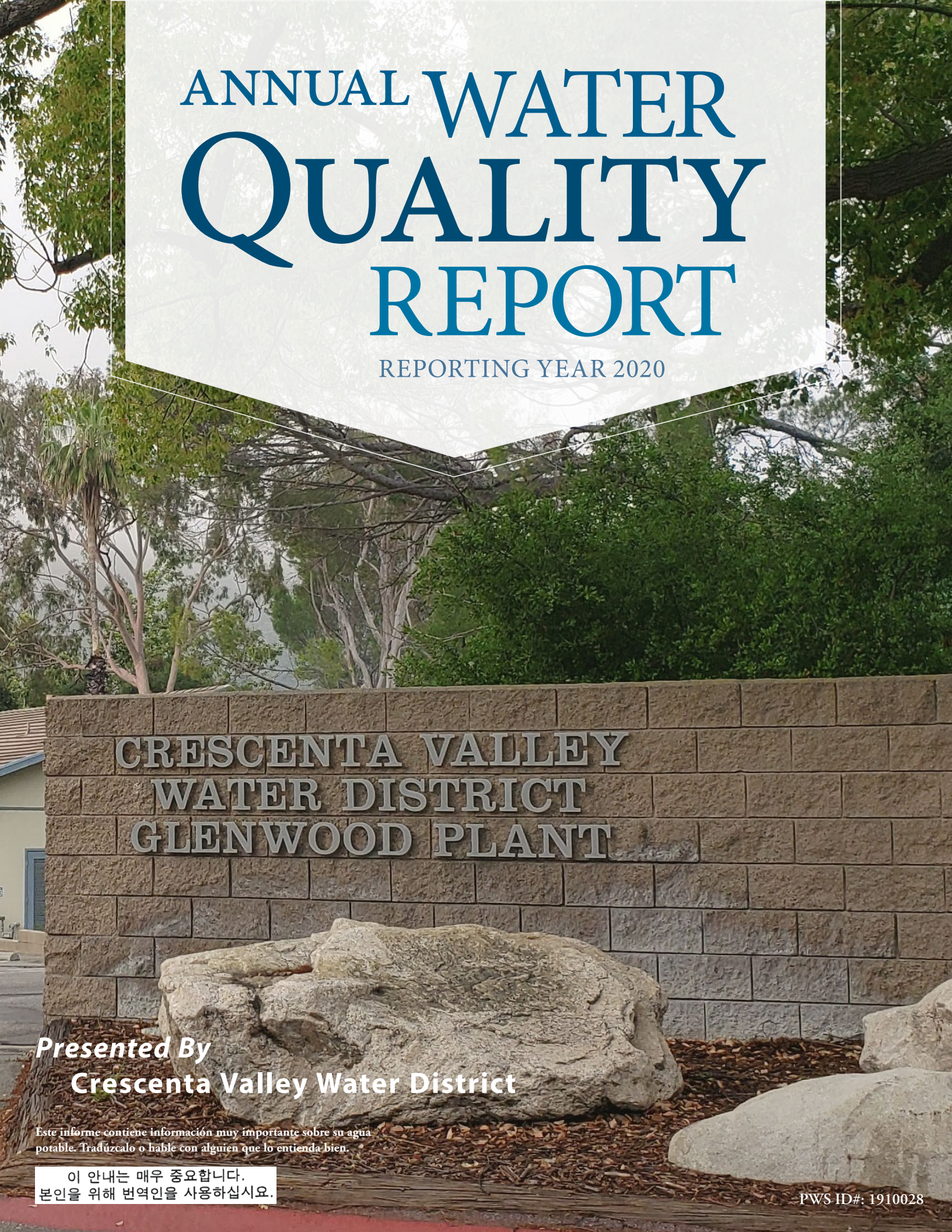
ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

REPORTING YEAR 2020



Presented By

Crescenta Valley Water District

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

이 안내는 매우 중요합니다.
본인을 위해 번역인을 사용하십시요.

PWS ID#: 1910028

Our Mission
To provide high-quality water and wastewater services to the Crescenta Valley community in a dependable and economically responsible manner.

Our Vision
To secure sustainable water supplies and ensure infrastructure reliability, while furthering our commitment to accountability, transparency, and cost-effectiveness.

Your Agency At A Glance
CVWD provides approximately 33,000 customers with water and wastewater service through about 8,100 connections. The District has been serving the areas of La Crescenta, Montrose, and portions of Glendale and La Cañada since 1950.

The District maintains 95 miles of pipelines, 12 wells, 17 reservoirs, 34 booster pumps, 651 fire hydrants, stationary and mobile electrical generators, and emergency water interconnections with neighboring water agencies, ensuring a ready water supply whether it's for washing dishes or putting out a fire. The District can store up to 17.5 million gallons of water in its 17 steel and concrete reservoirs.

The District supplied approximately 1.37 billion gallons of water in the 2020 calendar year. This amount was slightly higher than the previous two years, possibly because of the COVID-19 stay-at-home orders and a dry winter with less than average rainfall.

The District maintains two emergency interconnections with City of Glendale and the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, which can be used to supply water to District customers in an emergency event.

Where Does Your Water Come From?
In 2020, approximately 49% of CVWD's source water came from local groundwater supply in the Verdugo Basin. The majority of CVWD's groundwater wells are located along the Verdugo Wash, south of Honolulu Avenue; they are around 200 feet below the surface.

Groundwater production was slightly less than the previous year. Water levels in the Verdugo Basin remain stable and still have not completely recovered from levels of an all-time historic low following what was one of the worst droughts on record in the Crescenta Valley. Local rainfall can take up to three years to reach the aquifer. Last year's rainfall total (October 2019 – Sept 2020) was just slightly below average at 20.52 inches. The current rainfall year (October 2020 - September 2021) has been a dry year, with about 7.5 inches of rainfall as of this report's publication date.

The remaining 51 % of CVWD's source water came from imported surface water supplied by Foothill Municipal Water District (FMWD), which is a member agency to Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). MWD supplies surface water from the State Water Project in Northern California, which is a 444-mile system that starts at Lake Oroville and comes all the way to Pasadena, and the Colorado River via the Colorado River Aquaduct, which carries water 242 miles from Lake Havasu to Lake Mathews in Riverside, California.

Important Health Information

Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctors.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) 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 or http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline.

Quality First

The State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW) requires community water systems to publish and make available an annual Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) to provide background on the quality of your water and to show compliance with federal and state drinking water standards.

The 2020 Annual Water Quality Report is a snapshot of the quality of your water and all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2020. As in years past, the Crescenta Valley Water District (CVWD) is committed to delivering the best-quality drinking water possible. We remain vigilant in meeting the challenges of new regulations, source water protection, water conservation, and community outreach and education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

QUESTIONS? For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please contact Christy Colby at (818) 248-3925 or email ccolby@cvwd.com.

How Long Can I Store Drinking Water?

The disinfectant in drinking water will eventually dissipate, even in a closed container. If that container housed bacteria before it was filled with tap water, the bacteria may continue to grow once the disinfectant has dissipated. Some experts believe that water could be stored up to six months before needing to be replaced. Refrigeration will help slow the bacterial growth.

Substances That Could Be in 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.

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 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 provide the same protection for public 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.

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 can 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, which 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 can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Source Water Assessment

The Crescenta Valley County Water District water system is located in Los Angeles County and serves the residents of La Crescenta and portions of Glendale, Montrose (the unincorporated area), and La Canada-Flintridge. There are approximately 8,100 metered service connections serving a population of approximately 33,000.

The drinking water sources for the Crescenta Valley County Water District water system are: Wells 01, 02, 05, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 14, and 16 and Pickens Tunnel, located between the Verdugo Mountains and the San Gabriel Mountains, in Crescenta Valley. The mountainous, rural recharge area is generally located to the south side of the San Gabriel Mountains, and to the north side of the Verdugo Mountains, channeling to the Crescenta Valley.

The local groundwater within the Verdugo Basin has historically contained levels of tetrachloroethylene (PCE) at concentrations that have varied over the last 40 years. PCE levels were detected in the early 1980's and have been monitored by Crescenta Valley Water District (CVWD) and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) since 1981. The initial findings showed that the levels were above the 5 µg/L maximum contaminant level (MCL) as established by the EPA and the California State Water Resources Board, Division of Drinking Water. The increased levels may be due to dry cleaning and auto shop businesses using existing septic systems that discharge to the groundwater table. In the early 1980s, CVWD constructed a sewer system and eliminated the septic systems. Once the sewer system was in place, the levels of PCE dramatically dropped within the Verdugo Basin. The EPA started monitoring PCE levels as part of the Superfund cleanup for the San Fernando Valley within the Verdugo Basin starting in 1990. In 1998, the EPA declared that the PCE levels in the Verdugo Basin were below the MCL and no further action was required with respect to the Superfund cleanup.

Water from all wells has nitrate concentration above the MCL. Water from Well 14 is high in PCE. Water from Wells 01, 07, and 09 is pumped to the Mills Booster Station and blended with imported water from the MWD connection at the Paschall Blending Station. The volume of the produced water is based on the water level in Oak Creek Reservoir.

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply:

- Dry cleaners
- Known Contaminant Plumes

The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants:

- Sewer collection systems
- Historic waste dumps/landfills

A copy of the completed assessment may be viewed at the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, 500 North Central Avenue, Suite 500, Glendale, CA 91203. You may request that a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting Chi Diep, P.E., District Engineer, at (818) 551-2054.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants.) 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 at (800) 426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Public Meetings

The District is governed by a five-member Board of Directors elected at-large. They meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month at CVWD's administration office. Public input is encouraged. Information regarding the District's Board meetings and upcoming events can be found on the District Web site at www.cvwd.com.

Additionally, the community is encouraged to attend special meetings such as budget workshops, strategic planning sessions, and rate hearings, which are advertised and posted on the District's Web site and at the District's Administration Office at 2700 Foothill Blvd.

> "The past year has brought all of us challenges and uncertainty. One thing that our customers can rest assured about is that our dedicated staff continues to provide you with clean, safe water 24-7."

At the time of this report, all CVWD meetings are virtual pursuant to the provisions of Executive Order N-29-20 regarding COVID-19 issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on March 18, 2020; the public may not attend the meetings in person. Any member of the public may participate in CVWD meetings by using a touch-tone phone or by utilizing Zoom teleconferencing. Please see CVWD's Web site for additional information as these requirements might change in the near future.

Treatment

CVWD is required by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (SWRCB) to test its groundwater for organic chemicals, minerals, metals, and bacteria; and is also required to perform daily, weekly, and monthly tests for bacteria, nitrates, and total Trihalomethanes in the distribution system. Lead and copper are tested in tap water from selected residences. MWD is responsible for water quality testing of their treated surface water.

Local groundwater is disinfected with chlorine before blending with MWD's imported surface water. The Verdugo Basin groundwater contains nitrates, which is likely due to old septic systems and historical agricultural practices in the Crescenta Valley. CVWD treats some of the groundwater through a nitrate removal process at CVWD's Glenwood Facility and some of the water through a biological treatment process at Well 2. The remaining groundwater is blended with imported surface water to lower the nitrate levels below the maximum contaminant level (MCL). The blend of imported surface water and groundwater delivered to your residence depends upon where you live in the community and the time of year.

Test Results

Your water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule. The water delivered to your home or business must meet specific health standards as required by Federal and State regulations. Here, we show only those substances that were detected in our water. (A complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request.)

Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The State recommends monitoring for certain substances less often 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.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

				Crescenta Valley Water District		Imported water from Metropolitan Water District's F.E. Weymouth Plant (MWD)			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Aluminum (ppm)	2020	1	0.6	ND	ND–ND	0.149	0.08–0.21	No	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Arsenic (ppb)	2020	10	0.004	ND	ND–8.6	ND	ND–ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppb)	2020	1	2	0.096	0.007–0.13	105	105–105	No	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Bromate (ppb)	2020	10	0.1	NA	NA	2.0[1]	ND–4.2	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chlorobenzene (ppb)	2020	100	100	ND	ND–0.7	ND	ND–ND	No	Discharge from chemical and agricultural chemical factories
Control of DBP Precursors [TOC] (Units)	2020	TT	NA	NA	NA	2.4	2.1–2.6	No	Various natural and man-made sources
Fluoride (ppm)	2020	2.0	1	0.48[2]	0.26–0.62[2]	0.7[3]	0.6–0.8[3]	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2020	15	(0)	3.9	2.4–7.5	2[4]	1–3[4]	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity[5] (pCi/L)	2020	50	(0)	NA	NA	4	ND–6	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2020	60	NA	12.8	7.1–18	6.2[6]	3.3–7.3[6]	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Mercury [inorganic] (ppb)	2020	2	1.2	ND	ND–0.49	ND	ND–ND	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills and cropland
Nitrate [as nitrate] (ppm)	2020	45	45	19.9[7]	12.4–33.2[7]	ND	ND–ND	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Radium 228 (pCi/L)	2020	5	0.019	NA	NA	ND	ND–2	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	2020	50	30	ND	ND–13	ND	ND–ND	No	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2020	80	NA	49.2	27–78.13	24[8]	20–26[8]	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Tetrachloroethylene [PCE] (ppb)	2020	5	0.06[7]	0.35[7]	ND–0.62	ND	ND–ND	No	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, and auto shops (metal degreaser)
Turbidity (NTU)	2020	TT	NA	NA	NA	100	0.04–100[8]	No	Soil runoff
Uranium (pCi/L)	2020	20	0.43	4.3	1.6–12	2	1–3	No	Erosion of natural deposits

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

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppb)	2020	1.3	0.3	315	0/39	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2020	15	0.2	2.1	0/39	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

				Crescenta Valley Water District		Imported water from Metropolitan Water District's F.E. Weymouth Plant (MWD)			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Aluminum[9] (ppb)	2020	200	NS	ND	ND–ND	149	80–210	No	Erosion of natural deposits; residual from some surface water treatment processes
Chloride (ppm)	2020	500	NS	79	6–98	93	93–93	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (Units)	2020	15	NS	2	2–2	1	1–1	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
Corrosivity[10] (Units)	2020	Non-corrosive	NS	NA	NA	12.4	12.4–12.4	No	Natural or industrially influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon, and oxygen in the water; affected by temperature and other factors
Iron (ppb)	2020	300	NS	79	ND–630[11]	NA	NA	Yes[12]	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2020	50	NS	ND	ND–ND	12	11–12	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor–Threshold (Units)	2020	3	NS	1	1–1.0	2	2–2	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2020	1,600	NS	801	344–891	966	963–968	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2020	500	NS	108	27–130	213	211–215	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2020	1,000	NS	544	220–630	590[13]	587–593	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity[14] (Units)	2020	5	NS	0.15	0.05–0.74	ND	ND–ND	No	Soil runoff

UNREGULATED AND OTHER SUBSTANCES [15]

		Crescenta Valley Water District		Imported water from Metropolitan Water District's F.E. Weymouth Plant (MWD)		
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alkalinity (ppm)	2020	158	120–190	118	118–119	Naturally occurring
Bicarbonate (ppm)	2020	192	140–230	NA	NA	Naturally occurring
Boron (ppb)	2020	ND	ND–ND	130	130–130	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Calcium (ppm)	2020	80	36–93	65	65–65	Naturally occurring
Chlorate (ppb)	2020	NA	NA	76	76–76	By-product of drinking water chlorination; industrial processes
Chloroform (ppb)	2020	0.8	ND–1.9	ND	ND–ND	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Hardness as CaCO3 (ppm)	2020	312	140–360 [16]	262	256–268	Leaching from natural deposits
Magnesium (ppm)	2020	27	11–31	26	25–26	Naturally occurring
Potassium (ppm)	2020	3.1	2.4–3.9	4.6	4.5–4.6	Naturally occurring
pH [7] (Units)	2020	7.69	7.10–8.10	8.1	8.1–8.1	Naturally occurring
Sodium (ppm)	2020	17	34–40	95	93–97	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence

[1] Compliance with the State and Federal bromate MCL is based on the running annual average (RAA). No MCL exceedance occurred in the Weymouth treatment plant effluent.
[2] The results reported for fluoride are from samples collected within the District's Distribution System and reflect fluoride values after groundwater has been blended with imported water from MWD.
[3] Metropolitan was in compliance with all provisions of the State's fluoridation system requirements. Fluoride feed systems were temporarily out of service during treatment plant shutdowns and/or maintenance work in 2020, resulting in occasional fluoride levels below 0.7 mg/L .
[4] Data are from samples collected in 2017 for the required triennial monitoring (2017 - 2019) until the next samples are collected.
[5] The State Water Resources Control Board considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.
[6] HAA5 and TTHMs noncompliance samples collected at treatment plant effluents.
[7] Results reported represent samples collected within the District's Distribution System.
[8] Metropolitan monitors turbidity at the Combined Filter Effluent locations using continuous and grab samples. Turbidity, a measure of cloudiness of the water, is an indicator of treatment performance. Turbidity was in compliance with the TT primary drinking water standard and the secondary drinking water standard of less than 5 NTU.
[9] Compliance with the State MCL for aluminum is based on Running annual average (RAA). No exceedances occurred in the Weymouth plant effluents.
[10] Measured by the Aggressive Index (AI). AI >= 12.0 = Non-aggressive water; AI 10.0 - 11.9 = Moderately aggressive water; AI <= 10.0 = Highly aggressive water. Reference: ANSI/AWWA Standard C400-93 (R98).
[11] Samples collected in the Distribution System did not contain iron above the Secondary MCL of 300. The result of 630 ppb at Well 1 was a one-time incident that occurred when the well was initially started.
[12] This is a Crescenta Valley Water District violation only.
[13] Metropolitan's TDS compliance data are based on flow-weighted monthly composite samples collected twice per year (April and October). The 12-month statistical summary of flow-weighted data is reported in Other Parameters.
[14] Turbidity results are based on samples collected within the District's Distribution System.
[15] Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps the U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.
[16] To convert the data from mg/L CaCO3 hardness to grains per gallon hardness, divide the average by 17.1. Thus: 312 / 17.1 = 18.2 grains per gallon

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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 (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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. EPA.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

NA: Not applicable

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NS: No standard

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

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

PHG (Public Health Goal): 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 EPA.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

TT (Treatment Technique): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter): A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.