

2023 Consumer Confidence Report

TASCO-Spreckels Water Company

6/10/2024

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 monitoring data.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse MCSI Water Systems Management TASCO-Spreckels Water Company a (831) 659-5360 para asistirlo en español.

Type, Name, and General Location of Water Source(s) in Use: Spreckels Water Company serves the City of Spreckels with three (3) groundwater wells.

Drinking Water Source Assessment Information: An assessment was conducted for Well 02 in 2001. The following vulnerabilities were found: Agricultural Drainage, crops, irrigated berries, hops, mint, orchards, sod, greenhouses, fertilizer/ pesticide; herbicide application, septic systems – high density [$>1/\text{acre}$], Sewer collection systems, and septic systems – low density [$<1/\text{acre}$]. The assessment was conducted for Well 22R (Well 3) in March 2007. The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminant: fleet/truck/bus terminal, machine shops, sewer collection systems – residential, farm machinery repair, fertilizer/pesticide/petroleum storage and transfer area agricultural drainage, wells – agricultural/irrigation, historic waste dump/landfills, historic gas stations, underground storage tanks, and mining operations-active. Well 4 DWSAP was done in 2016 and the following vulnerabilities were found: Sewer Collection Systems – Residential, Wells – Agriculture/Irrigation, Landfills/dumps, Confirmed Leaking Underground Storage Tanks, Parks, Housing–High Density, Wells–Water Supply, Transportation Corridors – Road Right-of-Ways (herbicide use) Storm Drain Discharge Points, Storm Water Detention facilities, Railroad yards/maintenance/fueling areas, NPDES WDR Permitted discharges

Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation will be mailed to the residents of Spreckels

For More Information, Contact: MCSI Water Systems Management – (831) 659-5360

Terms Used in This Report

Term	Definition
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.

Term	Definition
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.
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)
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

Sources of Drinking Water and Contaminants that May Be Present in Source 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 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, 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

Regulation of Drinking Water and Bottled Water Quality

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the 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.

About Your Drinking Water Quality

Drinking Water Contaminants Detected

Tables 1, 2, 3, and 4 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 State Board allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old. Any violation of an AL, MCL, or MRDL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

Table 1. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Lead and Copper

Lead and Copper	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90 th Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	No. of Schools Requesting Lead Sampling	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	6/2023	10	6	0	15	0.2	0	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	6/2023	10	0.182	0	1.3	0.3	Not applicable	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Table 2. Sampling Results for Sodium and Hardness

Chemical or Constituent (Reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected (Average)	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	2021-2023	(53)	34 – 75	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2021-2023	(389)	286 – 510	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

Table 3. Detection of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard - Source

Chemical or Constituent (Reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected (Average)	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Fluoride (mg/L)	2021-2023	(0.23)	0.2 – 0.3	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (mg/L)	2023	(0.33)	ND – 0.6	10 (as N)	10 (as N)	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits

Table 3b. Detection of Radiological Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard - Source

Chemical or Constituent (Reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected (Average)	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Gross Alpha Particle Activity, pCi/L	2018, 2020, 2023	(11.44)	3.03 -17.8*	15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium, pCi/L	2018, 2023	(11.35)	1.8 - 15	20	0.43	Erosion of natural deposits

Table 3c. Detection of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard - Distribution

Chemical or Constituent (Reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected (Average)	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHM (Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	9/2023	8	--	80	NA	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (Sum of 5 Haloacetic Acid) ppb)	9/2023	ND	--	60	NA	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine Residual ¹ (ppm)	2023	(0.72)	0.16 – 1.47	[4.0] as Cl ₂	[4] as Cl ₂	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment

¹Chlorine residuals are performed in the field in conjunction with Coliform Bacteria Monitoring using a field test kit

Table 4. Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (Reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected (Average)	Range of Detections	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source Of Contaminant
Chloride, ppm	2021, 2023	(59.9)	38.5 – 35.3	500	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Iron, ppb	2021, 2023	(83)	ND – 218	300	NA	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Specific Conductance, µS/cm	2021, 2023	(936)	706 - 1132	1600	NA	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate, ppm	2021, 2023	(145)	143– 172	500	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Turbidity, Units	2021, 2023	(1.2)	0.1 – 1.7	5	NA	Soil runoff
Total Dissolved Solids [TDS], ppm	2021, 2023	(580)	444 – 748	1000	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

Additional General Information on Drinking 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 the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA'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 healthcare providers. U.S. EPA/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-Specific Language: 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. TASCO-Spreckels Water Company 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 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 <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Summary Information for Violations

- **Well 03 (22R) exceeded the MCL for Gross Alpha Particle Activity in 2023:* The MCL for Gross Alpha is 15 pCi/L and the average for all sources was 11.44 pCi/L. Spreckels Water Company will continue to monitor this constituent and work with the SWRCB-DDW, Monterey Division

Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

- *Citation No. 02_05_23C_016 – Failure to Conduct Source Bacteriological Monitoring for First Quarter 2023:* “We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants and report to the State Water Board on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During the first quarter of 2023, we did not conduct quarterly bacteriological analysis testing from Well 02, Well 03, and Well 04 and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.”
- *Citation No. 03_05_24C_003 – Failure to Conduct Source Bacteriological Monitoring for the Fourth Quarter 2023:* “We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants and report to the State Water Board on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During the fourth quarter of 2023, we did not conduct quarterly bacteriological analysis testing from Well 02, Well 03, and Well 04 and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.”

Spreckels completed routine sampling in the distribution system for Coliform Bacteria on a monthly basis and in two separate and distinct locations. All distribution samples were negative for Total Coliform. The annual average Chlorine Residual, used for disinfection, was 0.72 mg/L.