

# 2019 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: Lower Rock Crk Mutual Water Co. Report Date: July 1, 2020

*We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal Regulations.  
This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2019.*

**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua beber. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.**

Type of water source(s) in use:

Deep vertical wells

Name & location of source(s):

Wells 1 and 2 are located within the Rock Creek Canyon at 245

Upper Canyon Road.

Drinking Water Source Assessment information: Conducted by Mono County Health Dept.

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: The board typically meets one Monday of each month, 06:30pm, at 124 Summit Rd., Bishop, CA.

For more information, contact Jim Moyer

Phone: (760) 387-0070

## **TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT:**

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

**Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS):** MCLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS):** MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

**ND:** not detectable at testing limit

**ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

**ppt:** parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

**pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

**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.

**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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

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

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

**Variances and Exemptions:** Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

**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*, 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 that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The Department requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

**TABLE 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA**

| Microbiological Contaminants<br>(to be completed only if there was a detection of bacteria) | Highest No. of detections | No. of months in violation | MCL                                                                                                                        | MCLG | Typical Source of Bacteria           |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|
| Total Coliform Bacteria                                                                     | (In a mo.)<br>1           | 1                          | More than 1 sample in a month with a detection                                                                             | 0    | Naturally present in the environment |
| Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i>                                                            | (In the year)<br>0        | 0                          | A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> | 0    | Human and animal fecal waste         |

**TABLE 2 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER**

| Lead and Copper<br>(to be completed only if there was a detection of lead or copper in the last sample set) | No. of samples collected | 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile level detected | No. Sites exceeding AL | AL  | MCLG | Typical Source of Contaminant                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------|------------------------|-----|------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Lead (ug/L) 6/20/17                                                                                         | 5                        | 0                                          | 0                      | 15  | 2    | Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits. |
| Copper (ug/L) 6/20/17                                                                                       | 5                        | 0-110                                      | 0                      | 1.3 | 0.17 | Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.         |

TABLE 3 - SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

| Chemical or Constituent<br>(and reporting units) | Sample<br>Date | Level<br>Detected | Range of<br>Detections | MCL  | PHG<br>(MCLG) | Typical Source of Contaminant               |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------------|------|---------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Sodium (ppm)                                     | 9/24/19        | 11.0              | 7.6-12.0               | none | none          | Generally found in ground and surface water |
| Hardness (ppm)                                   | 9/24/19        | 15.0              | 15.0-19.0              | none | none          | Generally found in ground and surface water |
| Calcium (ppm)                                    | 9/24/19        | 5.6               | 5.5-6.4                | none | none          | Generally found in ground and surface water |

\*Any violation of an MCL or AL is asterisked. Information regarding the violation is provided on the next page.

TABLE 4 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

| Chemical or Constituent<br>(and reporting units) | Sample<br>Date        | Level<br>Detected | Range of<br>Detections | MCL                                     | PHG<br>(MCLG)                            | Typical Source of Contaminant                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Asbestos (MFL)                                   | 2/26/08               | 0.2               | N/A                    | 7.0                                     | 7.0                                      | Internal corrosion of asbestos cement water mains; erosion of natural deposits                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Fluoride (mg/L)                                  | 9/24/19               | 0.13              | N/A                    | 2.0                                     | N/A                                      | Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Gross Alpha Activity                             | 9/24/19               | 1.23              | 1.87-2.68              | 15.0                                    | N/A                                      | Erosion of natural deposits                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Chlorine                                         | 1/01/19 -<br>12/31/19 | 0.3 - 1.0<br>ppm  | 0-1.0<br>ppm           | [MRDL=<br>4.0 (as<br>Cl <sub>2</sub> )] | [MRDLG=<br>4.0 (as<br>Cl <sub>2</sub> )] | Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment. Some people who use water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience irritating effects to their eyes and nose. Some people who drink water containing chlorine well in excess of the MRDL could experience stomach discomfort. |
|                                                  |                       |                   |                        |                                         |                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

TABLE 5 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

| Chemical or Constituent<br>(and reporting units) | Sample<br>Date | Level<br>Detected | Range of<br>Detections | MCL  | PHG<br>(MCLG) | Typical Source of Contaminant                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------|------------------------|------|---------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Iron (ug/L)                                      | 9/24/19        | 100<br>UG/L       | 320-440                | 300  | N/A           | Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes                                |
| Manganese (ug/L)                                 | 9/24/19        | 1.0 MG/L          | 0.0-45.0               | 50   | N/A           | Leaching from natural deposits                                                   |
| Sulfate (mg/L)                                   | 9/24/19        | 2.7 MG/L          | 3.7-4.3                | 500  | N/A           | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes                         |
| Zinc (ug/L)                                      | 9/24/19        | 55 UG/L           | 95.0-120.0             | 5000 | N/A           | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes                         |
| Total Dissolved Solids<br>(mg/L)                 | 9/24/19        | 92 MG/L           | 78.0-86.0              | 1000 | N/A           | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits                                            |
| Aluminum (ug/L)                                  | 9/24/19        | 50 UG/L           | 51.0-330.0             | 1000 | N/A           | Erosion of natural deposit; residue from some surface water treatment processes. |
|                                                  |                |                   |                        |      |               |                                                                                  |

## Additional General Information On Drinking Water

All 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 the 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).

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).

## Summary Information for Contaminants Exceeding an MCL or AL, or a Violation of any Treatment or Monitoring and Reporting Requirements

Following an unusually heavy rain and runoff event in February 2019, our two wells tested positive for Total Coliform. Our wells and the distribution system are monitored monthly, and samples of each are submitted to the Inyo County Lab for analysis. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. Fecal coliforms and *E. coli* are bacteria whose presents indicate that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes that may pose a special health risks for infants, young children, and people with severely compromised immune systems. **There was NO detection of any coliforms in the distribution system and NO fecal coliforms detected in either well.** However, in the interest of public health and safety, our county and state officials have directed the water company to maintain a minimum of a 1.0 parts per million chlorine residual in the distribution system.

Lab results dated 2019 represent Well 2.

Effective December 14, 2017, all community public water systems were required to monitor their active sources for 1,2,3-Trichloropropane (1,2,3,-TCP), and report all sampling results to the Mono County Environmental Health Department beginning January 1, 2018. Some people who drink water containing 1,2,3-TCP in excess of the Maximum Contaminant Level (0.000005 parts per million) over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer. System operators submitted samples for fourth quarter, 2018, and first, second and third quarters 2019 to E.S. Babcock Lab and there was no 1,2,3-TCP detected.

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General Physical, Mineral and Inorganics due every 3 years (Well 2 due 2022).

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Organics Analysis due every 3 years (Well 1 due September 2020, Well 2 October 2022).

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Nitrates Analysis due annually, Nitrites 3 years - none detected (Well 1: Nitrates 10/20, Nitrites 6/20; Well 2: Nitrates 9/2020, Nitrites 9/22).

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MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level) & MRDLG (Max Residual Disinfectant Level Goal)

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Well 1 and 2 Gross Alpha Activity: Well 1 completed 10/19, due 10/22; Well 2 completed 9/19, due 9/22.

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Lead/Copper completed June 2017, due July 2020 - every 3 years.

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Monthly Coliform analysis - samples collected by LRCMWC and tested at Inyo County Lab.

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