

# 2020 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: Nichols Farms Report Date: June 22, 2021

*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 - December 31, 2020 and may include earlier monitoring data.*

**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse Nichols Farms, a (559)772-4120 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 Nichols Farms 以获得中文的帮助: 13762 1st Ave, Hanford, CA (559) 772-4120.**

**Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa Nichols Farms; 13762 1<sup>st</sup> Ave, Hanford, CA o tumawag sa (559) 772-4120 para matulungan sa wikang Tagalog.**

**Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Xin vui lòng liên hệ Nichols Farms tại (559) 772-4120 để được hỗ trợ giúp bằng tiếng Việt.**

**Tsab ntawv no muaj cov ntsiab lus tseem ceeb txog koj cov dej haus. Thov hu rau Nichols Farms ntawm (559) 772-4120 rau kev pab hauv lus Askiv.**

Type of water source(s) in use: Groundwater

Name & location of source(s): Well 2 -002 next to parking lot near Ave 264

Drinking Water Source Assessment information: This source has not yet been assessed for vulnerability.

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: Call to schedule an appointment

For more information, contact: Katie Schmidt Phone: (559) 772-4123

## TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL):** 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.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG):** 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).

**Public Health Goal (PHG):** 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.

**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 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.

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

**Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS):** 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.

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

**Variances and Exemptions:** State Board permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**Level 1 Assessment:** A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

**Level 2 Assessment:** A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

**ND:** not detectable at testing limit

**ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

**ppt:** parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

**ppq:** parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)

**pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

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

**In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink**, the USEPA and the state Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

**Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent.** The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The Department allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

**TABLE 1 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA**

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	(In a mo.) 0	0	1 positive monthly sample <sup>(a)</sup>	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	(In the year) 0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	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*

**TABLE 2 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER**

Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in the last sample set)	No. of samples collected	90 <sup>th</sup> percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) 6/15/20	5	0	0	15	2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) 6/15/20	5	0.113	0	1.3	0.17	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

**TABLE 3 – SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm) Well 2	8/17/15	35	N/A	none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm) Well 2	8/17/15	32.2	N/A	none	none	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

\*Any violation of an MC or AL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

**TABLE 4 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
<b>Inorganic Contaminants</b>						
Arsenic (ppb) Well 2	8/21/18	4.6	N/A	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards, from glass and electronics production waste.
Nitrate (as nitrogen) (ppm) Well 2	5/12/20	4.1	N/A	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
<b>Radioactive Contaminants</b>						
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L) Well 2	1/17/18 – 7/24/18	3.19	ND – 5.54	15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Radium 228 (pCi/L) Well 2	2/2/16 – 5/2/16	0.53	0.24 – 0.82	2	0.019	Erosion of natural deposits
<b>Disinfection Byproducts, Disinfectant Residuals, and Disinfection Byproduct Precursors</b>						
Chlorine (ppm) Distribution System	1/28/20 – 12/2/20	0.39	.03 – 1.75	4.0 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )	4 (as Cl <sub>2</sub> )	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

**TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm) Well 2	8/17/15	157	N/A	1000	none	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
(EC) (umhos/cm) Specific Conductance µS/cm Well 2	8/17/15	207	N/A	1600	none	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Chloride (ppm) Well 2	8/17/15	6.8	N/A	500	none	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Turbidity (units) Well 2	8/17/15	<0.2	N/A	5	none	Soil runoff

**TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Color (units) Well 2	8/17/15	<5	N/A	15	none	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Odor-Threshold (units) Well 2	8/17/15	1	N/A	3	none	Naturally-occurring organic materials

There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.

**TABLE 6 – DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects Language
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb) Well 2	10/17/16	0.53	N/A	n/a	Some people who drink water containing hexavalent chromium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer

\*Any violation of an MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

(a) Results of monitoring under former section 64450 (UCMR) need only be included for 5 years from the date of the last sampling or until any of the detected contaminants becomes regulated and subject to routine monitoring requirement, whichever comes first. Section 64450 was repealed effective October 18, 2007.

*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, are more than one year old.*

## Additional 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 USEPA'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. USEPA/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).

**Lead**-Specific Language for Community Water Systems: 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. Nichols Farms 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

**Arsenic**- While your drinking water meets the federal and state standard for arsenic, it does contain low levels of arsenic. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems.

**\*Iron-** was found at levels that exceed the MCL of 300ug/L. The high levels of iron are due to leaching of natural deposits and pose no known health effect. The iron MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic effects (e.g., color, taste, and odor) and the staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs and sinks) and clothing while washing.

**Summary Information for Contaminants Exceeding an MCL, MRDL, or AL or  
Violation of Any TT or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement**

Water system Well 01; CA1600602\_001\_001 no longer an active well or is listed. It was last used in November 2019, well 01 stopped pumping water due to the water table decline.

No Violations