



Field Service Workers, Customer Service Representatives and Engineers work together to provide customers with safe drinking water.

## SOURCES OF WATER

In 1996, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) required states drinking water program regulators that a onetime Source Water Assessment be completed for existing wells. The assessment evaluates the vulnerability of water sources to contamination and helps determine whether more protective measures are needed. The assessment evaluates the vulnerability of water sources to contamination and helps determine whether more protective measures are needed. An assessment of the drinking water sources for PPHR was completed in August 2002. The active well sources are considered most vulnerable to the activities listed below.

- Well 10: Transportation Corridors- freeways/ state highways
- Well 17: Chemical/ Petroleum pipelines
- Well 18R: Chemical/ Petroleum pipelines, farm chemical distribution/ application service, pesticide/petroleum/fertilizer storage and transfer area. Wells agricultural/irrigation, oil, gas, and geothermal source.

A copy of the complete assessment can be obtained by contacting the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, Los Angeles Office, 500 North Central Avenue, Suite 500, Glendale CA 91203, or by phone at (818) 551-2004.



## TO OUR CUSTOMERS

Each year, Peter J. Pitchess Honor Rancho (PPHR) provides this report to inform you, our customers, about the quality of the water you drink. We are pleased to report that during the 2023 calendar year, your water met or surpassed all health-based drinking water standards.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health. To meet these regulations, PPHR contracts with the Los Angeles County Waterworks Districts to oversee water quality monitoring and reporting.

Thank you for taking the time to read our Annual Water Quality Report. We look forward to another year of providing you with safe, reliable water.

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

## PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND CONTACT INFORMATION

For questions or comments regarding water quality, please contact Mr. Lee Russ at (661) 295-8025 or Mr. Hatem Ben Miled at (626) 300-4679. To view this report on the internet, please visit the Los Angeles County Waterworks District website at [www.lacwaterworks.org](http://www.lacwaterworks.org).

# Peter J. Pitchess Honor Rancho



## ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Water testing performed in 2023



# PROTECTING OUR WATER FROM CROSS CONNECTIONS

## Understanding Cross-Connections and Backflow

Cross-connections are points where the potable water supply is connected to a non-potable source. Backflow occurs when water flows in the opposite direction, which can lead to contamination of drinking water. This can happen due to backsiphonage or backpressure.

## Examples of Backflow Contamination

One common example is when low pressure in the water system, such as from a broken hydrant, draws contaminated water back into the public water system. This can introduce harmful substances into our drinking water supply.

## Importance of Backflow Prevention Devices

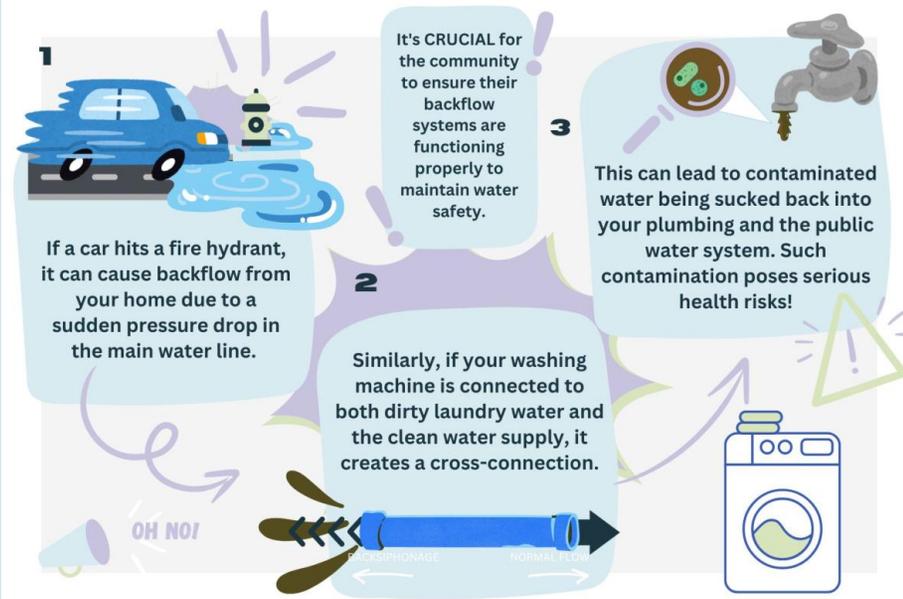
To protect our water supply, all new connections undergo a water use survey to determine if backflow prevention devices are needed. These devices must be tested yearly to ensure they are functioning correctly. If you are unsure whether your device is in compliance, please contact us for assistance.

## Check Your Property

Not all residences have cross-connection valve protection devices. To determine if your property has a device that requires testing, please contact our email hotline: [backflow@dpw.lacounty.gov](mailto:backflow@dpw.lacounty.gov).

## Contact Us

For more information on backflow prevention and to ensure the safety of our water supply, reach out to the Los Angeles County Waterworks Department. Together, we can safeguard the water systems that serve our communities.



# DRINKING WATER & YOUR 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. Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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.

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 & COPPER

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 District 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/lead>.



## SAMPLING RESULTS

During the past year, your water was tested for chemical, physical, radiological, and bacteriological parameters. We also test for additional organic and inorganic chemicals that are not regulated. The tables included in this report list all the substances that were detected. The presence of these substances in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table are from the testing performed last year. The State allows us to monitor 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 are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

## Table Definitions

**90th Percentile:** Out of every 10 homes sampled, 9 were at or below this level.

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

**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.

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

**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.

**ppb:** parts per billion (micrograms per liter)  
**ppm:** parts per million (milligrams per liter)  
**µS/cm:** MicroSiemens per centimeter  
**NTU:** Nephelometric turbidity unit  
**TON:** Threshold Odor Number  
*\*\* HAA5, chlorine, TTHMs, color, odor, turbidity and pH were measured within the distribution system*

**N/A:** Not applicable  
**ND:** Non-detect  
**NL:** Notification level  
**pCi/L:** PicoCuries per liter

PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS						
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	MCL [MRDL]	PHG [MCLG]	YEAR SAMPLED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AVERAGE LEVEL	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chlorine** (ppm)	[4.0] as Cl <sub>2</sub>	MRDLG = 4 as Cl <sub>2</sub>	2023	0.9 - 1.1	1	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Fluoride (ppm)	2.0	1	2023	0.63 - 0.65	0.64	Erosion of natural deposits discharge from fertilizer
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5]** (ppb)	60	N/A	2023	ND - 3.5	3.5	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (as N) (ppm)	10	10	2023	0.9 - 1.3	1.1	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs]** (ppb)	80	N/A	2023	1.9 - 25	25.0	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.43	2022 - 2023	ND - 1.5	ND	Erosion of natural deposits

## LEAD AND COPPER

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG	90TH% LEVEL	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2021	1.3	0.3	0.1	0/20	Internal corrosion of household plumbing system; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2021	15	0.2	0.7	0/20	Internal corrosion of household plumbing system; discharge from industrial manufactures; erosion of natural deposits

## SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	MCL [MRDL]	PHG [MCLG]	YEAR SAMPLED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AVERAGE LEVEL	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	500	N/A	2022 - 2023	59 - 180	108	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	1600	N/A	2023	1100 - 1200	1133	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate (ppm)	500	N/A	2022 - 2023	170 - 250	240	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1000	N/A	2022 - 2023	710 - 730	720	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity** (NTU)	5	N/A	2023	0.2 - 0.4	0.15	Soil runoff

## OTHER PARAMETERS

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AVERAGE LEVEL
Alkalinity, Total (ppm)	2022 - 2023	160 - 200	183
Bicarbonate Alkalinity (ppm)	2022 - 2023	160 - 250	213
Calcium (ppm)	2022 - 2023	80 - 89	84
Hardness, Total as (CaCO <sub>3</sub> ) (ppm)	2022 - 2023	320 - 372	347
Magnesium (ppm)	2022 - 2023	30 - 37	33
Perflurorbutane Sufonic Acid (PFBS) (ppt)	2023	2.1 - 3.9	2.8
Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid (PFHXS) (ppt)	2023	ND - 5.3	ND
Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid (PFOS) (ppt)	2023	4.9 - 8.4	5.8
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) (ppt)	2023	2 - 11	5.1
Sodium (ppm)	2020 - 2022	82 - 93	86

## PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS)

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) are a group of manmade chemicals that are commonly used in products such as cookware and food packaging due to their water and oil resistant properties. PFAS have been classified by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) as emerging drinking water contaminants. At this time local regulators, such as the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and the California Department of Public Health have not established enforceable drinking water standards for PFAS. However, they have set a Notification Level (NL) as well as a Response Level (RL) for four of the common PFAS: Perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), Perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS), and Perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS). A NL is a health-based advisory level for contaminants that lack drinking water standards but require notification to governing bodies when exceeded. A RL is an advisory level at which SWRCB recommends that the source of water either be treated or taken out of service.

In 2023, all three active wells in Peter Pitchess Honor Rancho were monitored for PFAS. All three wells exceeded a NL, but none of them exceeded a RL. Therefore, all wells were kept active and governing bodies were notified of the exceedances.