CITY OF EL MONTE
WATER DEPARTMENT

2019 Water Quality Report

DATA FOR 2018

Your 2019 Water Quality Report

The City of El Monte is committed to keeping you informed about the quality of your drinking water. This water quality report is provided to you annually. It includes information describing where your drinking water comes from, the constituents found in your drinking water, and how the water quality compares with the regulatory standards.

Where Does Our Drinking Water Come From?

The City of El Monte's water supply comes from groundwater in the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin extracted by production wells located in the City of El Monte. The water is disinfected with chlorine before it is delivered to your home.

Questions About the Quality of Your Water? Contact Us for Answers.

For more information or questions regarding this report, please contact Sal Mendez at (626) 580-2058.

Regularly scheduled meetings of the City of El Monte's City Council are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at 11333 Valley Boulevard, El Monte, California, 91731-3293. These meetings provide an opportunity for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of your water.

The Quality of Your Water Is Our Primary Concern

What Is the Quality of Our Drinking Water?

The City of El Monte routinely tests for chemical and biological contaminants in your drinking water in accordance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) monitoring requirements.

The chart in this report shows the results of our testing for the year 2018.

The State allows us to test for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants in groundwater do not change frequently. Some of our data, although representative, are more than one year old.

The chart lists all the contaminants detected in your drinking water that have Federal and State drinking water standards. Detected unregulated contaminants of interest are also included.

During 2018, drinking water provided by the City of El Monte met or surpassed all Federal and State drinking water standards. We remain dedicated to providing you with a reliable supply of high quality drinking water.

What Contaminants May Be Present in the Sources of Our Drinking 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**, 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.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, that can be naturally-occurring or 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 gasoline stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application and septic systems.

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, 800-426-4791, or by visiting them on the web at www.epa.gov/safewater.

Are There Any Precautions the Public Should Consider?

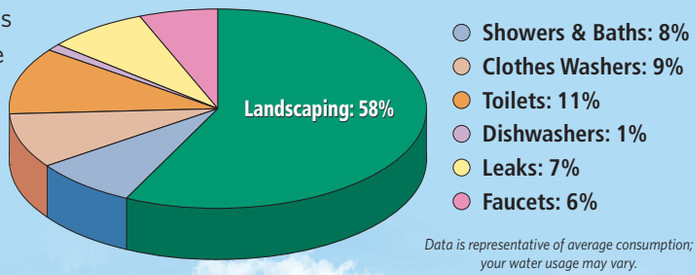
Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, elderly persons, and infants 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, 800-426-4791, or by visiting them on the web at www.epa.gov/safewater.

How Residential Water is Used throughout Southern California

Outdoor watering of lawns and gardens makes up approximately 60% of home water use.

By cutting your outdoor watering by 1 or 2 days a week, you can dramatically reduce your overall water use.



Data is representative of average consumption; your water usage may vary.

Information You Should Know about Drinking Water

— Water Quality Issues that Could Affect Your Health —

About Lead in Tap Water

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious 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 El Monte 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 at 800-426-4791, or on the web at www.epa.gov/lead.

About Nitrate

Although nitrate in your drinking water never exceeds the MCL of 10 milligrams per liter (mg/L), nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/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 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 ask for advice from your health care provider.

Drinking Water Source Assessment

In accordance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, an assessment of the drinking water sources for the City of El Monte was completed in December 2002. The purpose of the drinking water source assessment is to promote source water protection by identifying types of activities in the proximity of the drinking water sources which could pose a threat to the water quality. The assessment concluded that the City of El Monte's sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities or facilities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: airport maintenance/fueling areas, dry cleaners, metal plating/finishing/fabricating, fleet/truck/ bus terminals and gasoline stations. In addition, the sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities or facilities not associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: boat services/ repair/refinishing and leaking underground storage tanks.

A copy of the complete assessment is available at the City of El Monte Water Department, 3990 Arden Drive, El Monte, California 91731.

You may request a summary of the assessment to be sent to you by contacting Sal Mendez at (626) 580-2058.

Want Additional Information?

There's a wealth of information on the internet about Drinking Water Quality and water issues in general. Some good sites — both local and national — to begin your own research are:

City of El Monte Water Department: www.ci.el-monte.ca.us/325/Water-Department

State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water: www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency: www.epa.gov/safewater

Water Conservation Tips: www.bewaterwise.com • www.saveourwater.com

What are Water Quality Standards?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and DDW prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. DDW regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water standards established by USEPA and DDW set limits for substances that may affect consumer health or aesthetic qualities of drinking 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 PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible.
- **Secondary MCLs:** Set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.
- **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 pathogens.
- **Primary Drinking Water Standard:** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.
- **Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **Notification Level (NL):** An advisory level which, if exceeded, requires the drinking water system to notify the governing body of the local agency in which users of the drinking water reside (e.g., city council, county board of supervisors).

What is a Water Quality Goal?

In addition to mandatory water quality standards, USEPA and DDW have set voluntary water quality goals for some contaminants. Water quality goals are often set at such low levels that they are not achievable in practice and are not directly measurable. Nevertheless, these goals provide useful guideposts and direction for water management practices. The chart in this report includes three 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 USEPA.
- **Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment 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.
- **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.

How are Contaminants Measured?

Water is sampled and tested throughout the year. Contaminants are measured in:

- parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
- parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
- parts per trillion (ppt) or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

CITY OF EL MONTE 2018 DRINKING WATER QUALITY

City of El Monte Groundwater

Constituent (and Units)	MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	DLR	Average Results[a]	Range[a] Minimum – Maximum	Most Recent Tests	Typical Origins
Primary Drinking Water Standards — Health Related Standards							
ORGANIC CHEMICALS[b]							
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (µg/L)	5	0.06	0.5	0.68	ND – 3.2	2018	Discharge from industrial activities
INORGANIC CHEMICALS							
Fluoride (mg/L)	2	1	0.1	0.36	0.27 – 0.45	2018	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate as N (mg/L)	10	10	0.4	5.3	2.2 – 8.7	2018	Leaching from fertilizer use
RADIOACTIVITY[c]							
Gross Alpha Activity (pCi/L)	15	(0)	3	3.5	ND – 7	2018	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.43	1	4.3	1.9 – 7.8	2018	Erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Drinking Water Standards — Aesthetic Standards, Not Health-Related							
Chloride (mg/L)	500	NA	NA	21	13 – 30	2018	Erosion of natural deposits
Iron (mg/L)	300	NA	100	<100	ND – 86	2018	Erosion of natural deposits; industrial wastes
Specific Conductance (µmho/cm)	1,600	NA	NA	618	463 – 804	2018	Substances that form ions in water
Sulfate (mg/L)	500	NA	0.5	47	30 – 66	2018	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	1,000	NA	NA	330	220 – 490	2018	Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5	NA	0.1	0.13	ND – 0.48	2018	Erosion of natural deposits
Other Constituents of Interest							
Hardness as $CaCO_3$ (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA	286	204 – 416	2018	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (mg/L)	NA	NA	NA	18	13 – 26	2018	Erosion of natural deposits

Unregulated Constituents Requiring Monitoring

Constituent (and Units)	Notification Level	PHG or (MCLG)	Average Results	Range Minimum – Maximum	Most Recent Tests
1,4-Dioxane (µg/L)	1	NA	0.15	0.12 – 0.17	2015
Chlorate (µg/L)	800	NA	140	120 – 150	2015
Chromium, Hexavalent (µg/L)	NA	0.02	2	1.8 – 2.1	2015
Chromium, Total (µg/L)[d]	MCL = 50	(100)	1.8	1.6 – 1.9	2015
Molybdenum, Total (µg/L)	NA	NA	1.4	1.3 – 1.5	2015
Strontium, Total (µg/L)	NA	NA	310	270 – 340	2015
Vanadium, Total (µg/L)	50	NA	3.4	2.8 – 3.9	2015

2018 City of El Monte Distribution System

Constituent (and Units)	MCL or [MRDL]	(MCLG) or [MRDLG]	DLR	Average Results[a]	Range[a] Minimum – Maximum	Most Recent Tests	Typical Origins
Primary Drinking Water Standards — Health Related Standards							
DISINFECTANT RESIDUAL[e]							
Chlorine Residual (mg/L)	[4]	[4]	NA	0.6	0.2 – 0.97	2018	Drinking water disinfectant
DISINFECTANT BYPRODUCTS[e]							
Haloacetic Acids (HAA) (µg/L)	60	NA	1 – 2	0.75	ND – 1.6	2018	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (µg/L)	80	NA	1	4	ND – 9.9	2018	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

Unregulated Constituents Requiring Monitoring in the Distribution System

Constituent (and Units)	Notification Level	PHG or (MCLG)	Average Results	Range Minimum – Maximum	Most Recent Tests
Chlorate (µg/L)	800	NA	110	110	2015
Chromium, Hexavalent (µg/L)	NA	0.02	1.8	1.8	2015
Chromium, Total (µg/L)[d]	MCL = 50	(100)	1.6	1.6	2015
Molybdenum, Total (µg/L)	NA	NA	1.5	1.5	2015
Strontium, Total (µg/L)	NA	NA	350	350	2015
Vanadium, Total (µg/L)	50	NA	2.9	2.9	2015

City of El Monte Residential Taps

Constituent (and Units)	Action Level (AL)	PHG	DLR	90th Percentile Value	Sites Exceeding AL / Number of Sites	Most Recent Tests	Typical Origins
Copper (mg/L)[f]	1.3	0.3	0.05	0.83	0 / 30	2018	Corrosion of household plumbing system
Lead (µg/L)[f]	15	0.2	5	6.3	0 / 30	2018	Corrosion of household plumbing system

NOTES

(a) The results reported in the table are average and range (minimum and maximum) concentrations of the constituents detected in your drinking water during 2018 or from the most recent tests, except for HAA, TTHM, Lead, Copper and Chlorine Residual which are described below.
(b) All wells and treated water were sampled in 2018.
(c) Wells were sampled in 2012, 2014, 2016, 2017, and 2018 for radioactivity according to the monitoring requirements.
(d) Total chromium is regulated with an MCL of 50 µg/L but was not detected, based on the DLR of 10 µg/L.
Total chromium was included as part of the unregulated constituents requiring monitoring.
(e) Samples were collected in the distribution system in 2018. The highest running annual averages for Chlorine Residual, HAA, and TTHM are reported as "Result." The maximum and minimum of the individual results for Chlorine Residual, HAA, and TTHM are reported as "Range."
(f) Lead and Copper samples were collected at 30 residences in September 2018 and October 2018. The 90th percentile concentrations are reported in the table. Copper was detected in 23 samples. None of the Copper samples exceeded the Action Level. Lead was detected in 5 samples. None of the Lead samples exceeded the Action Level.
During 2018, no school submitted a request to be sampled for lead.

LEGEND

AL = Action Level
DLR = Detection Limit for purposes of Reporting
< = Detected but average of all samples is below the DLR
MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level
MCLG = Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
mg/L = parts per million or milligrams per liter
MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level
MRDLG = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
NA = No Applicable Limit
ND = Not Detected at DLR
ng/L = parts per trillion or nanograms per liter
NL = Notification Level
NTU = Nephelometric Turbidity Units
pCi/L = picoCuries per lite
PHG = Public Health Goal
µg/L = parts per billion or micrograms per liter
µmho/cm = micromhos per centimeter

**For more information or questions, please contact Mr. Sal Mendez,
City of El Monte Water Department, 3990 Arden Drive, El Monte, CA 91731. Phone: (626) 580-2058.**

You Can Depend On Us to Deliver Quality Water

Turn the tap and the water flows, as if by magic. Or so it seems. The reality is considerably different, however. Delivering high-quality drinking water to our customers is a scientific and engineering feat that requires considerable effort and talent to ensure the water is always there, always safe to drink.

Because tap water is highly regulated by state and federal laws, water treatment and distribution operators must be licensed and are required to complete on-the-job training and technical education before becoming a state certified operator.

Our licensed water professionals have an understanding of a wide range of subjects, including mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, and engineering. Some of the tasks they complete on a regular basis include:

- Operating and maintaining equipment to purify and clarify water
- Monitoring and inspecting machinery, meters, gauges, and operating conditions
- Conducting tests and inspections on water and evaluating the results
- Documenting and reporting test results and system operations to regulatory agencies
- Serving our community through customer support, education, and outreach

So, the next time you turn on your faucet, think of the skilled professionals who make every drop count.

City of El Monte
Water Department
3990 Arden Drive
El Monte, California 91731

For more information or questions regarding this report, please contact Sal Mendez at (626) 580-2058.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Para mas información ó traducción, favor de contactar a Sal Mendez. Telefono: (626) 580-2058.

此份有關你的食水報告,
內有重要資料和訊息,請找
他人為你翻譯及解釋清楚。