Watsonville Produce – Water System

Consumer Confidence Report – 2023

Monterey County Water System I.D. No. 2700518

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua beber. Traduzcalo o hable con alguen que lo entienda bien.

April 19, 2024

About This Report

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 to December 31, 2023 and may include earlier or later monitoring data.

Watsonville Produce has its' own water system. The water system is classified as a "non-transient non-community water system." As such, we are required to provide this Water Quality / Consumer Confidence Report to you, the water user. In 2023, water from the system was tested and compared to the EPA and State drinking water health standards.

This brochure reviews 2023's water quality, including details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards.

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 (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, person 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 (800-426-4791).

Your 2023 water primarily came from two water production wells drafting from an underground aquifer. The water is pumped from this aquifer to a water storage tank that supplies potable water for domestic (drinking and washing), irrigation, and fire suppression used at the facility. Several water system components provide pressure throughout the system.

Sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include river, 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 before it is treated include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic system, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water 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 storm water runoff, and residential uses.
- Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals that are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agriculture application, and septic systems.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. SWRCB regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

WATER QUALITY DATA

The attached Tables 1, 2, and 3 list all the drinking water compounds (analytes) that the source well and water distribution system were tested for, the date of the tests, the results of the tests, and the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for that analyte established by the US EPA or the state of California in parts per million (ppm). For comparison, 1-ppm is the equivalent of 1 second in 11.5 days. The presence of any compound in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The State requires monitoring for certain compounds less than once per year because the concentrations of these compounds are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, is more than one year old.

> Source water supplied to and distributed in the system met all EPA and State drinking water standards, *except* for the following instances:

- In March, May, August, and November 2023: 1,2,3-TCP was detected above the MCL in Well-3. This is an ongoing issue. The water from Well-3 is not consumed by people at Watsonville Produce. The people at Watsonville Produce drink bottled water. A treatment system for 1,2,3-TCP is currently in the design phase.
- In June 2023, chromium was detected slightly above the MCL in Well-3. Water from Well-3 was re-tested in August and November – and chromium was well below the MCL. We are unsure what caused this temporary rise in chromium level, but it no longer appears to be an issue. We will continue to monitor for chromium in 2024.
- In May 2023 Manganese was detected above the secondary MCL in Well-1, although Well-1 was not an active well in 2023. A secondary MCL is a limit that is not based on a health risk, but instead refers to aesthetic qualities in water. In the case of Manganese, levels exceeding the secondary MCL can result in reddish-brown and dark brown coloration in the water and possible staining on fixtures and washed clothing.

Note on 1,2,3-trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP): 1,2,3-TCP is a manmade chemical used as a cleaning and degreasing solvent and is also associated with pesticide products. This chemical is very stable and can make its way into groundwater that supplies drinking water wells, like the ones at Watsonville Produce. Some people who drink water containing 1,2,3-TCP in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

Note on Lead Sources in drinking water are generally a result of internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; and erosion of natural deposits. Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level may experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children may show slight deficits in

attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years may develop kidney problems or high blood pressure.

Note on Chromium: sources of chromium in drinking water include discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits. Some people who use water containing chromium in excess of the MCL over many years may experience allergic dermatitis.

About Iron and Manganese: Iron and Manganese are naturally occurring minerals and are present in groundwater due to leaching from natural deposits. They are required nutrients in every person's diet and a healthful diet provides adequate iron and manganese for good nutrition (US EPA, 2003). Iron and Manganese are regulated Secondary MCLs (see drinking water regulations) established to address issues of aesthetics (discoloration, taste, odor), not health concerns. At a concentration greater than 0.05 ppm, Manganese may make the water appear brown. At a concentration greater than 0.3 ppm, Iron may make the water appear a rust-color and may impart a metallic taste to it.

The laboratory analytical results are summarized in the attached Tables 1, 2, and 3

Please direct any questions about the potable water system to:

Matt Cuzick (plant engineer) at 831-234-2214

OR

Shawn Mixan (Certified Water Operator - Weber, Hayes and Associates) at 831.722.3580

Term	Definition
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 our water system.
Level 2 Assessment	A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
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.
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 (U.S. EPA).
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 Standards (PDWS)	MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.
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.
Regulatory Action Level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
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.
Treatment Technique (TT)	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Variances and Exemptions	Permissions from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.
ND	Not detectable at testing limit.
ppm	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
ppt	parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
ppq	parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

Table 1: Summary of Source Well #1 (-001) Analytical Results

Watsonville Produce, Water System I.D. No. 2700518 (-001)

38 Bluff Road, Moss Landing, California

Analyte	Date Sampled	Results in ppm (mg/L) (unless otherwise noted)	MCL (ppm)
SDWIS - INORGANICS			
Aluminum (Al)	11/21/16	ND	1 | 0.2 [2]
Antimony (Sb)	11/21/16	ND	0.006
Arsenic (As)	7/28/22	ND	0.01
Barium (Ba)	11/21/16	ND	1
Beryllium (Be)	11/21/16	ND	0.004
Boron (B)	11/21/16	0.32	*CA-AL: 1
Cadmium (Cd)	11/21/16	ND	0.005
Chromium (Cr)	11/21/16	ND	0.05
Cyanide (Cn)	11/21/16	ND	0.15
Fluoride (F)	11/21/16	0.1	2.0
Lead (Pb)	11/21/16	ND	*AL: 0.015
Mercury (Hg)	11/21/16	ND	0.002
Nickel (Ni)	11/21/16	ND	0.1
Selenium (Se)	11/21/16	ND	0.05
Thallium (Tl)	11/21/16	ND	0.002
SDWIS - SECONDARY / GP			
Bicarbonate Alkalinity (as HCO_3)	–	–	–
Carbonate Alkalinity (as CO_3)	–	–	–
Total Alkalinity (as $CaCO_3$)	–	–	–
Calcium (Ca)	–	–	–
Chloride (Cl)	–	–	500 [2]
Color (Co/Pt) (Units)	–	–	15
Conductivity (micromhos/cm)	–	–	1,600 µS/cm [2]
Copper (Cu)	11/21/16	ND	(AL: 1.3) 1.0 [2]
Foaming Agents MBAS (Surfactants)	11/21/16	ND	0.5 [2]
Hardness, Total (as $CaCO_3$)	11/19/13	360	–
Hydroxide as Calcium Carbonate	–	–	–
Total Iron (Fe)	5/16/23	0.067	0.3 [2]
Magnesium (Mg)	–	–	–
Manganese (Mn)	5/16/23	0.19	0.05 [2]
Odor (Threshold Number)	–	–	3 [2]

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Watsonville Produce, Water System I.D. No. 2700518 (-001)

38 Bluff Road, Moss Landing, California

Analyte	Date Sampled	Results in ppm (mg/L) (unless otherwise noted)	MCL (ppm)
pH value	–	–	6.5 - 8.5 [2]
Potassium (K)	–	–	–
Silver (Ag)	11/21/16	ND	0.1 [2]
Sodium (Na)	11/19/13	46	–
Sulfate (SO_4)	–	–	500 [2]
Total Dissolved Solids	–	–	1,000 [2]
Turbidity (NTU)	–	–	5 [2]
Zinc (Zn)	11/21/16	0.47	5.0 [2]
SDWIS - NITRATE			
Nitrate (as N)	2/19/20	0.36	10
	2/17/21	ND	
	2/9/22	ND	
	2/28/23	ND	
	2/29/24	ND	
Nitrite (as N)	2/21/19	ND	1
	2/9/22	ND	
Nitrate-N + Nitrite-N	2/21/19	ND	10
	2/9/22	ND	
OTHER			
Hexavalent Chromium (Cr^{+6})	11/27/17	ND	0.01
Perchlorate	9/21/21	ND	0.006
Synthetic Organic Compounds	8/24/22	All ND	Varies
Volatile Organic Compounds	8/24/22	All ND	Varies
1,2,3 TCP	1/23/20	ND	0.000005 [b]
	2/28/23		
Gross Alpha	10/15/19	2.77	15 pCi/L
All Data & MCLs QC'd on 4/12/2024 by: R. Ciervo & Robyn (WHA)			

NOTES:

Not all analytes are sampled every year. Most recent data is shown.

parts per million (ppm) = milligrams per liter (mg/L)

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level. Primarily based on US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) & California drinking water regulations

ND = Not Detected at or above the laboratory's Reporting Limit

[2] = Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water and DO NOT affect health at that established level

1,2,3- TCP = 1,2,3-Trichloropropane

pCi/L = picocuries per liter

a = MTBE results and MCL/Action Level shown due to its detection in Well W-2 (properly destroyed).

b = MCL for 1,2,3-TCP was adopted by the State Water Board DDW January 2018 requiring initial sampling.

*California (CA-NL) and/or EPA Action Levels (AL) are shown for analytes which do not have an MCL

Table 2: Summary of Source Well #3 (-004) Analytical Results

Watsonville Produce, Water System I.D. No. 2700518 (-004)

38 Bluff Road, Moss Landing, California

Analyte	Date Sampled	Results in ppm (mg/L) (unless otherwise noted)	MCL (ppm)
SDWIS - INORGANICS			
Aluminum (Al)	7/28/22	ND	1 | 0.2 [2]
Antimony (Sb)	7/28/22	ND	0.006
Arsenic (As)	7/28/22	ND	0.01
Barium (Ba)	7/28/22	0.037	1
Beryllium (Be)	7/28/22	ND	0.004
Boron (B)	7/15/19	0.13	*CA-AL: 1
Cadmium (Cd)	7/28/22	ND	0.005
Chromium (Cr)	7/28/22	0.085 **	0.05
	8/24/22	ND	
	10/13/22	0.028	
	12/15/22	ND	
	3/20/23	ND	
	6/28/23	0.052 **	
	8/31/23	ND	
	11/17/23	ND	
	3/28/24	ND	
Hexavalent Chromium	8/31/23	0.00006	0.01 (proposed MCL)
	11/17/23	0.00008	0.01 (proposed MCL)
	3/28/24	ND	0.01 (proposed MCL)
Cyanide (Cn)	7/28/22	ND	0.15
Fluoride (F)	7/28/22	ND	2.0
Lead (Pb)	7/15/19	ND	*AL: 0.015
Mercury (Hg)	7/28/22	ND	0.002
Nickel (Ni)	7/28/22	ND	0.1
Selenium (Se)	7/28/22	ND	0.05
Thallium (Tl)	7/28/22	ND	0.002
SDWIS - SECONDARY / GP			
Carbonate Alkalinity (as CO_3)	–	–	–
Bicarbonate Alkalinity (as HCO_3)	–	–	–
Alkalinity, Total (as $CaCO_3$)	12/20/10	210	–
Calcium (Ca)	12/20/10	38	–
Chloride (Cl)	–	–	500 [2]
Color (Co/Pt) (Units)	12/20/10	ND	15
Conductivity (micromhos/cm)	9/14/20	670	1,600 µS/cm [2]

Table 2: Summary of Source Well #3 (-004) Analytical Results

Watsonville Produce, Water System I.D. No. 2700518 (-004)

38 Bluff Road, Moss Landing, California

Analyte	Date Sampled	Results in ppm (mg/L) (unless otherwise noted)	MCL (ppm)
Copper (Cu)	7/15/19	ND	(AL: 1.3) 1.0 [2]
Foaming Agents MBAS (Surfactants)	7/15/19	ND	0.5 [2]
Hardness, Total (as $CaCO_3$)	11/19/13	450	–
Hydroxide as Calcium Carbonate	-	-	-
Iron, Total (Fe)	–	–	0.3 [2]
Magnesium (Mg)	–	–	–
Manganese (Mn)	–	–	0.05 [2]
Odor (Threshold Number)	12/20/10	ND	3 [2]
pH value	12/20/10	7.8	6.5 - 8.5 [2]
Potassium (K)	–	–	–
Silver (Ag)	7/15/19	ND	0.1 [2]
Sodium (Na)	–	–	–
Sulfate (SO_4)	–	–	500 [2]
Total Dissolved Solids	–	–	1,000 [2]
Turbidity (NTU)	12/20/10	0.44	5 [2]
Zinc (Zn)	7/15/19	ND	5.0 [2]
SDWIS - NITRATE			
Nitrate (as N)	2/19/20	5.1	10
	2/17/21	6.3	
	2/9/22	4.7	
	7/28/22	7.9	
	12/28/22	4	
	3/20/23	4.6	
	9/28/23	3.3	
	10/31/23	2.8	
	12/19/23	4.3	
	2/29/24	4.9	
Nitrite (as N)	7/15/19	ND	1
	2/9/22	ND	
Nitrate-N + Nitrite-N	7/15/19	3.5	10
	2/9/22	4.7	

Table 2: Summary of Source Well #3 (-004) Analytical Results

Watsonville Produce, Water System I.D. No. 2700518 (-004)

38 Bluff Road, Moss Landing, California

Analyte	Date Sampled	Results in ppm (mg/L) (unless otherwise noted)	MCL (ppm)
OTHER			
Hexavalent Chromium (Cr^{+6})	11/14/17	0.0002	0.01 [a]
	8/31/23	0.00006	
	11/17/23	0.00008	
	3/28/24	ND	
Perchlorate	9/14/20	ND	0.006
Synthetic Organic Compounds	5/25/23	All ND	Varies
Volatile Organic Compounds	8/24/22	All ND	Varies
1,2,3 TCP	2/17/21	0.000088 **	0.000005 [b]
	6/17/2021	0.000042 **	
	8/18/21	0.000042 **	
	10/11/21	0.000034 **	
	2/9/22	0.000031 **	
	5/10/22	0.000028 **	
	8/24/22	0.000029 **	
	11/29/22	0.00004 **	
	3/20/23	0.000026 **	
	5/16/23	0.000030 **	
	8/23/23	0.000030 **	
	11/20/23	0.000024 **	
	3/1/24	0.000035 **	
PFAS	11/20/23	ND	Varies
Gross Alpha	10/15/19	1.13	15 pCi/L

All Data & MCLs QC'd on 4/12/2024 by: R. Ciervo & Robyn (WHA)

NOTES:

Not all analytes are sampled every year. Most recent data is shown.

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level. Primarily based on US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) & California drinking water regulations

[2] = Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water and DO NOT affect health at that established level

ND = Not Detected at or above the laboratory's Reporting Limit

parts per million (ppm) = milligrams per liter (mg/L)

1,2,3- TCP = 1,2,3-Trichloropropane

pCi/L = picocuries per liter

a = This MCL is not longer in effect

b = MCL for 1,2,3-TCP was adopted by the State Water Board DDW January 2018 requiring initial sampling.

*California (CA-NL) and/or EPA Action Levels (AL) are shown for analytes which do not have an MCL.

** 1,2,3-TCP concentrations exceed the primary MCL. See the report text for more details.

Table 3: Summary of Distribution System Analytical Results 2023

Watsonville Produce, Water System I.D. No. 2700518

Analyte	Date Sampled	RESULT (ppm)	MCL (ppm)
Bacteria			
Coliform	Jan to Dec 2023	not detected	if detected
E. Coli	Jan - Dec 2023	not detected	if detected
Disinfection By-Products			
Total Trihalomethanes	7/28/22	ND	0.80
Total HAA	7/28/22	ND	0.60
Chlorite			
Chlorite	Jan to Dec 2023	all less than MCL	AL: 0.8 | 1
Lead & Copper			
Lead	7/22/21	ND to 0.039 **	AL: 0.015
Lead	9/21/21	ND	AL: 0.015
Copper	7/22/21	0.071 to 0.230	AL: 1.3 | 1.0 [2]
All Data & MCLs QC'd on 4/12/2024 by: R. Ciervo & Robyn (WHA)			

NOTES:

ppm = parts per million; which is equivalent to milligrams per liter (mg/L)

MCL = Maximum Contaminant Level. Primarily based on US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) & California drinking water regulations

ND = Not Detected at or above the laboratory's Reporting Limit

2 = Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water and DO NOT affect health at that level

AL = California (CA-NL) and/or EPA Action Levels (AL) are shown for analytes which do not have an MCL

** Source of the elevated lead level was an old water fixture made with metals containing some limited lead (which was how faucets were produced back then). This old water fixture was replaced in Residence 36C (with a “lead-free” fixture) and then this location was re-tested for lead in September 2021. Lead was not detected in this follow up sample. This issue has been resolved.