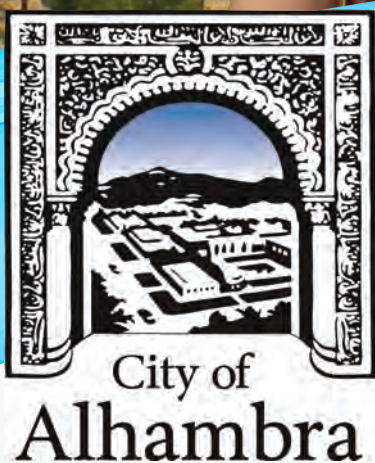




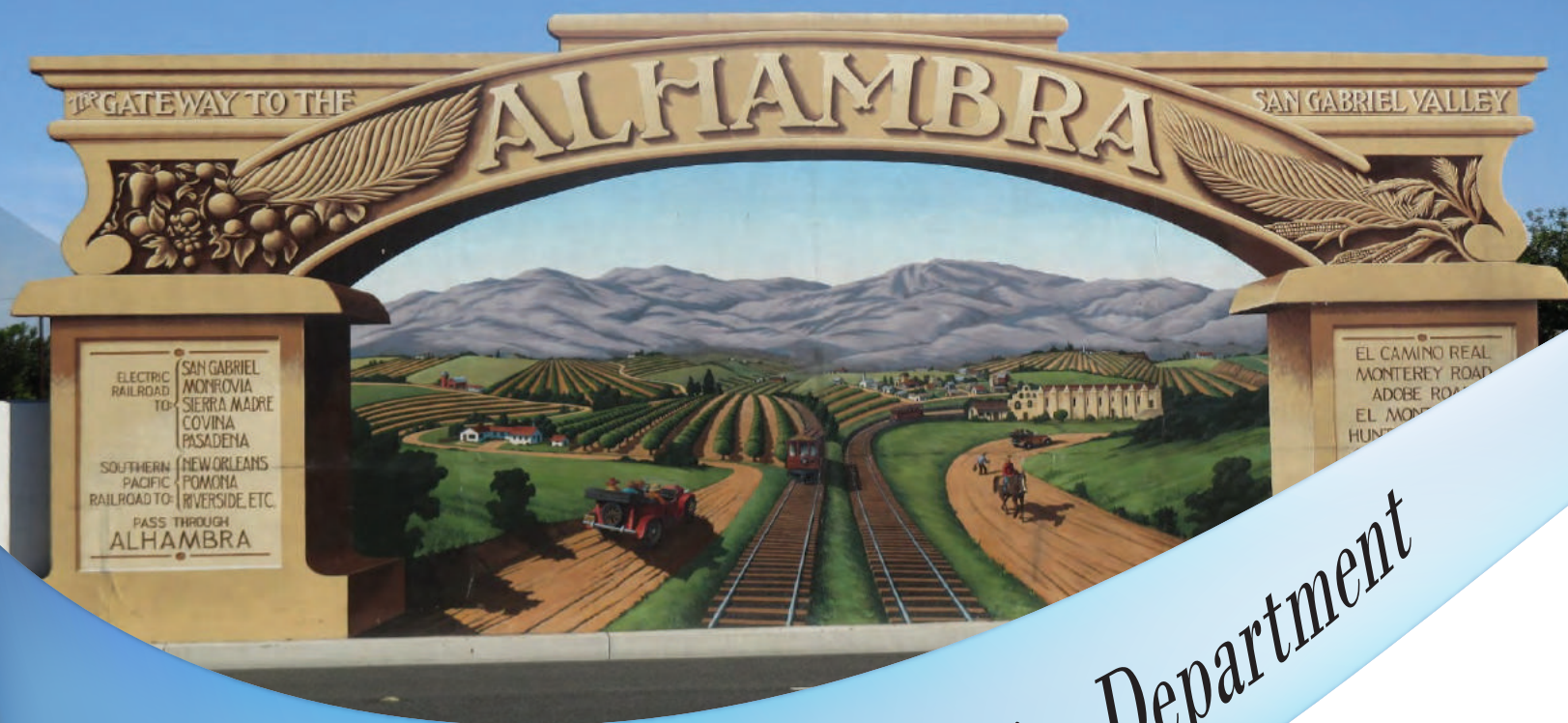
ALHAMBRA



CITY OF ALHAMBRA

Water Quality
Report

2018



A Message from Alhambra Utilities Department

At the City of Alhambra, safe drinking water is our top priority. In the City of Alhambra, we have a team of professionals who work around the clock to make sure our tap water meets or exceeds all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and State Water Resources Control Board - Division of Drinking Water (State Water Board) standards. This report is prepared to provide our customers with a snapshot of local drinking water quality during the year 2018. Included in this report are details about your drinking water sources, the constituents found in your drinking water, and how the water quality compares with the regulatory standards. The table in this report include the results of water samples collected in the year 2018. For more information or questions about this report, please feel free to contact Michael Thai, Environmental Compliance Specialist, City of Alhambra, 111 South First Street, Alhambra, CA 91801, or by calling (626) 570-3259. We encourage landlords, business owners, and schools to share this report with “non-billed” water users. Water quality reports are also available at the Alhambra Public Library, Alhambra City Hall, Utilities Department Customer Service Center, and on the City website at www.cityofalhambra.org.

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 may be particularly at risk with infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The USEPA/Center 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.

NITRATE

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 10mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant woman and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

LEAD

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 Alhambra 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 the 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 <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Alhambra Water Supply Information

The City of Alhambra maintains approximately 18,300 service connections and provides approximately 83,000 customers with quality drinking water that meets or surpasses all State and Federal drinking water standards. The City's main source of water (70%) comes from nine local groundwater wells from the Main San Gabriel Water Basin. An additional source of water (30%) comes from a service connection with the Metropolitan Water District (MWD). The MWD water is surface water from the Colorado River and the State Water Project which is treated at the Weymouth Treatment Plant within the City of La Verne and transported via transmission main to the City of Alhambra.

Source Water Assessment

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 applications, and septic systems.

Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally-occurring or be the results of oil and gas production and mining activities. In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the State Water Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

The City of Alhambra Utilities Department has conducted Drinking Water Sources Assessments for its groundwater sources. The latest assessment was completed in April 2009. Sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: auto repair shops, sewer collection systems, dry cleaners, irrigated crops, leaking underground storage tanks, high density housing and historic dump and landfill sites. A summary of the assessment can be obtained by contacting Michael Thai, Environmental Compliance Specialist, at (626) 570-3259.



City of Alhambra Water Treatment Plant

Treatment process >>
granular activated carbon

ion exchange

chlorination

City of Alhambra 2018 Water Quality Analysis Results

Source Water Monitoring

Primary Standards: Regulated, Health-Related Standards (units)	State PHG (MCLG) or [MRDLG]	California State MCL or [MRDL]	Groundwater City of Alhambra Wells		Surface Water MWD - Weymouth Plant		Typical Source of Contaminants
			Range	Average	Range	Average	
Clarity (Filter Effluent Turbidity) {A}							
Highest single measurement of the treated surface water (NTU)	N/A	TT= 1.0	N/A	N/A	Highest	0.06	Soil runoff
Lowest percent of all monthly readings less than 0.3 NTU (%)	N/A	TT = 95	N/A	N/A	% ≤ 0.3	100%	Soil runoff.
Volatile Organic Constituents							
Trichloroethylene [TCE], (ppb)	1.7	5	ND - 1.3	ND	ND	ND	Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories.
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE), (ppb)	0.06	5	ND - 1.0	ND	ND	ND	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, and auto shops (metal degreaser)
Inorganic Constituents							
Aluminum, (ppb) {B}	600	1000	ND	ND	ND - 220	105	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes.
Fluoride, (ppm)	1	2	0.16 - 0.72	0.51	0.6 - 0.9	0.7	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth.
Nitrate [as Nitrogen-N], (ppm)	10	10	2.3 - 6.9	5.0	ND	ND	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Radioactive Constituents							
Gross Alpha Activity, (pCi/L)	0	15	ND - 7.4	ND	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits.
Gross Beta Activity, (pCi/L) {C}	0	50	NR	NR	ND	ND	Decay of natural and man-made deposits.
Uranium, (pCi/L)	0.43	20	1.1 - 7.9	3.8	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits.
Secondary Standards: Regulated, Aesthetic [Non Health-Related] Standards (units)							
Aluminum, (ppb) {B}	N/A	200	ND	ND	ND - 220	105	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes.
Turbidity, (NTU)	N/A	5	ND - 0.14	ND	ND	ND	Solution of finely divided subsurface clay and silt.
Color, (Units)	N/A	15	ND	ND	ND -1	ND	Naturally-occurring materials.
Odor-Threshold Odor Number (TON)	N/A	3	1	1	3	3	Naturally-occurring organic materials.
Chloride, (ppm)	N/A	500	18 - 58	37	96 - 97	96	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits.
Sulfate, (ppm)	N/A	500	25 - 82	50	190 - 236	213	Runoff / leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Specific Conductance, (µS/cm)	N/A	1600	380 - 800	589	897 - 1010	954	Substances that form ions, when in water.
Total Dissolved Solids [TDS], (ppm)	N/A	1000	220 - 480	338	553 - 639	596	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits.
Corrosivity (Langelier Index) {D}	N/A	Non-corrosive	-0.48 - 0.94	0.36	0.43 - 0.57	0.5	Natural or industrially-influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon & oxygen in water, affected by temperature & other factors.
Unregulated Constituents: No MCL or MRDL, but State or Federal monitoring is required. (units) {E}							ABBREVIATIONS (Terms & Units):
Boron, (ppm)	NL= 1	N/A	NR	NR	130	130	AL = Action Level. Specified treatment must begin for this particular contaminant, if detected at or above this level.
Chlorodifluoromethane, (ppb)	N/A	N/A	ND - 0.61	0.09	NR	NR	
Chlorate, (ppb)	NL= 800	N/A	ND - 300	140	32	32	MWD = Metropolitan Water District.
Chromium VI, (ppb) {F}	0.02	N/A	3.2 - 7.2	5.6	ND	ND	N/A = Not Applicable, in this instance.
1,4-Dioxane, (ppb)	NL= 1	N/A	ND	ND	NR	NR	ND = Not Detected - Not found at or above the State Detection Limit for Reporting (DLR) of this contaminant.
Molybdenum, (ppb)	N/A	N/A	2.5 - 9.2	5	NR	NR	
Strontium, (ppb)	N/A	N/A	230 - 1100	610	ND	ND	NL = Notification Level. This is an advisory level. If the contaminant is detected at this level, then certain requirements and recommendations apply.
Vanadium, (ppb)	NL= 50	N/A	ND - 9.8	5	ND	ND	
Water Characteristics: No MCL or MRDL, but State or Federal monitoring is required. (units)							NR = Not Required (no laboratory testing is required).
Calcium, (ppm)	N/A	N/A	27 - 82	57	57 - 69	63	µS/cm = microsiemens per centimeter.
Magnesium, (ppm)	N/A	N/A	7 - 24	16	23 - 26	24	NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units.
pH, (Units)	N/A	N/A	7.0 - 7.9	7.5	8.1 - 8.2	8.1	pCi/L = Pico Curies per Liter.
Potassium, (ppm)	N/A	N/A	1.2 -2.8	2.1	4.4 - 5.0	4.7	ppm = Parts per million (Milligrams per Liter).
Sodium, (ppm)	N/A	N/A	31 - 42	36	94 - 103	98	ppb = Parts per billion (Micrograms per Liter).
Total Alkalinity [as CaCO3], (ppm)	N/A	N/A	140 - 260	184	107 - 117	112	ppt = Parts per tillion (nanograms per Liter).
Total Hardness [as CaCO3], (ppm)	N/A	N/A	97 - 303	208	233 - 274	254	TT = Treatment Technique. A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Total Organic Carbon [TOC], (ppm)	N/A	TT	N/A	N/A	2.1 - 2.8	2.4	

Distribution System Monitoring					
Primary Standards: Regulated, Health-Related Standards (units)	State PHG (MCLG) or [MRDLG]	California State MCL or [MRDL]	Range	Highest Monthly Average	Typical Source of Contaminants
Microbiological Contaminants					
Total Coliform Bacteria (% positive in a month)	(0)	5%	0 - 0	0%	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. coli (% positive in a month)	(0)	0%	0 - 0	0%	Human and animal fecal waste
Disinfection By-Products and Disinfection Residuals					
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHM], ppb {G}	N/A	80	4.5 - 37	22	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5], (ppb) {G}	N/A	60	ND - 10	3	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Total Chlorine Residual, (ppm)	(4)	(4)	ND - 2.9	1.3	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.
Secondary Standards: Regulated, Aesthetic [Non Health-Related] Standards (units)	State PHG or (MCLG)	California State MCL	Distribution System Corrosion Control		Typical Source of Contaminants
			Range	Average	
Iron, (ppb)	N/A	300	ND - 2000	127	Corrosion; leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Phosphate, Ortho [as PO ₄], (ppb)	N/A	N/A	0.02 - 0.37	0.23	Corrosion Control; leaching of natural deposits; industry.
Lead and Copper	California State PHG	Action Level	Tap Water Monitoring for Lead & Copper		Typical Source of Contaminants
			90th Percentile Result	Results Exceeding AL	
Lead, (ppb) {H}	0.2	15	1.4	0 of the 30 samples collected exceeded the action level. (2018)	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper, (ppm) {H}	0.3	1.3	0.50	0 of the 30 samples collected exceeded the action level.	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

Footnotes:

{A} Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water and is a good indicator of the effectiveness of surface water filtration. To meet the Primary Standard, the turbidity level of the filtered water shall be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU in 95% of the measurements taken each month, and shall not exceed 1 NTU for any single measurement. High turbidity levels can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

{B} Aluminum has both Primary (health-related) and Secondary (aesthetic) Standards.

{C} The State Water Resources Control Board considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

{D} The Langelier Index is a measure of how corrosive a water is. A positive index number is considered non-corrosive and a negative index number is considered corrosive. Alhambra water and MWD water were both non-corrosive in 2016

{E} Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring helps the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated. Boron is reported because it was detected by the MWD in 2016. It is reported as NR (Not Required) in Alhambra water because latest required monitoring in Alhambra was completed more than 5 years ago, in 2003. The other six Unregulated Contaminants reported in the 2016 report were detected during monitoring required by the UCMR3 in 2014 and 2015.

{F} The MCL for Chromium VI was invalidated during 2017; however, the most recent analysis results are included in the report for your information. Additional information can be found at the Water Board website:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certific/drinkingwater/documents/chromium6/chrome_6_faqs.pdf

{G} These results are the range of the individual sample results in 2018, and the highest locational running annual average (LRAA) of the four quarters of 2018. The City of Alhambra is in compliance with the current State MCLs for TTHM and HAA5

{H} The most recent monitoring of tap water for Lead and Copper in the Alhambra water distribution system was completed in 2018, using samples collected from 30 multiple family and single family residential sampling site. The next round of Lead and Copper monitoring is scheduled for 2021



Equivalence
3 drops in 42 gallons
1 second in 11.5 days



Equivalence
1 drops in 14,000 gallons
1 second in nearly 32 years



Equivalence
1 drops in 14,000,000 gallons
1 second in nearly 32,000 years



Color, Sediment, Taste & Odor FAQs

Water Hardness?

Hard water contains two harmless minerals: calcium and magnesium. These minerals give the water its "hardness," which generally manifests itself as a scaly build up on surfaces that come in contact with water. Although hardness does not affect the safety of the water, some customers may find it to be inconvenient. Hardness minerals may also contribute to scaling in teapots, spots on dishes and residues on plumbing fixtures and glass shower doors. Water is considered "hard" if it measures more than 120 parts per million or 7.0 grains per gallon. The table lists the range of hardness, sodium, and pH for local groundwater sources and imported surface water (MWD).

Why do my ice cubes appear cloudy?

Ice cubes made with tap water are seldom perfectly clear, for a perfectly good reason: The water served in our area contains dissolved calcium and other naturally occurring minerals. When the water is frozen, the minerals turn into harmless solid white particles that make the water appear cloudy. Sometimes air is trapped in water, and can make the water appear cloudy when it first comes out of the tap. You can tell if it's air by letting the water sit for a few minutes after collecting some from the tap. Air will come out of the water as a gas, leaving the water clear. The presence of air in the water is not unusual, and is not harmful.

What causes rusty water?

Reddish or rusty water is a common result of older pipes in your home. When water stands in the pipes for long periods of time (including overnight), fine particles of rust may accumulate. Another possible cause may be a rusting hot water heater. The problem can easily be solved by letting the water run for a few minutes to clear out the pipes. Rusty water is not a health hazard, but you may want to avoid doing laundry with the rusty water to avoid staining.

What if the rusty water doesn't clear up?

When pipelines in the streets are disturbed due to repairs in your area, mineral sediments that have settled in the pipes sometimes break loose and cause rusty or dirty-looking water. The sediments are harmless mineral deposits that naturally occur in water. If the water does not clear after running it for a few minutes, please call Customer Service at (626) 570-5061.

Is there anything I can do to eliminate the chlorine taste in my water?

Yes. Place a pitcher of water in your refrigerator for cool, fresh water any time. Chlorine will dissipate with time and the water will taste fresher. Reverse osmosis and activated carbon filters are also effective in removing chlorine from water, but choose a reputable vendor and be sure to follow the manufacturer's instructions for installing and maintaining such treatment devices.

Phew! My hot water smells like rotten eggs!

"Rotten egg" smells may be caused by a problem in your hot water heater. Magnesium anodes used in hot water tanks to prevent corrosion sometimes generate bad smelling gasses. The odor usually occurs early in the morning and only with your hot water. This smelly problem may be easily fixed by replacing the magnesium anode with one made from an aluminum alloy. Before replacing the anode, be sure the odor is coming from the hot water and not from the sink drain or garbage disposal. If you have any questions about repairs, contact a plumbing professional.





Water Quality Standards

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the State Water Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Drinking water standards established by the USEPA and the State Water Board set limits for substances that may affect consumer health or aesthetic qualities of drinking water. The tables in this report show the following types of water quality standards:

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 (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. PHG are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

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



Water Conservation



Water conservation remains the most responsible way to reduce our demand for water and conserve our water supply. Water supply is greatly affected by regional drought, growth in population, and climate change. Groundwater supplies remain at a historic low. Therefore, the need to conserve water is critical, as we all play a role in water usage. However, there are many effective ways you can help save water in and around your home. With these simple changes in your daily routines, you can reduce your water footprint and protect this valuable resource for future generations. The City of Alhambra is currently under Water Shortage Plan I Voluntary Conservation, Chapter 15.25.080 of the Alhambra Municipal Code. For more information please visit <http://www.cityofalhambra.org/resources/mandatory-water-restrictions>.

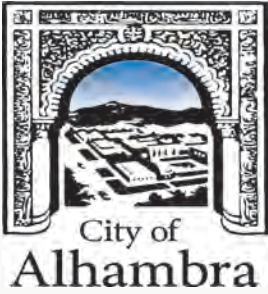
Saving Water Indoors

- Check for and repair leaking faucets, toilets, pipes, etc.
- Wash only full loads, whether using the dishwasher or laundry machine.
- Install water efficient showerheads, toilets, and faucet aerators.
- When rinsing fruits and vegetables, use a container to collect the water which can be reused to water your plants.
- Turn off the faucet while brushing teeth or shaving.
- Defrost food in the fridge instead of running it under water.

Saving Water Outdoors

- Water the lawn in the early morning or evening to maximize the amount of water reaching the plant roots.
- Adjust sprinklers so only the lawn is watered and not the house or sidewalk.
- When mowing, raise the blades to 2-3 inches high to improve moisture retention.
- Collect rainfall for irrigation using a rain barrel or other screened container.
- Apply mulch around trees and plants to preserve soil moisture.
- Use a broom to clean walkways, driveways, and decks instead of hosing with water.





111 SOUTH FIRST STREET
ALHAMBRA, CALIFORNIA 91801

THIS NOTICE CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER.

City of Alhambra 2018 Water Quality Report will be available online on July 1, 2019. Please visit the following URL: <http://www.CityofAlhambra.org/resources/utility-department-reports> to learn more about your drinking water. If you would like a paper copy of the 2018 CCR mailed to your mailing address or would like to speak with someone about the report, please call (626) 570-3259.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Favor de comunicarse con la Ciudad de Alhambra el Departamento de Utilidades a (626) 570-3259 para asistirlo en español.

本報告包含閣下飲用水嘅重要訊息。如需廣東話垂詢, 請聯絡
City of Alhambra, Utilities Department (626) 570-3259

Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Xin vui lòng liên hệ
City of Alhambra, Utilities Department tại (626) 570-3259 để được trợ giúp bằng tiếng Việt.

Community Participation

Regularly scheduled City Council meetings are held on the second and fourth Monday of each month, at 7:00pm in City Hall, located at 111 South First Street, Alhambra, California and are open to the public. These meetings provide an opportunity for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of your water. A City Council agenda is available from the office of the City Clerk or via the website <http://www.cityofalhambra.org>. We welcome your participation in the meetings.

Utilities Customer Service Center: (626) 570-5061

Billing questions, trash services, or any questions regarding water or sewer service

Water Service Emergencies: (626) 570-5124

(Dispatch) Leaks, 24 hours turn off/turn-on service

Water Quality Questions: (626) 570-3259

Stormwater Pollution Questions: (626) 570-5036

Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) Questions: (626) 570-5067

Illegal Dumping to Storm Drains or Someone Wasting Water?

(626) 570-5061 or email us at waterwatcher@cityofalhambra.org