



Consumer Confidence Report

REPORTING YEAR 2019

WHERE DOES MY DRINKING WATER COME FROM?

During calendar year 2019, the water supply for the City of Sierra Madre came from one source: (1) groundwater from wells in the East Raymond Basin. All water is treated with chlorine disinfection before it is delivered to your home.

WHAT ARE WATER QUALITY STANDARDS?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) 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 standards established by USEPA and DDW are 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.

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.

Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

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 (i.e. city council, board of directors, and county board of supervisors).

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

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 the USEPA.

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.

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.

WHAT CONTAMINANTS MAY BE PRESENT IN SOURCES OF DRINKING WATER?

The sources of drinking water generally 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 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 can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gasoline stations, urban stormwater runoff, agriculture 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 (1-800-426-4791).

Your drinking water is regularly tested using DDW approved methods to ensure its safety. The table in this report lists all the constituents detected in your drinking water that have Federal and State drinking water standards. Detected unregulated constituents and other constituents of interest are also included.

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, 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 (1-800-426-4791).

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 Sierra Madre 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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <https://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water/basic-information-about-lead-drinking-water>.

FLUORIDE VARIANCE

The City of Sierra Madre has been granted a Fluoride Variance from DDW. The City of Sierra Madre first requested the variance in 1994. On June 6, 1995, DDW conducted a public hearing in the City of Sierra Madre to determine if there was substantial public opposition to the City receiving a variance from the California drinking water standard for fluoride. DDW found that there is not substantial community opposition to the City receiving the variance from the California drinking water standard for fluoride.

In the meantime, DDW has raised the MCL for fluoride to 2 ppm with a PHG of 1 ppm. In 2019, the City on an average did not exceed the PHG of 1 ppm and the MCL of 2 ppm in water delivered to our customers. It should be noted that due to the fluoride concentration of our water, additional fluoride products are not necessary for children.

DRINKING WATER SOURCE ASSESSMENT

In accordance with the federal Safe Drinking Water Act, an assessment of the drinking water sources for the City of Sierra Madre was completed in November 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 City of Sierra Madre's groundwater wells generally are not vulnerable to contamination. However, wells are located within the proximity of gasoline stations, chemical and petroleum storage facilities, automobile repair shops, and areas of fertilizer/pesticide applications, which are possible sources of contamination.



The City of Sierra Madre is committed to keeping you informed about the quality of your drinking water. This report is provided to you annually and includes information about where your drinking water comes from, the constituents found in your drinking water and how the water quality compares with the regulatory standards. We remain dedicated to providing you with a reliable supply of high quality drinking water.

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.

2019 CITY OF SIERRA MADRE GROUNDWATER QUALITY ¹

Chemical	MCL	PHG or (MCLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detections	MCL Violations?	Most Recent Testing	Next Scheduled Testing	Typical Source of Contaminant
Primary Drinking Water Standards--Health-Related Standards								
INORGANIC CHEMICALS								
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.64	0.6 - 0.69	No	2017	2020	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate as N (ppm)	10	10	2.5	1.6 - 2.8	No	Quarterly	--	Fertilizers, septic tanks
RADIOLOGICALS								
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.43	<1	ND - 1.4	No	2015	2021	Erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Standards ²								
Chloride (ppm)	500	n/a	57	48 - 68	No	2017	2020	Erosion of natural deposits
Odor (threshold odor number)	3	n/a	1	1	No	2017	2020	Naturally present in the groundwater
Specific Conductance (µmho/cm)	1,600	n/a	710	660 - 760	No	2017	2020	Substances that form ions in water
Sulfate (ppm)	500	n/a	120	98 - 150	No	2019	2022	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1,000	n/a	410	270 - 460	No	2019	2022	Erosion of natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5	n/a	<0.1	ND - 0.15	No	2017	2020	Erosion of natural deposits
Unregulated Chemicals								
Alkalinity, total as CaCO ³ (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	140	130 - 140	n/a	2017	2020	Run off/leaching from natural deposits
Calcium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	90	83 - 100	n/a	2017	2020	Run off/leaching from natural deposits
Hardness, total as CaCO ³ (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	310	280 - 340	n/a	2017	2020	Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness, total (grains/gal)	Not Regulated	n/a	18	17 - 20	n/a	2017	2020	Erosion of natural deposits
Magnesium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	21	15 - 26	n/a	2017	2020	Run off/leaching from natural deposits
pH (pH Units)	Not Regulated	n/a	7.5	7.4 - 7.6	n/a	2017	2020	Hydrogen ion concentration
Potassium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	1.4	1.2 - 1.6	n/a	2017	2020	Run off/leaching from natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	23	19 - 27	n/a	2017	2020	Erosion of natural deposits
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	TT ³	n/a	0.35	ND - 0.52	n/a	Monthly	--	Naturally present in the groundwater

2019 CITY OF SIERRA MADRE UNREGULATED CHEMICALS REQUIRING MONITORING

Chemical	Notification Level	PHG or (MCLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detections	Most Recent Testing
Bromide (ppb)	n/a	n/a	68	68	2019
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	n/a	n/a	0.45	0.45	2019

2019 CITY OF SIERRA MADRE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WATER QUALITY

Chemical	MCL or (MRDL)	PHG or (MRDLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detections	MCL Violations?	Most Recent Sampling Date	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	n/a	8.1	2.1 - 10	No	Quarterly	Byproducts of chlorine disinfection
Chlorine Residual (ppm)	(4)	(4)	0.79	0.5 - 1	No	Weekly	Drinking water disinfectant
Fluoride (ppm)	2	1	0.81	0.68 - 1	No	Quarterly	Erosion of natural deposits
Color (Color Units) ²	15	n/a	<3	ND - 5	No	Monthly	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Odor (threshold odor number) ²	3	n/a	1.1	1 - 2	No	Monthly	Naturally present in the groundwater
Turbidity (NTU) ²	5	n/a	0.11	ND - 0.6	No	Monthly	Erosion of natural deposits
At-The-Tap Lead and Copper Testing	Action Level	PHG	90th Percentile Value	Sites Exceeding Action Level	Action Level Violations?	Typical Source of Contaminant	
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.3	0.51	1/31	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2	ND	2/31	No	Corrosion of household plumbing	

Every three years, at least 30 residences are tested for lead and copper at-the-tap. The most recent set of samples was collected in 2017. Lead was detected in three samples, two of which exceeded the lead Action Level (AL). Copper was detected in 27 samples, one of which exceeded the copper AL. An AL is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded in more than 10 percent of the samples, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow. The City of Sierra Madre complies with the Lead and Copper ALs. In 2019, no school submitted a request to be sampled for lead.

2019 CITY OF SIERRA MADRE UNREGULATED CHEMICALS REQUIRING MONITORING IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

Chemical	Notification Level	PHG or (MCLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detections
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) (ppb)	n/a	n/a	1.6	1.1 - 2.2
Haloacetic Acids (HAA6Br) (ppb)	n/a	n/a	1.9	1.8 - 2.2
Haloacetic Acids (HAA9) (ppb)	n/a	n/a	2.5	2 - 3



TABLE DEFINITIONS

- MCL: Maximum Contaminant Level
- MCLG: Maximum Contaminant Level Goal
- MRDL: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level;
- MRDLG: Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
- n/a: not applicable
- ND: not detected
- NTU: nephelometric turbidity units
- PHG: California Public Health Goal
- ppb: parts-per-billion
- ppm: parts-per-million
- TT: Treatment Technique;
- µmho/cm: micromho per centimeter
- pCi/L: picoCuries per liter
- <: detected but average is less than the required reporting limit

[1] This table includes groundwater quality for water sampled at City of Sierra Madre’s wells. Results are from the most recent testing performed pursuant to state and federal drinking water regulations.

[2] Chemical is regulated by a secondary standard to maintain aesthetic qualities (taste, odor, color).

[3] A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of contaminants in drinking water that are difficult and sometimes impossible to measure directly.



DEAR RESIDENTS,

Years of over-drafting Sierra Madre's groundwater aquifer has left tremendous challenges for our community. Historically Sierra Madre has been able to serve our residents with 100% local groundwater. Since the Fall of 2013 Sierra Madre has imported over 50% of its water supply. Imported water is allowed to percolate at our spreading grounds where it supplements our groundwater supply.

Rain received this year allowed us to divert over 650 million gallons of surface runoff to our spreading grounds. Additionally, Sierra Madre purchased over 488 million gallons of water from the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District for groundwater recharge. Our total contribution to the groundwater aquifer this year was over 1.1 billion gallons of water. In fiscal year 2018-19 producers combined to extract 1.5 billion gallons of water.

Supply challenges drive us to find better ways to manage our water supply. This includes investing in our infrastructure to replace old leaking water mains. We deployed an Automated Meter Infrastructure with a customer portal that allows residents to log-in, view and manage water consumption in near real time. We also partnered with our Water District, our neighboring agencies and regulators to find new sustainable long term solutions. This year we partnered with the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District and the City of Arcadia to drill a new well in The Main San Gabriel Basin. The new well will allow us to supplement our depleted groundwater supply and build additional resiliency to our water system.

For more information on water conservation please visit the City's website at www.cityofsierramadre.com and the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District's website at www.sgvmd.org There you will find water conservation tips, rebate information, and links to other water conservation assistance.

As a reminder the City allows for 3 days of outdoor watering per week.

Even-number addresses may water on Monday, Thursday and Saturday.

Odd-numbered and addresses ending in fractions may water on Tuesdays, Fridays and Sundays.

No watering is allowed between the hours of 6AM and 6PM

Feel free to contact me should you have any questions. I can be reached at 626-355-7135.

Sincerely,

Jose Reynoso

Utilities Director

GET INVOLVED

Our City Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month (except holidays) at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located in City Hall at 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd., Sierra Madre, California 91024. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.