

BELLFLOWER HOME GARDEN WATER COMPANY
17447 LAKEWOOD BOULEVARD
BELLFLOWER, CA 90706

BELLFLOWER HOME GARDEN WATER COMPANY
2022 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Para obtener una copia en Español, llame a (562) 531-8586.

Daimntawv tshaj tawm no muaj lus tseemceeb txog koj cov dej haus. Tshab txhais nws, los yog tham nam nrog tej tug neeg uas totaub txog nws.

此份有关你的食水报告,内有重要资料和讯息,请找他人为你翻译及解释清楚。

この情報は重要です。翻訳を依頼してください。

Chi tiết này thật quan trọng. Xin nhờ người dịch cho quý vị.

이 안내는 매우 중요합니다. 본인을 위해 번역인을 사용하십시오.



BELLFLOWER HOME GARDEN WATER COMPANY

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Since 1991, California water utilities have been providing information on water served to its consumers. This report is a snapshot of the tap water quality that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, how it is tested, what is in it, and how it compares with state and federal limits. We strive to keep you informed about the quality of your water, and to provide a reliable and economic supply that meets all regulatory requirements.



Where Does My Tap Water Come From?

Your tap water comes from ground-water sources pumped from local deep wells. We purchased all of our water from

Bellflower Somerset Mutual Water Company. These water sources, located in the Bellflower area, supply our service area shown on the adjacent map. The quality of our groundwater is presented in this report.

How is My Drinking Water Tested?

Your drinking water is tested regularly for unsafe levels of chemicals, radioactivity and bacteria at the source and in the distribution system. We test weekly, monthly, quarterly, annually or less often depending on the substance. State and federal laws allow us to test some substances less than once per year because their levels do not change frequently. All water quality tests are conducted by specially trained technicians in state-certified laboratories.

What Are Drinking Water Standards?

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) limits the amount of certain substances allowed in tap water. In California, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) regulates tap water quality by enforcing limits that are at least as stringent as the Federal EPA's. Historically, California limits are more stringent than the Federal ones.

There are two types of these limits, known as standards. Primary standards protect you from substances that could potentially affect your health. Secondary

standards regulate substances that affect the aesthetic qualities of water. Regulations set a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for each of the primary and secondary standards. The MCL is the highest level of a substance that is allowed in your drinking water.

Public Health Goals (PHGs) are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency. PHGs provide more information on the quality of drinking water to customers, and are similar to their federal counterparts, Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs). PHGs and MCLGs are advisory levels that are non-enforceable. Both PHGs and MCLGs are concentrations of a substance below which there are no known or expected health risks.

How Do I Read the Water Quality Table?

Although we test for over 100 substances, regulations require us to report only those found in your water. The first column of the water quality table lists substances detected in your water. The next columns list the average concentration and range of concentrations found in your drinking water. Following are columns that list the MCL and PHG or MCLG, if appropriate. The last column describes the likely sources of these substances in drinking water.

To review the quality of your drinking water, compare the highest concentration and the MCL. Exceedence of a primary MCL does not usually constitute an immediate health threat. Rather, it requires testing the source water more frequently for a short duration. If test results show that the water continues to exceed the MCL, the water must be treated to remove the substance, or the source must be removed from service.

Why Do I See So Much Coverage in the News About the Quality Of Tap 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, including 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, 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, that are byproducts 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 be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

All 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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791). You can also get more information on tap water by logging on to these helpful web sites:

- <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-information>
(USEPA's web site)
- https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Chemicalcontaminants.html
(State Board Water web site)

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problem, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Bellflower Home Garden Water Company 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>.

Should I Take Additional Precautions?

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. The USEPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection of *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Source Water Assessment

Bellflower Home Garden Water Company conducted an assessment of its groundwater supplies in 2003. Groundwater supplies are considered most vulnerable to historic gas stations. A copy of the approved assessment may be obtained by contacting the water company business office at 17447 Lakewood Blvd., Bellflower, CA 90706 or (562) 531-8586.

How Can I Participate in Decisions On Water Issues That Affect Me?

The public is welcome to attend Board meetings the second Tuesday (subject to change) of every month at 6:00 p.m. Meetings are held at 8761 Ramona Street, Bellflower, CA 90706. Meetings are conducted remotely using Zoom. Call office to confirm date and obtain meeting details.

How Do I Contact My Water Agency If I Have Any Questions About Water Quality?

If you have specific questions about your tap water quality, please contact Donald Kotas at (562) 755-5652.

Some Helpful Water Conservation Tips

- Fix leaky faucets in your home – save up to 20 gallons every day for every leak stopped
- Save between 15 and 50 gallons each time by only washing full loads of laundry
- Adjust your sprinklers so that water lands on your lawn/garden, not the sidewalk/driveway – save 500 gallons per month
- Visit <http://www.epa.gov/watersense> for more information.

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Results are from the most recent testing performed in accordance with state and federal drinking water regulations. The State allows monitoring for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative, are more than one year old

PRIMARY STANDARDS MONITORED AT THE SOURCE-MANDATED FOR PUBLIC HEALTH									
ORGANIC CHEMICALS (ug/l)		GROUNDWATER		PRIMARY MCL		MCLG or PHG		MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER	
AVERAGE		RANGE							
(a)		(a)							
INORGANICS									
Sampled from 2020 to 2022 (b)									
Arsenic (ug/l)	3.2	2.4 - 3.6	10	0.004 (c)	Erosion of natural deposits; glass/electronics production wastes; runoff. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years may experience skin damage or circulatory system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.				
Barium (mg/l)	0.15	0.15 - 0.16	1	2 (c)	Oil drilling waste and metal refinery discharge; erosion of natural deposits. Some people who drink water containing barium in excess of the MCL over many years may experience an increase in blood pressure.				
Fluoride (mg/l)	0.34	0.26 - 0.41	2.0	1 (c)	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth. Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the federal MCL of 4 mg/L over many years may get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Children who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the state MCL of 2 mg/L may get mottled teeth.				
Hexavalent Chromium (ug/l) (Sampled in 2014)	0.26	ND - 1.1	-	0.02	Discharge from electroplating factories; leather tanneries; wood preservation; chemical synthesis; refractory production; and textile manufacturing facilities; erosion of natural deposits. Some people who drink water containing hexavalent chromium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.				
Nitrate (mg/l as N)	0.9	0.3 - 1.4	10	10 (c)	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use / septic tanks / sewage; natural erosion. Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die because high nitrate levels can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. High nitrate levels may also affect the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood of pregnant women.				
RADIOLOGICAL - (pCi/l) (Sampled from 2019 to 2022) (b)									
Gross Alpha	2.9	ND - 3.9	15	(d)	Erosion of natural deposits. Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.				
Radium 226	ND	ND	5 (f)	0.05	Erosion of natural deposits. Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.				
Radium 228	0.4	ND - 1.1		0.019	Erosion of natural deposits. Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.				
Uranium	2.5	1.6 - 2.9	20	0.5 (c)	Erosion of natural deposits. Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL over many years may have kidney problems or an increased risk of getting cancer.				
PRIMARY STANDARDS MONITORED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM - MANDATED FOR PUBLIC HEALTH									
MICROBIALS		DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM		PRIMARY MCLG or PHG					
Total Coliform Bacteria		AVERAGE POSITIVE		5%		Naturally present in the environment			
Fecal Coliform and E Coli Bacteria		0		0%		Human and animal fecal waste			
No. of Acute Violations		0		-					
MICROBIALS		DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM		RANGE					
Turbidity (NTU)		0.05		0.0 - 0.2		TT = 1 NTU		Soil runoff	
DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS (d) AND DISINFECTION RESIDUALS		DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM		PRIMARY MCLG or PHG					
Trihalomethanes-THMs (ug/l)		AVERAGE		80		By-product of drinking water chlorination			
Halocetic Acids - HAAS (ug/l)		2.2		-		By-product of drinking water disinfection			
Total Chlorine Residual (mg/l)		ND		60		Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment			
Total Chlorine Residual (mg/l)		1.1		4.0 (e)					
AT THE TAP		DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM		PRIMARY MCLG					
PHYSICAL CONSTITUENTS		# OF SITES ABOVE THE ACTION LEVEL		15 AL					
10 sites sampled in 2022		90%ile		0.3 (g)					
Copper (mg/l)		0.52 (g)		1.3 AL					
Lead (ug/l)		0.63 (g)		0					
				15 AL					
				0.2 (c)					
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SECONDARY STANDARDS MONITORED AT THE SOURCE FOR AESTHETIC PURPOSES

Sampled in 2020-2022 (b)	GROUNDWATER		SECONDARY	
	AVERAGE	RANGE	MCL	PHG or (MCLG)
Aggressiveness Index (corrosivity)	12.3	12.2 - 12.5	Non-corrosive	-
Chloride (mg/l)	37.5	29.0 - 48.0	500	-
Color (color units)	ND	ND	15	-
Iron (ug/l)	ND	ND	300	-
Specific Conductance (uS/cm)	600	550 - 680	1,800	-
Manganese (ug/l)	13.5	ND - 26	50	-
Odor (threshold odor number)	ND	ND	3	-
Sulfate (mg/l)	79.7	64.0 - 99.0	500	-
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/l)	376.7	340.0 - 430.0	1,000	-
Turbidity (NTU)	0.1	ND - 0.2	5	-

SECONDARY STANDARDS MONITORED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM FOR AESTHETIC PURPOSES

GENERAL PHYSICAL CONSTITUENTS	DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM		SECONDARY	
	AVERAGE	RANGE	MCL	MCLG or PHG
Color (color units)	ND	ND	15	-
Odor (threshold odor number)	ND	ND	3	-

ADDITIONAL CHEMICALS OF INTEREST

Sampled in 2020-2022 (b)		GROUNDWATER	
	AVERAGE	RANGE	
Total Alkalinity (mg/l)	192.9	170.0 - 210.0	
Calcium (mg/l)	76.7	68.0 - 86.0	
1,4-Dioxane (ug/l)	(i)	1.3 - 2.9	
Magnesium (mg/l)	13.1	11.0 - 16.0	
pH (standard unit)	7.8	7.7 - 7.9	
Radon (mg/l)	3.4	3.1 - 3.7	
Sodium (mg/l)	29.2	28 - 34	
Total Hardness (mg/l) MCL = None	244.5	220 - 280	
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (PFOA) (ng/L) (NL=5.1 ng/L)	3.5	3.0 - 3.9	
METHOD 537.1 (i)			
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (PFOS) (ng/L) (NL=6.5 ng/L)	16	13.0 - 21.0	
EPA METHOD 537.1 (i)			
Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid (PFHxS) (ng/L) EPA METHOD 537.1 (i)	3.8	2.7 - 4.9	

(i) Notification of PFOA/PFOS: PFOA and PFOS are manmade fluorinated organic chemicals that are part of a larger group of chemicals referred to as per- and poly-fluoroalkyl substances (PFASs). These substances have been synthesized for water and lipid resistance and have been used extensively in consumer products such as carpets, clothing, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging for food, and other materials (e.g., cookware) designed to be waterproof, stain-resistant or non-stick. In addition, they have been used in fire-retarding foam and various industrial processes.

In May 2016, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) issued a lifetime health advisory for PFOS and PFOA for drinking water, advising municipalities that they should notify their customers of the presence of levels over 70 parts per trillion (PPT) or nanograms per liter (ng/L) in community water supplies. The recommended interim notification levels to 6.5 ppt for PFOS and 5.1 ppt for PFOA. The single health advisory response level (for the combined values of PFOS and PFOA) remained at 70 parts per trillion (PPT) or nanograms per liter (ng/L).

Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW), revised the notification levels to 6.5 ppt for PFOS and 5.1 ppt for PFOA. The single health advisory response level (for the combined values of PFOS and PFOA) remained at 70 ppt. PFOA - Perfluorooctanoic acid exposure resulted in increased liver weight in laboratory animals. PFOS - Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid exposure resulted in immune suppression, specifically, a decrease in antibody response to an exogenous antigen challenge. PFHxS - Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid is part of the group of perfluorochemicals (PFCs). PFHxS, PFOS and PFOA share similar chemical structure and uses (i.e., surface treatment agents for textiles, paper, and furniture etc., for its excellent waterproofing and oil-resistance performance). PFHxS have been detected in endangered species and the human blood of the general population.

ABBREVIATIONS

< = less than	NA = constituent not analyzed	ND = constituent not detected at the testing limit
mg/l = milligrams per liter or parts per million (equivalent to 1 drop in 42 gallons)	ppCi/l = picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)	ng/l = nanograms per liter or parts per trillion (equivalent to 1 drop in 42,000,000 gallons)
NTU = nephelometric turbidity units	us/cm = microSiemens per centimeter	ug/l = micrograms per liter or parts per billion (equivalent to 1 drop in 42,000 gallons)
SI = saturation index		

DEFINITIONS

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 (USEPA).

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. MRDLs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants. MRDLs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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.

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.

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

Secondary Drinking Water Standard (SDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect the aesthetic qualities (taste, odor, or appearance) of drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

Variances & Exemptions: Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

FOOTNOTES

- Over 50 regulated and unregulated organic chemicals were analyzed. None were detected at or above the reporting limit in groundwater or surface water sources.
- Indicates dates sampled for groundwater sources only.
- California Public Health Goal (PHG). Other advisory levels listed in this column are federal Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs).
- Running annual average used to calculate average, range, and MCL compliance.
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL).
- Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDLG).
- 90th percentile from the most recent sampling at selected customer taps.
- Combined Radium 226 + Radium 228 has a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 5 pCi/L.
- 1,4-Dioxane is considered an emerging contaminant that is unregulated and thus has no MCL. Requirements and recommendations apply when certain levels, such as Notification Level (NL) and Response Level (RL), are reached. The NL is 1 µg/L while the RL is 35 µg/L. 1,4-Dioxane was detected above the NL in several wells in 2022 and therefore, is included in this COR. The detections have not been above the RL. If the RL is ever reached, we may be required to remove the source of the water from service. 1,4-Dioxane is reasonably anticipated to be a human carcinogen if above average amounts of water, which contains it, are consumed over a long time.