

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2025



**Presented By
California City
Water System**

PWS ID#: 1510032

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse City of California City a 21000 Hacienda Blvd; California City, CA 93505 (760) 338-8532 para asistirlo en español.

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 City of California City 以获得中文的帮助: 21000 Hacienda Blvd; California City, CA 93505 (760) 338-8532.

Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa City of California City o tumawag sa 21000 Hacienda Blvd; California City, CA 93505 (760) 338-8532 para matulungan sa wikang Tagalog.

Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Xin vui lòng liên hệ City of California City tại 21000 Hacienda Blvd; California City, CA 93505 (760) 338-8532 để được hỗ trợ giúp bằng tiếng Việt.

Tsab ntauv no muaj cov ntsiab lus tseem ceeb txog koj cov dej haus. Thov hu rau City of California City ntawm 21000 Hacienda Blvd; California City, CA 93505 (760) 338-8532 rau kev pab hauv lus Askiv.



Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2025. Included are details about your sources of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

Where Does My Water Come From?

California City Water System's drinking water comes primarily from three groundwater wells (Well #2, Well #14 and Well #15A) that draw from the Fremont Valley Groundwater Basin and are all within a three-mile radius of City Hall at 21000 Hacienda Blvd, California City, CA 93505. These wells pump water into the City's storage reservoirs, where it is held until needed and then distributed throughout the community primarily by gravity, with the elevation of the reservoirs creating the pressure needed to deliver water through the City's distribution system. To supplement this supply when additional water is needed to meet system demand, the City also purchases treated water from the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency (AVEK), whose source is located at the northwest corner of California City Boulevard and Randsburg Mojave Road.



Source Water Assessment

Source water assessments were conducted for the California City's active groundwater sources (Wells 02A, 14, 15A, 16) by the California Department of Health Services (now the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water) in April 2003. These sources were found most vulnerable to activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: sewer collection systems, high- and low-density septic systems, high-density housing, and hardware/lumber/parts stores, as well as to roads/streets, parking lots/malls, and water-supply wells, which are not associated with any detected contaminants. A copy of the complete assessment may be by contacting the California City Water System at (760) 338-8532.

Public Participation

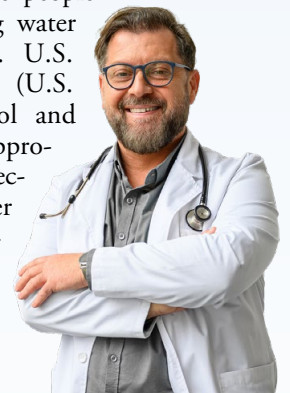
Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation: Second and Fourth Tuesday of every month at 5:00PM at California City's City Hall 21000 Hacienda Blvd; California City, CA 93505.

Cross-Connections and Backflow

A cross-connection is a physical link between a potable and a nonpotable water supply. Cross-connections can create a public health hazard in the event of a backflow. Backflow is the undesirable reversal of fluids, chemicals, or any other foreign material into the public drinking water supply. Potential contamination hazards can include but are not limited to chemical plants, medical offices, veterinary clinics, laboratories, irrigation, and lawn sprinklers. Backflow can be prevented through simple plumbing changes, and when that's not possible, backflow prevention assemblies are installed. You can help prevent backflow by determining if you have any potential cross-connections in your home. Make sure faucets have an adequate gap between the faucet opening and the sink or tub. Make sure garden hoses are not left in pools or ponds, and install vacuum breakers on the hose bibs. If you have any questions or concerns regarding backflow, contact David Toledo, Water Operations Supervisor, at (760) 338-8532.

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, 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 at (800) 426-4791 or at epa.gov/safewater.



QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call David Toledo, Water Operations Supervisor, at (760) 338-8532.

Substances That Could Be in 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, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which 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, which 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, which 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, which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

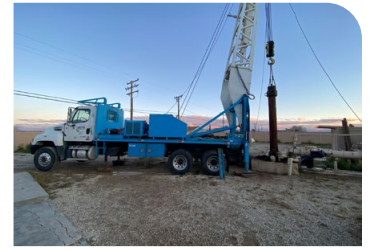
To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits 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 at (800) 426-4791.

Q&A

Why does my water sometimes look cloudy or milky?

Cloudy or milky water is often caused by tiny air bubbles from changes in temperature, pressure, or system operations. Fill a clear glass with cold water and let it sit for a few minutes. If it clears from the bottom upward, the cloudiness is likely caused by air. If it does not clear or has unusual color, odor, or particles contact the City of California City Water Department.



Could a water-quality concern be related to my home's plumbing or water heater?

Sometimes taste, odor, discoloration, or particles can come from household plumbing, a water heater, softener, faucet, or aerator. If only hot water is affected, the water heater may be the source. If only one faucet is affected, check the faucet or aerator. If the issue occurs at several fixtures, compare both hot and cold water. If you are unsure, contact the City of California City Water Department.

Why Does Water Pressure Vary?

Water pressure can vary throughout California City due primarily to differences in elevation. Areas that are closer in elevation to the City's storage reservoirs may experience lower pressure, while lower-elevation areas may experience higher pressure. Reservoir levels, water demand, and system operations can also cause normal changes in pressure.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. California City Water System 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, 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 in your water and wish to have it tested, contact California City Water System at (760) 338-8532. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at [epa.gov/safewater/lead](https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead).

To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by October 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.



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. 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.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES								
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE	
Arsenic (ppb)	2023	10	0.004	7	6–9	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Glass and electronics production wastes	
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2025	5	0	0.41	ND–0.41	No	Erosion of natural deposits	
E. coli (# positive samples)	2025	TT	0	1	NA	No	Human and animal fecal waste	
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	2	1	1.4	1.29–1.57	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5s] (ppb)	2025	60	NA	2.7	ND–2.7	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	2025	10	20	7.8	5.9–10	No	Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities; Erosion of natural deposits	
Nitrate [as nitrogen] (ppm)	2025	10	10	0.56	0.28–1.26	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks and sewage; Erosion of natural deposits	
Selenium (ppb)	2023	50	30	5.8	ND–12	No	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits; Discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; Runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)	
Total Coliform Bacteria (Positive samples)	2025	TT	NA	4	NA	No	Naturally present in the environment	
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	2025	80	NA	0.4	ND–1.6	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection	
Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community								
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	RANGE LOW-HIGH	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Lead (ppb)	2024	15	0.2	0	ND–4	0/20	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2024	1.3	0.3	0.18	ND–0.26	0/20	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives



SECONDARY SUBSTANCES							
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2023	500	NA	75.8	71–80	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Seawater influence
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2023	1600	NS	892	880–910	No	Substances that form ions when in water; Seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2023	500	NA	91.5	88–94	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids [TDS] (ppm)	2023	1000	NA	428.5	409–448	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	2023	5	NS	0.3	0.12–0.55	No	Soil runoff

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES ¹							
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	NOTIFICATION LEVEL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alkalinity (ppm)	2023	NA	NA	172.5	170–180	NA	Naturally occurring
Calcium (ppm)	2023	NA	NA	28.7	25–33	NA	Naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2023	NA	NA	101.8	89–120	NA	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and usually naturally occurring
Magnesium (ppb)	2023	NA	NA	0.0073	0.00688–0.00858	NA	Naturally occurring
pH (pH Unit)	2023	NA	NA	8	8–8.1	NA	Naturally occurring
Potassium (ppm)	2020	NA	NA	2.5	2.3–2.6	NA	Naturally occurring
Sodium (ppm)	2023	NA	NA	148.5	140–157	NA	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring

¹ Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps the U.S. EPA and SWRCB determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

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.

Grains/gal (grains per gallon): Grains of compound per gallon of water.

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.

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.

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).

ppt (parts per trillion): One part substance per trillion parts water (or nanograms per liter).

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

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.

µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter): A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

System Events and Response Actions in 2025

1. January 2025: On January 20, 2025, a loss of communication with the City's remote monitoring and control system let the Phase I reservoir drain to about five feet, causing low or no water pressure in parts of the city. The City raised chlorine levels and collected samples, all of which were free of total coliform and E. coli, and it has since made changes to prevent a repeat.

2. July 2025: After a July 7, 2025 water main leak on Jacaranda Avenue put one home under a precautionary Boil Water Notice, samples from a nearby fire hydrant repeatedly tested positive for total coliform bacteria. The City repaired a leak in a well's chlorine system, replaced the contaminated hydrant and flushed the line until July 20 samples came back clean and the notice was lifted.

3. September 2025: A routine sample collected on September 23, 2025 tested positive for total coliform bacteria but negative for E. coli, and all three follow-up samples collected on September 30 were negative for both.

4. October–November 2025: After an October 29, 2025 water main break on Nemophila Street put one home under a precautionary Boil Water Notice, hydrant samples in the immediate area tested positive for total coliform, and one showed a faint E. coli detection likely caused by bird droppings near the sampling port. After repeated disinfection and flushing, clean samples on November 12 and 14 led the State Water Board to approve lifting the notice.

What is a Boil Water Notice?

A Boil Water Notice (BWN) is a precautionary notice advising customers to boil tap water before drinking or cooking when an event, such as a water main break or loss of pressure, could affect water quality. During repairs, crews disinfect the affected facilities and, once service is restored, collect bacteriological samples to confirm the water is safe. Sample results and the cancellation notice are then submitted to the California State Water Resources Control Board for review and approval. Once approval is received, the City distributes the cancellation notice to affected customers.

