

Water Conservation Tips

Water conservation should remain a priority in Southern California. Conservation as a way of life will help ensure the continued availability of our water supply. The City of Whittier suggests the continuation of the following water conservation habits:



Water between **6:00pm** and **10:00am**.



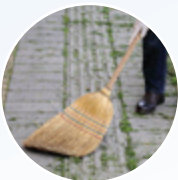
Adjust watering frequency according to the weather and season. Try to set sprinkler systems for multiple short cycles for each station and allow **30 to 60** minutes for the water to soak into the soil between cycles.



Check and repair leaking pipes, hoses, sprinklers, and toilets



Install water-saving shower heads and toilets



Use a broom to clean driveways and sidewalks

For additional information on conservation, visit the City's website at www.cityofwhittier.org

What is in your drinking water?

The chart in this report shows the average and range of concentrations of the constituents tested in your drinking water during year 2023 or from the most recent tests. The State allows the City of Whittier to monitor 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.

Drinking Water Source Assessment

In accordance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, an assessment of the drinking water sources for the City of Whittier was completed in December 2002. The assessment concluded that the City of Whittier's sources are considered vulnerable to the following activities or facilities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: research laboratory, known volatile organic chemical (VOC) contamination plumes, and parking lots/mall. In addition, the sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities or facilities not associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: research laboratories and parks. A copy of the complete assessment is available at the City of Whittier Public Works counter at 13230 Penn Street, Whittier, California 90602. You may request a summary of the assessment to be sent to you by contacting Customer Service at **(562) 567-9530**.

This report is intended to provide information for all water users. If received by an absentee landlord, a business or school, please share the information with tenants, employees or students. We will be happy to make additional copies of this report available for review by the public upon request.

This report contains important information about your drinking water. For more information, please contact Mr. Raymond Cordero at (562) 567-9566.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Para más información, favor de comunicarse con Mr. Raymond Cordero al (562) 567-9566 para asistirlo en español.

这份报告含有于您的用水的重要信息。用以下地址和电联系 City of Whittier 以获得中文的帮助: (562) 567-9500

Our City Council meets on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers located in City Hall at 13230 Penn Street. Please feel free to participate in these meetings.

Sincerely,
Kyle Cason, PE
Director of Public Works



City of Whittier 2023 Annual Water Quality Report

June 2024

Dear Customer,

The City of Whittier is committed to keeping you informed on the quality of your drinking water. This 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. During 2023, the drinking water provided by the City of Whittier to its service area complied with all Federal and State drinking water quality standards. We remain dedicated to providing you with a safe and reliable supply of high quality drinking water.

The information that follows represents only a fraction of the activity in which the City of Whittier engages to provide you, the consumer, a high level of confidence in the water that you drink. We, along with our State-certified laboratories, routinely scrutinize our water supplies for the entire range of elements that have the potential to degrade the quality of your water.

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 United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Safe Drinking Water Hotline **(1-800- 426-4791)**.

Some people, however, may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as people with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, people who have undergone organ transplants and people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly and infants can be particularly at risk from infections are among those that may be more vulnerable. 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 USEPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline **(1-800 426-4791)**. Cryptosporidium is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. As noted below, the City of Whittier's source water does not include surface water; therefore, monitoring for cryptosporidium is not applicable to the City of Whittier.



What Kind Of Contaminants Might Be Found In 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 surfaces 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 storm 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 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.
- **RADIOACTIVE CONTAMINANTS**, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas productions and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the 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 must provide the same protection for public health.

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 Whittier 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 **(1-800-426-4791)** or at: <https://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Disinfectants & Disinfection Byproducts

According to USEPA, disinfection of drinking water is one of the major public health advances in the 20th century. However, the disinfectants themselves can react with naturally-occurring materials in the water to form byproducts, which may pose health risks. Amendments to the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act in 1996 require USEPA to develop rules to balance the risks between microbial pathogens and disinfection byproducts (DBPs). The City of Whittier is required to monitor for DBPs (total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids) in your drinking water. During 2023, the drinking water provided by the City of Whittier to its service area complied with the Disinfectants and Disinfection Byproducts Rule.

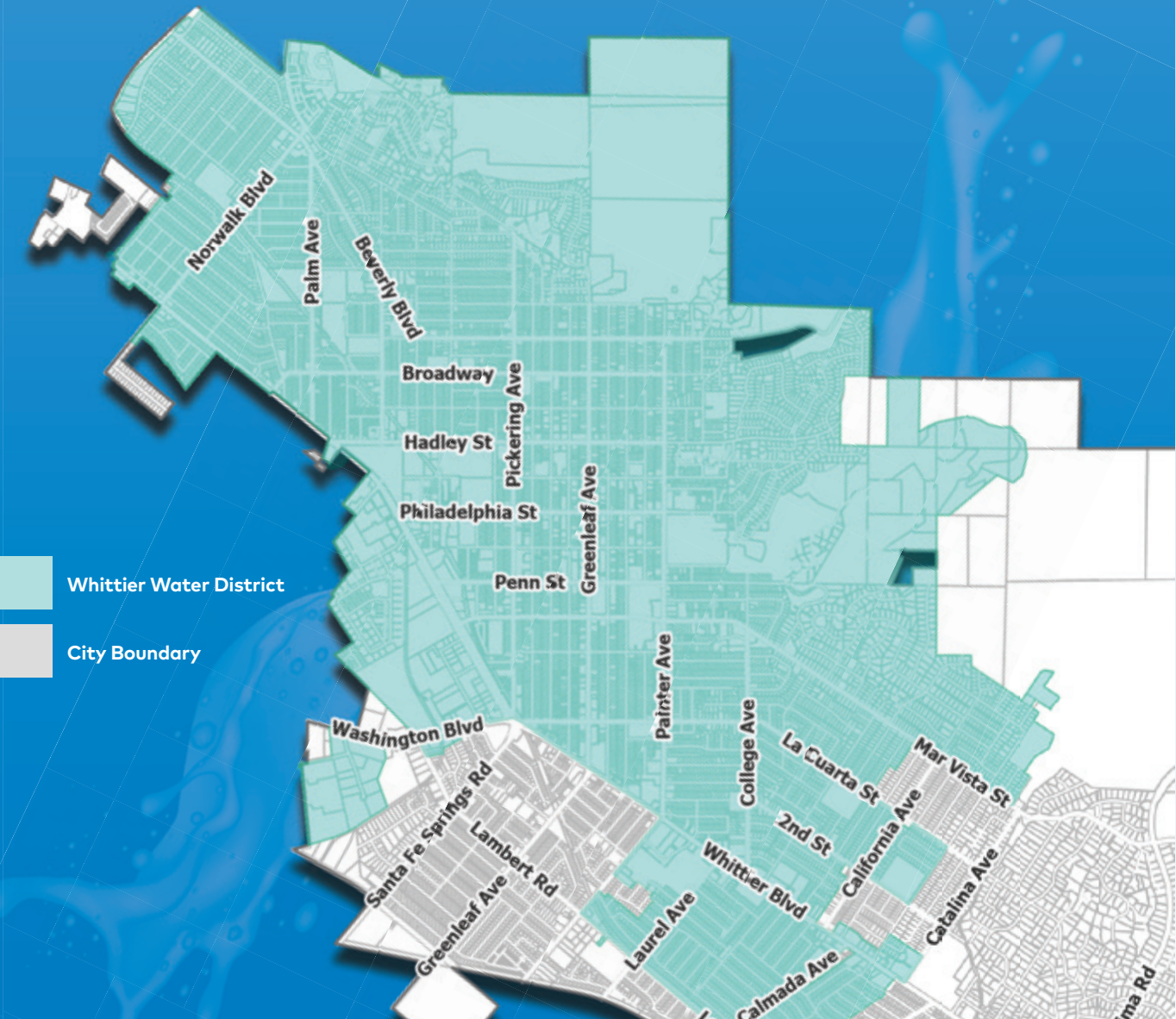
Where Does Your Water Come From ?

During 2023, the City of Whittier pumped 100 percent of our source water from six (6) active deep wells located in the Whittier Narrows area. These wells draw water from the Main San Gabriel groundwater basin and the Central groundwater basin. This water is then treated and delivered to the City of Whittier's eleven reservoirs for your use.

Water conservation should remain a priority in Southern California. Conservation as a way of life will help ensure the continued availability of our water supply. For a list of current water restrictions in the City of Whittier service area, please visit our website at www.cityofwhittier.org or call our Customer Service Desk at **(562) 567-9530**.



Whittier Water Service



Definitions

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.

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 California Environmental Protection Agency.

MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL):
The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible.

REGULATORY ACTION LEVEL (AL):
The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers a treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

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:
MCLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.

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, county board of supervisors).

CITY OF WHITTIER 2023 ANNUAL WATER QUALITY TABLE										
CONSTITUENT AND (UNITS)	MCL or [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) or [MRDLG]	DLR	GROUNDWATER SOURCES		MCL Violations?	Most Recent Sampling Date	TYPICAL ORIGINS		
				Results (a)	Range (Min-Max)					
GROUNDWATER DATA SOURCE										
PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS -- Health-Related Standards										
ORGANIC CHEMICALS										
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (µg/l)	5	0.06	0.5	<0.5	ND - 1.9	No	Monthly	Discharge from industrial activities		
DISINFECTANT AND DISINFECTION BYPRODUCTS (b)										
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (µg/l)	80	NA	1	28	4.0 - 34	No	Quarterly	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination		
Haloacetic acids (five) (HAA5) (µg/l)	60	NA	1 - 2	5.5	1.2 - 5.9	No	Quarterly	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination		
Chlorine Residual (mg/l)	[4.0]	[4]	NA	0.78	0.14 - 1.7	No	Weekly	Drinking water disinfectant		
INORGANIC CHEMICALS										
Barium (mg/l)	1	2	0.1	<0.1	ND - 0.1	No	2021, 2022, and 2023	Erosion of natural deposits		
Copper (mg/l) (c)	AL = 1.3	0.3	0.05	0.51	0/30 Samples Exceeded the AL	No	2022	Corrosion of household plumbing system		
Fluoride (mg/l)	2	1	0.1	0.22	0.20 - 0.28	No	2021, 2022, and 2023	Erosion of natural deposits		
Lead (µg/l) (c)	AL = 15	0.2	5	<5	0/30 Samples Exceeded the AL	No	2022	Corrosion of household plumbing system		
Nitrate as N (mg/l)	10	10	0.4	3.2	2.1 - 4.1	No	2023	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use		
BACTERIOLOGICAL										
E. coli	(d)	(0)	NA	0 (highest # of detections)	0 (Number of months in violation)	No	Weekly	Naturally present in the environment		
RADIOACTIVE CHEMICALS										
Uranium (pCi/l)	20	0.43	1	1.1	ND - 1.9	No	2018, 2020, 2021, and 2023	Erosion of natural deposits		
SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS -- Aesthetic Standards, Not Health-Related										
Chloride (mg/l)	500	NA	NA	99	75 - 120	No	2021 and 2023	Erosion of natural deposits		
Iron (µg/l)	300	NA	NA	49	ND - 170	No	2021 and 2023	Erosion of natural deposits		
Manganese (µg/l)	50	NA	NA	<5	ND - 19	No	2021	Erosion of natural deposits		
Specific Conductance (µmho/cm)	1,600	NA	NA	860	750 - 940	No	2021 and 2023	Substances that form ions in water		
Sulfate (mg/l)	500	NA	NA	120	88 - 140	No	2021 and 2023	Erosion of natural deposits		
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/l)	1,000	NA	NA	520	470 - 570	No	2021 and 2023	Erosion of natural deposits		
Turbidity (NTU)	5	NA	NA	0.41	ND - 2.2	No	2021 and 2023	Erosion of natural deposits		
ADDITIONAL CHEMICALS OF INTEREST/UNREGULATED										
Alkalinity, total as CaCO3 (mg/l)	NA	NA	NA	170	150 - 180	NA	2021 and 2023	Erosion of natural deposits		
Calcium (mg/l)	NA	NA	NA	80	68 - 94	NA	2021 and 2023	Erosion of natural deposits		
Hardness, total as CaCO3 (mg/l)	NA	NA	NA	260	220 - 300	NA	2021 and 2023	Erosion of natural deposits		
Magnesium (mg/l)	NA	NA	NA	15	12 - 17	NA	2021 and 2023	Erosion of natural deposits		
Perfluorobutanesulfonic Acid (ng/l)	NL = 500	NA	NA	3.6	2.6 - 5.3	NA	2023	Discharge from industrial activities		
Perfluorobutanoic Acid (ng/l)	NA	NA	NA	12	5.8 - 19	NA	2023	Discharge from industrial activities		
Perfluorohexanoic Acid (ng/l)	NA	NA	NA	<3	ND - 4.0	NA	2023	Discharge from industrial activities		
Perfluorooctanesulfonic Acid (ng/l)	NL = 6.5	NA	NA	8.1	5.7 - 11	NA	2023	Discharge from industrial activities		
Perfluorooctanoic Acid (ng/l)	NL = 5.1	NA	NA	5.2	3.6 - 7.7	NA	2023	Discharge from industrial activities		
Perfluoropentanoic Acid (ng/l)	NA	NA	NA	3.4	2.7 - 4.8	NA	2023	Discharge from industrial activities		
pH (pH units)	NA	NA	NA	7.7	7.2 - 8.3	NA	2021, 2022, and 2023	Hydrogen ion concentration		
Sodium (mg/l)	NA	NA	NA	68	55 - 82	NA	2021 and 2023	Erosion of natural deposits		
UNREGULATED CHEMICALS REQUIRING MONITORING					NOTES					
CONSTITUENT AND (UNITS)	NL	Results	Range (Min-Max)	Most Recent Sampling Date	AL DLR	Action Level Detection Limit for Purposes of Reporting	ng/l <	Parts per trillion or nanograms per liter Avg. is less than the DLR	NL NTU	Notification Level Nephelometric Turbidity Units
AT ENTRY POINT TO THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM										
Bromide (µg/l)	NA	190	180-200	2019	MCL	Maximum Contaminant Level	MRDL	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level	pCi/l PHG	picoCuries per liter Public Health Goal
Manganese (µg/l) (e)	SMCL=50	6.4	6.4	2019						
Total Organic Carbon (mg/l)	NA	<1	ND - 1.1	2019	MCLG	Maximum Contaminant Level Goal	MRDLG	Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal	TON µg/l	Threshold Odor Number parts per billion or micrograms per liter
IN DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM										
Haloacetic acids (HAA5) (µg/l)	NA	5.5	3.1 - 7.7	2019	SMCL mg/l	Secondary MCL Parts per million or milligrams per liter	NA ND	No Applicable Limit Not Detected at DLR		
Haloacetic acids (HAA6Br) (µg/l)	NA	12	6.3 - 17	2019						
Haloacetic acids (HAA9) (µg/l)	NA	13	7.5 - 19	2019						