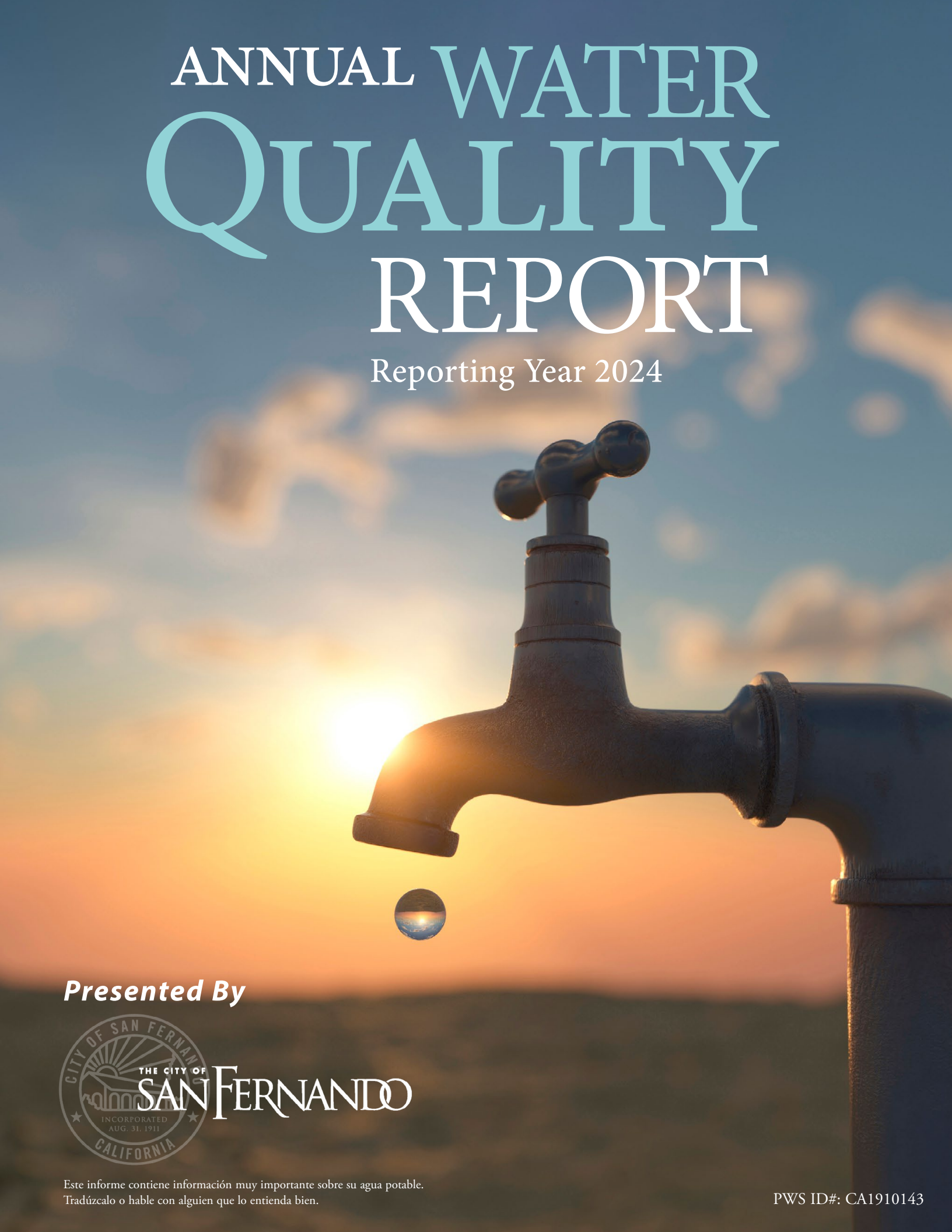
ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2024



Presented By

THE CITY OF SAN FERNANDO

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

PWS ID#: CA1910143

Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2024. Included are details about your sources of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of San Fernando, incorporated in 1911, provides water service to an area of approximately 2.42 square miles with an approximate population of 23,946. Annually, the city serves approximately one billion gallons of water to our customers. San Fernando residents are fortunate to have three sources of water: (1) local groundwater wells that draw water from the Sylmar basin; (2) imported, treated water from the Metropolitan Water District (MWD) emergency connection, which delivers surface water from the Weymouth plant; and (3) a connection from the City of Los Angeles distribution system that is used only in extreme emergencies. In 2024 the city used MWD surface water for two months; in March the water system added treatment systems to two of our groundwater wells, and the city transitioned to local groundwater.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our city council meetings and voice your concerns about your drinking water. The city council meets the first and third Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 117 Macneil Street. Visit the San Fernando website for city council meeting schedules at ci.san-fernando.ca.us/city-council/.

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 can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health-care providers. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)/Centers 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 or epa.gov/safewater.

How Is My Water Treated and Purified?

There are three treatment processes. The first consists of some basic steps. Groundwater is drawn from the Sylmar basin, then chlorine is injected in a sodium hypochlorite solution of 0.8 percent for disinfection (as a precaution against any bacteria that may be present). The city's wells use an on-site chlorine generation (OSG) system in which the 0.8 percent sodium hypochlorite solution is used as a disinfectant agent. Through an electrolytic process, the OSG operates automatically, requiring only salt, water (softened), and electricity to produce the sodium hypochlorite solution. We carefully monitor on a daily basis the amount of chlorine injected at each well site. Water is then pumped to reservoirs and the distribution system, where it flows by gravity through the distribution system into your home or business. Likewise, chlorine residuals are monitored from the distribution system daily to ensure a reliable supply of drinking water.

Another treatment uses a proprietary ion exchange process for removal of nitrate anions from the water. A self-contained unit is installed in-line between a well discharge and the distribution system. Nitrate removal is accomplished using ion exchange resin regenerated with a sodium chloride (brine) solution. Sodium chloride is the only treatment chemical used for this system function. Nitrate monitoring is also conducted on a daily basis.

The City of San Fernando, as a member agency of MWD, treats its water through the Weymouth surface water plant, first disinfecting it with ozone treatment, then coagulation, flocculation, sedimentation, and filtration, and finally with additional chloramine disinfection prior to delivery to San Fernando.

Chloramine disinfection is the primary disinfection used by MWD for the distribution system. San Fernando has changed over to complete chloramine disinfection when importing MWD finished water.

Questions?

If you should have any questions relating to your drinking water, or for additional information regarding this report, you may contact Water Operations Manager Victor Meza at (818) 898-1293.

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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which 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, which are by-products 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 the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) 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. 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.

Lead in Home Plumbing

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. The City of San Fernando is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure it is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling does not remove lead from water.

Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, or doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead or galvanized service line requiring replacement, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have it tested, contact Victor Meza at (818) 898-1293. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by October 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. To view the lead service inventory, call the City of San Fernando Public Works Department at (818) 898-1293. Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.

Source Water Assessment

In August 2002, the California Department of Public Health, Drinking Water Field Operations Branch, Central District, conducted a drinking water source assessment for the City of San Fernando Water Division. The purpose of the assessment was to determine the vulnerability of our water sources to "possible contaminating activities." This assessment may be found at www.mwdh2o.com/water-quality-and-treatment/. The following are the results for Wells 2A, 3, 4A, and 7A.

SOURCE	VULNERABILITY ASSOCIATED WITH DETECTED CONTAMINANTS	VULNERABILITY NOT ASSOCIATED WITH ANY DETECTED CONTAMINANTS
Well 2A	Housing-high density; Parks; Septic systems-high density; Apartments and condominiums	Sewer collection systems
Well 3	Housing-high density; Parks; Septic systems-high density; apartments and condominiums	Sewer collection systems, Automobile gas stations, Dry cleaners
Well 4A	Sewer collection systems; Dry cleaners	None
Well 7A	Housing-high density; Septic systems-high density; Apartments and condominiums	Automobile gas stations

Water Main Flushing

Distribution mains (pipes) convey water to homes, businesses, and hydrants in your neighborhood. The water entering distribution mains is of very high quality; however, water quality can deteriorate in areas of the distribution mains over time. Water main flushing is the process of cleaning the interior of water distribution mains by sending a rapid flow of water through them.

Flushing maintains water quality in several ways. For example, flushing removes sediments like iron and manganese. Although iron and manganese do not pose health concerns, they can affect the taste, clarity, and color of the water. Additionally, sediments can shield microorganisms from the disinfecting power of chlorine, contributing to the growth of microorganisms within distribution mains. Flushing helps remove stale water and ensures the presence of fresh water with sufficient dissolved oxygen and disinfectant levels and an acceptable taste and smell.

During flushing operations in your neighborhood, some short-term deterioration of water quality, though uncommon, is possible. You should avoid tap water for household uses at that time. If you do use the tap, allow your cold water to run for a few minutes at full velocity before use, and avoid using hot water to prevent sediment accumulation in your hot water tank. Please contact us if you have any questions or if you would like more information on our water main flushing schedule.

Water Conservation Tips

You can play a role in conserving water and save yourself money in the process by becoming conscious of the amount of water your household is using and looking for ways to use less whenever you can. It is not hard to conserve water. Here are a few tips:

- Automatic dishwashers use three to six gallons for every cycle, regardless of how many dishes are loaded. So get a run for your money and load it to capacity.
- Turn off the tap when brushing your teeth.
- Check every faucet in your home for leaks. Just a slow drip can waste 15 to 20 gallons a day. Fix it and you can save almost 6,000 gallons per year.
- Check your toilets for leaks by putting a few drops of food coloring in the tank. Watch for a few minutes to see if the color shows up in the bowl. It is not uncommon to lose up to 100 gallons a day from an invisible toilet leak. Fix it and you save more than 30,000 gallons a year.

- Use your water meter to detect hidden leaks. Simply turn off all taps and water-using appliances. Then check the meter after 15 minutes. If it moved, you have a leak.

What's a Cross-Connection?

Cross-connections that contaminate drinking water distribution lines are a major concern. A cross-connection is formed at any point where a drinking water line connects to equipment (boilers), systems containing chemicals (air-conditioning systems, fire sprinkler systems, irrigation systems), or water sources of questionable quality. Cross-connection contamination can occur when the pressure in the equipment or system is greater than the pressure inside the drinking water line (backpressure). Contamination can also occur when the pressure in the drinking water line drops due to fairly routine occurrences (main breaks, heavy water demand), causing contaminants to be sucked out from the equipment and into the drinking water line (backsiphonage).

Outside water taps and garden hoses tend to be the most common sources of cross-connection contamination at home. The garden hose creates a hazard when submerged in a swimming pool or attached to a chemical sprayer for weed killing. Garden hoses that are left lying on the ground may be contaminated by fertilizers, cesspools, or garden chemicals. Improperly installed valves in your toilet could also be a source of cross-connection contamination.

Community water supplies are continuously jeopardized by cross-connections unless appropriate valves, known as backflow prevention devices, are installed and maintained. We have surveyed industrial, commercial, and institutional facilities in the service area to make sure that potential cross-connections are identified and eliminated or protected by a backflow preventer. We also inspect and test backflow preventers to make sure that they provide maximum protection. For more information on backflow prevention, contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show 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. In late 2023, prior to the activation of our ion exchange treatment systems, we conducted total regulatory water sampling on our groundwater wells. The next total regulatory sampling is due in 2025.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if it needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

				San Fernando		Metropolitan Water District of Southern California			
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)	2024	1	0.6	NA	NA	0.093	ND–0.15	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Residue from some surface water treatment processes
Barium (ppm)	2023	1	2	0.143	0.13–0.16	0.124[1]	ND–0.16[1]	No	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Chloramines (ppm)	2024	[4.0 (as Cl2)]	[4 (as Cl2)]	NA	NA	2.5	1.6–3	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Chromium, Total (ppb)	2023	50	(100)	4.5	3.6–5.0	NA	NA	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/L)	2023	5	(0)	0.24	ND–0.29	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Control of DBP Precursors [TOC] (ppm)	2024	TT	NA	NA	NA	2.4	2.1–2.6	No	Various natural and human-made sources
Fluoride (ppm)	2024	2.0	1	0.32	0.24–0.37	0.7	0.3–0.8	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive that promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Free Chlorine Residual (ppm)	2024	[4.0]	[4.0]	1.50	0.5–2.5	NA	NA	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2023	15	(0)	1.53	ND–1.9	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
HAA5 [sum of 5 haloacetic acids] (ppb)	2024	60	NA	19	ND–23	6.2	ND–4.2	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	2024	10	20	NA	NA	ND	ND–15	No	Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities; Erosion of natural deposits
Radium 226 (pCi/L)	2023	5	0.05	0.06	ND–0.07	NA	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Tetrachloroethylene [PCE] (ppb)	2024	5	0.06	0.91	ND–0.91	NA	NA	No	Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, and auto shops (metal degreaser)
Trichlorofluoromethane (ppb)	2024	150	1,300	0.5	ND–1.5	NA	NA	No	Discharge from industrial factories; Degreasing solvent; Propellant and refrigerant
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2024	80	NA	19.2	5.1–49	32	28–37	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity (NTU)	2023	TT	NA	0.2	NA	0.04[1]	NA	No	Soil runoff
Uranium (pCi/L)	2024	20	0.43	NA	NA	ND	1–3	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (ppb)	2023	30	0.43	2	ND–2.5	ND	ND–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)	RANGE LOW-HIGH	SITES ABOVE AL/ TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2023	1.3	0.3	0.051	ND–0.3	0/30	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2023	15	0.2	2.3	ND–4.7	0/30	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

				San Fernando		Metropolitan Water District of Southern California			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2023	500	NS	29	ND–50	106[1]	96–116[1]	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Seawater influence
Color (units)	2024	15	NS	NA	NA	1	ND-2	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
Corrosivity (units)	2024	Noncorrosive	NS	NA	NA	12.5	12.4–12.6	No	Natural or industrially influenced balance of hydrogen, carbon, and oxygen affected by temperature and other factors
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2024	1,600	NS	NA	NA	996	912–1,080	No	Substances that form ions when in water; Seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2024	500	NS	NA	NA	225	200–250	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2024	1,000	NS	NA	NA	632	573–690	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	2023	5	NS	0.2	ND–0.25	ND[1]	NA	No	Soil runoff

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES[2]

		San Fernando		Metropolitan Water District of Southern California		
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2022	4.3	0.84–11	NA	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Bromoform (ppb)	2022	4.36	0.81–11	NA	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chloroform (ppb)	2024	0.63	ND–0.63	NA	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Hardness, Total [as CaCO3] (ppm)	2023	240	220–250	NA	NA	Erosion; Leaching of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	2023	29	23–36	100	NA	NA

[1] Sampled in 2024.

[2] Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps the U.S. EPA and SWRCB determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

Level 1 Assessment Update

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms, indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct an assessment to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during this assessment.

During the past year, we were required to conduct one Level 1 assessment. One Level 1 assessment was completed. In addition, we were required to take one corrective action, and we completed this action.

OTHER UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES [2]

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	San Fernando AMOUNT DETECTED	San Fernando RANGE LOW-HIGH	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California AMOUNT DETECTED	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Aggressiveness Index (units)	2023	12.6	12–13	12.5	NA	NA
Alkalinity, Total [as CaCO3] (ppm)	2023	196	170–240	127	126–128	NA
Bicarbonate [as HCO3] (ppm)	2023	196	170–240	NA	NA	Naturally occurring
Calcium (ppm)	2023	62	59–69	70	68–71	NA
Carbonate [as CO3] (ppm)	2023	ND	NA	9.4	5.7–11	Naturally occurring
Chlorate (ppb)	2023	NA	NA	88	NA	By-product of drinking water chlorination; Industrial processes
Chloride (ppm)	2023	29	ND–50	NA	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Seawater influence
Hardness, Total [as CaCO3] (ppm)	2023	NA	NA	279	277–281	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Sum of polyvalent cations, generally magnesium and calcium present in the water
Iron (ppm)	2023	0.012	ND–0.013	NA	NA	Leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Langelier Index at 60 degrees C (units)	2023	1.2	1.1–1.4	NA	NA	NA
Magnesium (ppm)	2023	23	19–24	26	25–26	NA
Perfluorodecanoic Acid [PFDA] (ppm)	2021	6.7	ND–20	NA	NA	Leaching from natural deposits
Perfluoropentanoic Acid [PFPeA] (ppt)	2023	NA	NA	2	NA	Runoff/leaching from landfills; Used in fire-retarding foams and various industrial processes and wastewater treatment plants and biosolids
pH (units)	2023	8	NA	8.1	NA	NA
Potassium (ppm)	2023	2.8	2.5–3.4	4.6	4.5–4.8	NA
Specific Conductance (µmho/cm)	2023	746	610–1,000	NA	NA	Substances that form ions when in water; Seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2023	60	48–77	NA	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Vanadium (ppb)	2023	7.2	6.2–8.4	NA	NA	Naturally occurring; Industrial waste discharge

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

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in the water system.

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).

ppt (parts per trillion): One part substance per trillion parts water (or nanograms per liter).

TON (Threshold Odor Number): A measure of odor in water.

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

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

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