



Presented By
City of Lakewood

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

WATER TESTING PERFORMED IN 2017

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

Mahalaga ang impormasyong ito. Mangyaring ipasalin ito.

PWS ID#: 1910239

Quality First

Once again, we are pleased to present our annual water quality report. As in years past, we are committed to delivering the best-quality drinking water possible. To that end, 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.

We encourage you to share your thoughts with us on the information contained in this report. For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please contact us at (562) 866-9771, extension 2700.

Water treatment is a complex, time-consuming process.

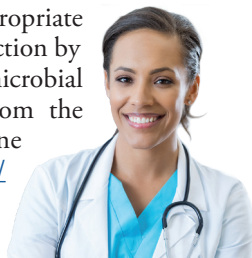
Source Water Assessment

An assessment of the City's drinking water sources was completed in 2003 and 2006. These studies examined the potential vulnerability of each well to contaminants that could enter the water supply. Our ground water supply is considered most vulnerable to the following activities: gas stations and repair shops, historic gas station locations, storage tanks, dry cleaners, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System/Waste Discharge Requirement permitted discharges. A copy of the complete assessment is available at the Lakewood City Clerk's Office at 5050 Clark Avenue. You may request a summary of the assessment by contacting the Lakewood Department of Water Resources at (562) 866-9771, extension 2700, during regular office hours.



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 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>.



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 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 1-800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/lead.

Count on Us

Delivering high-quality drinking water to our customers involves far more than just pushing water through pipes. Because tap water is highly regulated by state and federal laws, water treatment plant and system operators must be licensed and are required to commit to long-term, on-the-job training before becoming fully qualified. Our licensed water professionals have an understanding of a wide range of subjects, including mathematics, biology, chemistry, and physics. 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; and
- Serving our community through customer support, education, and outreach.

So, the next time you turn on your faucet, think of the skilled professionals who stand behind each drop.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our City Council Meetings to voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of each month beginning at 7:30 p.m. at City Hall, 5050 Clark Avenue, Lakewood.



Substances That Could Be in Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include wells, rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, and springs. 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.

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 which can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems; and

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.

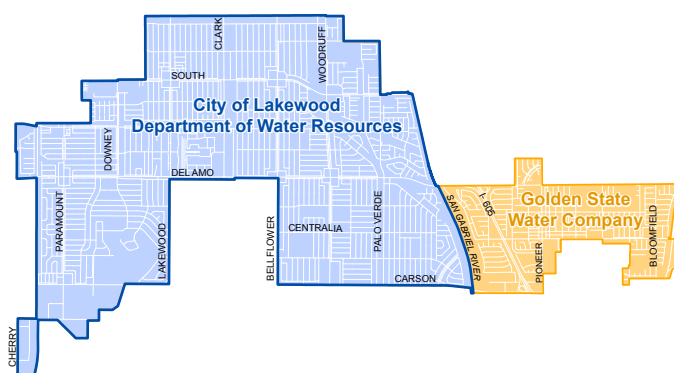
Where Does My Water Come From?

Your tap water comes from local, deep ground water wells that supply our service area. The City of Lakewood is responsible for providing water services for residents and businesses west of the San Gabriel River. Golden State Water Company (GSWC) – an investor-owned water utility – serves the area east of the river. For information on Golden State's Water Quality Report, call (800) 999-4033, or visit <https://www.gswater.com>.

Highlights of Lakewood's water system include:

- One hundred percent ground water produced from 10 deep ground water wells.
- Approximately 180 miles of water mains ranging from 4 to 27 inches in diameter.
- Three water storage facilities holding approximately 13 million gallons.
- A 2,500 gallon-per-minute water treatment facility.
- A standby connection to Metropolitan Water District of Southern California imported supplies.
- Four emergency interconnections with the City of Long Beach, Golden State Water Company, the City of Cerritos, and the City of Signal Hill.
- Providing more than 2.5 billion gallons of water annually to more than 60,000 residents, commercial, and industrial customers via 20,000+ meter connections.
- More than 6% of water supply is recycled water used for irrigation at 41 sites.

Water Purveyors in Lakewood



Information on the Internet

The U.S. EPA (<https://www.epa.gov>) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov) web sites provide a substantial amount of information on many issues relating to water resources, water conservation, and public health. Also, the State Water Resources Control Board has a web site (<https://www.waterboards.ca.gov>) that provides complete and current information on water issues in California, including valuable information about our watershed.

Tip Top Tap

The most common signs that your faucet or sink is affecting the quality of your drinking water are discolored water, sink or faucet stains, a buildup of particles, unusual odors or tastes, and a reduced flow of water. The solutions to these problems may be in your hands.

Kitchen Sink and Drain

Hand washing, soap scum buildup, and the handling of raw meats and vegetables can contaminate your sink. Clogged drains can lead to unclean sinks and backed up water in which bacteria (i.e., pink and black-colored slime growth) can grow and contaminate the sink area and faucet, causing a rotten egg odor. Disinfect and clean the sink and drain area regularly. Also, flush regularly with hot water.

Faucets, Screens, and Aerators

Chemicals and bacteria can splash and accumulate on the faucet screen and aerator, which are located on the tip of faucets, and can collect particles like sediment and minerals resulting in a decreased flow from the faucet. Clean and disinfect the aerators or screens on a regular basis.

Check with your plumber if you find particles in the faucet screen as they could be pieces of plastic from the hot water heater dip tube. Faucet gaskets can break down and cause black, oily slime. If you find this slime, replace the faucet gasket with a higher-quality product. White scaling or hard deposits on faucets and shower heads may be caused by hard water or water with high levels of calcium carbonate. Clean these fixtures with vinegar or use water softening to reduce the calcium carbonate levels for the hot water system.

Water Filtration/Treatment Devices

A smell of rotten eggs can be a sign of bacteria on the filters or in the treatment system. The system can also become clogged over time so regular filter replacement is important. (Remember to replace your refrigerator filter!)

Failure in Flint

The national news coverage of water conditions in Flint, Michigan, has created a great deal of confusion and consternation. The water there has been described as being corrosive; images of corroded batteries and warning labels on bottles of acids come to mind. But is corrosive water bad?

Corrosive water can be defined as a condition of water quality that will dissolve metals (iron, lead, copper, etc.) from metallic plumbing at an excessive rate. There are a few contributing factors but, generally speaking, corrosive water has a pH of less than 7; the lower the pH, the more acidic, or corrosive, the water becomes. While all plumbing will be somewhat affected over time by the water it carries, corrosive water will damage plumbing much more rapidly than water with low corrosivity.

By itself, corrosive water is not a health concern; your morning glass of orange juice is considerably more corrosive than the typical lake or river. What is of concern is that exposure in drinking water to elevated levels of the dissolved metals increases adverse health risks.

Public water systems are required to maintain their water at optimal conditions to prevent it from reaching corrosive levels. Rest assured that we routinely monitor our water to make sure that what happened in Flint never happens here.

Water Conservation

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

- Automatic dishwashers use 15 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 showed water use, you have a leak.



Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule. The information in the data tables shows only those substances that were detected in 2017. Remember that detecting a substance does not necessarily 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 than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES						
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AVERAGE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0.004	5	3–8	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Chlorine (ppm)	[4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	[4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	0.6	0.4–0.8	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Fluoride (ppm)	2.0	1	0.3	0.2–0.4	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Haloacetic Acids [HAAs] (ppb)	60	NA	5.2	ND–8.3	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate [as nitrogen] (ppm)	10	10	0.4	ND–1.9	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	80	NA	27	20–46	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community						
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH%TILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.3	0.3	0/31	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2	2.3	0/31	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
SECONDARY SUBSTANCES						
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AVERAGE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	500	NS	21	7–46	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	1,600	NS	445	300–670	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	500	NS	41	12–90	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1,000	NS	269	180–440	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

UNREGULATED AND OTHER SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	AVERAGE	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Calcium (ppm)	51	18–82	Abundant naturally occurring element
Hardness in Grains (grains/gal)	9.3	2.9–15	Naturally occurring calcium
Hardness (ppm)	159	50–256	Naturally occurring calcium
Magnesium (ppm)	8	1–14	Abundant naturally occurring element
pH, Laboratory (Units)	8.1	7.9–8.4	Hydrogen ion concentration
Potassium (ppm)	2.7	1.3–3.7	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	31	24–49	Erosion of natural deposits

Definitions

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

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

grains/gal (grains per gallon): Grains of compound per gallon of water.

LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters. Amount Detected values for TTHMs and HAAs are reported as the highest LRAAs.

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

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).