride: 33 mg/L (MCL = 250 mg/L)
- Total Dissolved Solids: 600 mg/L (MCL = 500 mg/L, over secondary standard)
- Conductivity: 700–720 $\mu\text{S/cm}$ (Secondary MCL = 900 $\mu\text{S/cm}$)
- Fluoride: 0.20 mg/L, which is well below the MCL of 2.0 mg/L. Fluoride occurs naturally in the source water and is not added by the system.

Summary of Taste and Odor 2024

0 Reports of Taste and Odor complaints in 2024

2 Boil Water Notices (2024)

01/29/2024 Boil Water Notice issued due to storm water surge in Spring Box.

04/18/2024 Boil Water Notice issued due to treatment plant repairs.

PFAS

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of synthetic chemicals used in many industrial and consumer products for their water- and grease-resistant properties. PFAS are persistent in the environment and the human body, and some have been linked to health risks such as developmental effects, hormone disruption, and cancer. Small water systems such as DCSD are not currently required to test for PFAS. However in an abundance of caution, In 2024, Darwin Community Services District requested tests for PFAS. Samples were drawn in 2025 and PFAS was **not detected** in the water supply.