

# 2020 Consumer Confidence Report



3725 Mountain View Avenue  
Pasadena, CA 91107  
www.epwater.com  
626-793-6189



East Pasadena Water Company

At East Pasadena Water Company (EPWC), we provide our customers with clean, fresh water. This Annual Consumer Confidence Report has been developed in compliance with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regulations to keep you informed about EPWC's water quality. In it, you will find detailed information about our 2020 water quality results.

## Introduction

East Pasadena Water Company is committed to keeping you informed about the quality of your drinking water. This report will give you a summary of how EPWC provides your tap water and explain a few of the many steps we take to ensure that the high quality of your water stays protected.

For more information or questions about the information contained in this report, please contact Wayne Goehring, East Pasadena Water Company, 3725 Mountain View Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91107. Phone (626) 793-6189.

*Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Si necesita mas informacion llame a nuestra oficina al (626) 793-6189.*

本报告包含有关您的饮用水的非常重要的信息。翻译它或与一个了解它的人交谈。如果您需要更多信息，请致电（626）793-6189联系我们的办公室

## Where does my drinking water come from?

EPWC provides approximately 9,900 people with drinking water. Most of the water we serve is pumped from local, natural groundwater sources. The water is pumped from wells in the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin. The water is then sent through a distribution network of underground pipes to your home or business.

## What are water quality standards?

The federal government, through the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), regulates the quality and safety of drinking water in the United States. In California, the EPA standards are supplemented and en-

forced by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). Drinking water standards establish limits for substances that may affect human health or aesthetic qualities of water. The chart in this report shows 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 Public Health Goals (see definition in next column) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to regulate the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

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

• **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.

## What is a Consumer Confidence Report?

In addition to mandatory water quality standards, the EPA and the State of California have set voluntary water quality goals for some contaminants. Webster's Dictionary defines a goal as an "end toward which effort is directed". Water quality goals are often set at such low detection levels that they are not currently achievable in practice and are not directly measurable, but they

nevertheless provide useful guideposts for aiming water management activities. The chart in this report includes two types of water quality goals:

• **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.

• **Public Health Goal (PHG):** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known

1

2

or expected risk to human health. PHGs are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency.

## What contaminants may be present in sources of drinking water?

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, 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. Listed below are Contaminants that may be present in the source water:

• 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 storm water 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 storm-water runoff, and residential uses.

• Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

• 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. 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. State Water Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

## Are there any precautions the public should consider?

Drinking water, including bottled water, can 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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (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 at (800) 426-4791.

**About Nitrate—** Nitrate (as nitrogen) in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/l is a health risk for infants of less than 6 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 10 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should seek advice from your health care provider.

## How does your drinking water measure up?

This brochure is a snapshot of last year's water quality or in the most recent tests. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are our best allies.

Your drinking water is regularly tested using state-approved methods to ensure its safety. The chart in

this report lists all the drinking water constituents that were detected in 2020 or in the most recent tests. 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. Please see the other side of this page for more details.

As previously reported to customers, in March 2018 Well #8 exceeded the MCL for 1,2,3 Trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP). This well was shut off on March 18, 2018 and has not been used to deliver water to customers since that time.

On August 27, 2020 a Compliance Order was issued by the SWRCB-Division of Drinking Water regarding East Pasadena Water Company's maximum daily capacity. On the advice of the SWRCB-Division of Drinking Water, East Pasadena Water Company deactivated our Well #8 on July 1, 2020 due to the Nitrate concentration in the well water exceeding the MCL. This action triggered the compliance order, and East Pasadena Water Company submitted a Corrective Action Plan on December 21, 2020. The Corrective Action Plan is still under review with the SWRCB-Division of Drinking Water.

## Customer Service

As a service organization, we value your input, concerns and suggestions. Please feel free to contact us at (626) 793-6189.

## Well Locations

EPWC operates two deep wells, designated as wells 9 & 11. These wells are in Arcadia and supply drinking water to our system.

## Interconnection Locations

We also maintain two emergency interconnections with the following water systems:

- City of Pasadena Water & Power
- City of Arcadia Water Department



# EAST PASADENA WATER COMPANY 2020 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY RESULTS

Your water is tested regularly to ensure compliance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency requirements. This report shows all drinking water constituents that were detected in 2020 or in the most recent tests. For additional water quality data, contact Wayne Goehring at East Pasadena Water Company, (626) 793-6189.

Table 1 Primary Standards—Mandatory Health-Related Standards Established by the California State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water.							
Constituents	Units	MCL In CCR Units	PHG (MCLG)	Ground Water Range	Average	Most Recent Sample Date	Major Sources in Drinking Water
<b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>							
Fluoride	mg/L	2	1	.74—.80	.78	March 2018	Erosion of natural deposits. Water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharges from fertilizer & aluminum factories.
Nitrate - N	mg/L	10 (as N)	10 (as N)	.68—.97	.80	March, June, September & December 2020	Runoff & leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks & sewage; erosion of natural deposits.
Chromium (Total) (a)	ug/L	50	(100)	11—12	11.33	March 2018	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits.
<b>Unregulated Contaminant</b>							
Hexavalent Chromium (b)	ug/L	N/S	.03	8.7—13	10.5	March 2018	Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production and textile manufacturing facilities; erosion of natural deposits.
Vanadium	ug/L	N/L of 50 ug/L	0.2	7.0—7.7	7.4	March 2018	Naturally-occurring elemental metal; used as vanadium pentoxide which is a chemical intermediate and a catalyst
<b>Radioactivity</b>							
Gross Alpha Activity	pCi/l	15	(0)	N/D—16	7.1	July 2015 September 2018 April 2020	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium	pCi/l	20	(0)	1.3—19	7.2	July 2015 September 2018 April 2019	Erosion of natural deposits.
Table 2 Secondary Standards—Aesthetic Standards Established by the California State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water.							
Constituents	Units	MCL In CCR Units	MCLG OR (PHG)	Ground Water Range	Average	Most Recent Sample Date	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Odor-Threshold (d)	Units	3	None	1	1	March 2018	Naturally occurring organic materials.
Chloride	mg/L	500	None	6.5—45	19.9	March 2018	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Sulfate	mg/L	500	None	9.6—110	44.2	March 2018	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	1,000	None	170-470	273	March 2018 July 2020	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.
Specific Conductance	uS/cm	1600	None	320—760	473.33	March 2018	Substances that form ions in water; seawater influence
<b>Additional Constituents</b>							
Bicarbonate Alkalinity	mg/L	N/S	None	190—260	213.33	March 2018	Erosion of natural deposits
pH	Units	N/S	None	7.5—7.7	7.63	March 2018	Measure of acidity and alkalinity
Hardness (CaCo3)	PPM	N/S	None	120—360	203.33	March 2018	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium & calcium, and usually naturally occurring.
Sodium	PPM	N/S	None	27—31	29	March 2018	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring.
Calcium	mg/L	N/S	None	37—100	58.67	March 2018	Naturally occurring
Magnesium	mg/L	N/S	None	6.7—25	13.1	March 2018	Naturally occurring
Potassium	mg/L	N/S	None	N/D—2.6	1.23	March 2018	Naturally occurring
<b>Disinfection Residuals</b>							
Free Chlorine Residual from Distribution System	mg/L	MRDL=4.0 as Cl <sub>2</sub>	MRDL=4.0 as Cl <sub>2</sub>	.30—.50	.43	Weekly in 2020	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Constituents	Units	MCL In CCR Units	MCLG OR (PHG)	Distribution System Range	90th. Percentile Result	Most Recent Sample Date	Major Sources in Drinking Water
<b>Distribution System Monitoring</b>							
Lead (c)	ug/L	AL=15	0.2	N/D—.26	N/D (0 of 20 samples exceeded A/L)	July 2019 (In 2019, No schools served by EPWC exceeded A/L on their campuses.)	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (c)	mg/L	AL=1.3	0.3	N/D—.25	.12 (0 of 20 samples exceeded A/L)	July 2019	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	ug/L	80	None	4.9—14.0 (Average 9.45)	Does not apply.	July 2020	By-product of drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	ug/L	60	None	N/D—1.5 (Average .75)	Does not apply.	July 2020	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Table 3 Microbiological Constituents							
Microbiological Constituents (units)	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Your Water	Violation	Typical Source		
Total Coliform Bacteria in the distribution system (Present/Absent)	Systems that collect <40 samples/month: 1 positive monthly sample	(0)	No total coliform positive	No	Naturally present in the environment		

All EPWC water is treated with Calcium hypochlorite (Chlorine)

**Unit Definitions**

- C.C.R.= Consumer Confidence Report units (unit level established by the State Water Resources Control Board)
- AL= regulatory action level
- mg/L = milligrams per liter (parts per million PPM)\*
- N/D = non detect
- N/S = no standard
- N/L = notification level
- NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
- pCi/l = pico Curies per liter
- PPB = parts per billion\*
- PPM = parts per million\*
- ug/L = micrograms per liter (parts per billion PPB)\*
- umho/cm = micromho per centimeter
- uS/cm = microSiemens per centimeter

**Glossary of Terms**

**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 economical 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, MRDLs and treatment techniques (TTs) for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting 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.

**Regulatory Action Level (AL):**

The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

**Treatment Technique (TT):**

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

**Variations and Exemptions:**

State Board permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a (TT) under certain conditions.

**Lead and 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. East Pasadena 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>.

**Notes**

- (a) Some people who use water containing chromium (total) in excess of the MCL over many years may experience allergic dermatitis.
- (b) Some people who drink water containing hexavalent chromium in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
- (c) Action level measured at customers tap, a primary standard. Compliance based on the 90th percentile value. The value shown as a result of lead & copper is the 90th percentile for all the samples.
- (d) Results are based on distributions system monitoring and apply to the entire system.

*Units	Equivalence
ppm—parts per million	1 second in 11.5 days
ppb—parts per billion	1 second in nearly 32 years