Annual **Drinking Water Quality** Report

- Quality
- Value
- Reliability

City of
LA HABRA
Water Services

This report contains important information about your drinking water.
Translate it, or speak with someone who understands it.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Para mas información ó traducción, favor de contactar a
Customer Service Representative. Telefono: (562) 383-4170.

Your 2021 Water Quality Report


The Colorado River

Since 1990, California public water utilities have been providing an annual Water Quality Report to their customers. **This year's report covers calendar year 2020 drinking water quality testing and reporting.**

Your City of La Habra Water Division (City) vigilantly safeguards its water supply and, as in years past, the water delivered to your home meets the quality standards required by federal and state regulatory agencies. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) are the agencies responsible for establishing and enforcing drinking water quality standards.

In some cases, the City goes beyond what is required by testing for unregulated chemicals that may have known health risks but do not have drinking water standards. For example, the California Domestic Water Company (Cal Domestic), which supplies the City with treated groundwater, and the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWDSC), which supplies treated imported surface water to the City, routinely tests for unregulated chemicals in our water supply. Unregulated chemical monitoring helps USEPA and DDW determine where certain chemicals occur and whether new standards need to be established for those chemicals to protect public health.

Through the drinking water quality testing programs carried out by the City and Cal Domestic for our groundwater, MWDSC for imported surface water and the City for our water distribution system, your drinking water is constantly monitored from source to tap for regulated and unregulated constituents.

The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

Quality Water is Our Priority

Turn the tap and the water flows, as if by magic. Or so it seems. The reality is considerably different, however. Delivering high-quality drinking water to our customers is a scientific and engineering feat that requires considerable effort and talent to ensure the water is always there, always safe to drink.

Because tap water is highly regulated by state and federal laws, water treatment and distribution operators must be licensed and are required to complete on-the-job training and technical education before becoming a state certified operator.

Our licensed water professionals have an understanding of a wide range of subjects, including mathematics, biology, chemistry, physics, and engineering. 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 every drop.

Constant Monitoring Ensures Continued Excellence

Sources of Supply

Your drinking water is a blend of surface water imported by MWDSC, and groundwater imported from Cal Domestic and three wells within the City. Cal Domestic water originates from the Main San Gabriel groundwater basin. MWDSC's imported water sources are the Colorado River and the State Water Project, which draws water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta. City wells draw water from the La Habra Groundwater Basin.

Basic Information About Drinking Water Contaminants

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 land or through the layers of the ground it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animal and human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff and residential uses.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production or mining activities.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gasoline stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application and septic systems.
- **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining and farming.
- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA and the 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. 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 at (800) 426-4791, on the web at www.epa.gov/safewater.

Drinking Water Fluoridation

Fluoride has been added to U.S. drinking water supplies since 1945. Of the 50 largest cities in the U.S., 43 fluoridate their drinking water. In December 2007, the MWDSC joined a majority of the nation's public water suppliers in adding fluoride to drinking water in order to prevent tooth decay. MWDSC was in compliance with all provisions of the State's fluoridation system requirements.

Our local water is not supplemented with fluoride. Fluoride levels in drinking water are limited under California state regulations at a maximum dosage of 2 parts per million.

Additional information about the fluoridation of drinking water is available on these websites:

State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water
www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.html

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
www.cdc.gov/fluoridation/

For more information about MWDSC's fluoridation program, please contact Edgar G. Dymally at (213) 217-5709 or at edymally@mwdh2o.com.

To Safeguard Against Issues that May Affect Your Health

We Comply with All State & Federal Water Quality Regulations

About Lead in Tap Water

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.

The City 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, (800) 426-4791, or on the web at: www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Immunocompromised People

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised people, such as those with cancer who are undergoing chemo-therapy, persons who have had organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly persons and infants can be particularly at risk to infection. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

The USEPA and the federal Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791, or on the web at www.epa.gov/safewater.

Total Coliform Rule

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements instituted during 2016. All water systems are required to comply with the state Total Coliform Rule. Effective April 1, 2016, all water systems are also required to comply with the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule.

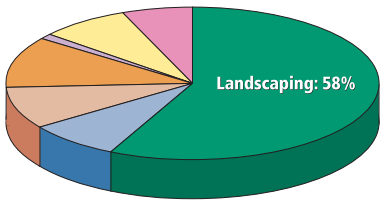
The new federal rule protects public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system by monitoring for the presence of microbials (i.e., total coliform and *E. coli* bacteria). The USEPA anticipates greater public health protection as the new rule requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and resolve potential issues. Water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences are required to conduct an assessment to determine if any sanitary defects exist. If found, these must be corrected by the water system.

Where Do We Use Water the Most?

Outdoor watering of lawns and gardens makes up approximately 60% of home water use. By reducing your outdoor water use — by either cutting back on irrigation or planting more drought tolerant landscaping — you can dramatically reduce your overall water use.

Save the most where you use the most:

Make your outdoor use efficient.



Data is representative of average consumption; your water usage may vary.

Water Conservation: A Little Effort Can Save a Lot of Water *and Money*

The La Habra Water Division promotes the conservation of water to its residents so the City can preserve this scarce resource and save residents money in the process.

Water is brought to Southern California via large aqueduct systems that feed off of rivers from the Central Valley and the Colorado River. There are large costs involved in maintaining these systems and transporting the water over miles of deserts, valleys and mountain ranges. The MWDSC is the main supplier of this water and controls the vast network of aqueducts, pumping stations and filtration plants.

Local municipal water suppliers do have the ability to tap into underground aquifers, but this local supply of water is not enough to meet the demands of the residents; the more expensive "aqueduct" water must be used to meet the demand. For these reasons, it is recommended that you conserve water by reducing water waste. This will save you money as well.

Simple water saving acts like the ones listed here can save countless gallons of water every day.

- Soak pots and pans instead of letting water run while you scrub them clean. ***This both saves water and makes the job easier.***
- Keep a pitcher of drinking water in the refrigerator. ***This can save gallons of water every day and it's always cold!***
- Plug the sink instead of running water to rinse your razor or wet your toothbrush. ***This can save upwards of 300 gallons of water a month.***
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean off sidewalks and driveways. ***It takes very little time to sweep and the water savings quickly adds up.***
- Check your sprinkler system for leaks, overspray, and broken sprinkler heads and repair promptly. ***This can save countless gallons each time you water.***
- Water plants in the early morning. ***It reduces evaporation and ensures deeper watering.***

MWDSC has its own water conservation website. To find out more information on water saving plants and other useful tips, visit www.bewaterwise.com.

Chart Legend

What are Water Quality Standards?

Drinking water standards established by USEPA and DDW set limits for substances that may affect consumer health or aesthetic qualities of drinking water. The charts in this report show the following types of water quality standards:

- **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.
- **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.
- **Secondary MCLs:** Set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.
- **Primary Drinking Water Standard:** MCLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment requirements.
- **Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

How are Contaminants Measured?

Water is sampled and tested throughout the year. Contaminants are measured in:

- parts per million (ppm) or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
- parts per billion (ppb) or micrograms per liter (µg/L)
- parts per trillion (ppt) or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

What is a Water Quality Goal?

In addition to mandatory water quality standards, USEPA and DDW have set voluntary water quality goals for some contaminants. Water quality goals are often set at such low levels that they are not achievable in practice and are not directly measurable. Nevertheless, these goals provide useful guideposts and direction for water management practices. The charts in this report include three types of water quality goals:

- **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 USEPA.
- **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.
- **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.

2020 City of La Habra Drinking Water Quality
Local Groundwater and Imported Metropolitan Water District Treated Surface Water

Chemical	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Average Groundwater Amount	Average MWD Amount	Range of Detections	MCL Violation?	Typical Source of Contaminant
Organic Chemicals – Tested in 2020							
Trichloroethylene, TCE (ppb)	5	1.7	<0.5	ND	ND – 1.1	No	Industrial Waste Discharge
Radiologicals – Tested in 2020							
Alpha Radiation (pCi/L)	15	(0)	<3	<3	ND – 4.9	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Beta Radiation (pCi/L)	50	(0)	NR	<4	ND – 7	No	Decay of Natural and Man-made Deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.43	2.7	2	ND – 4.8	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Inorganic Chemicals – Tested in 2020							
Aluminum (ppm)	1	0.6	ND	0.137	ND – 0.26	No	Treatment Process Residue, Natural Deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0.004	1.1	ND	ND – 2.6	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Barium (ppm)	1	2	<0.1	0.107	ND – 0.13	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Bromate (ppb)	10	0.1	NR	1.9	ND – 1.3	No	Byproduct of Drinking Water Ozonation
Fluoride (ppm) naturally-occurring	2	1	0.34	NR	0.24 – 0.37	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Fluoride (ppm) treatment-related	2	1	NR	0.7	0.5 – 0.9	No	Water Additive for Dental Health
Nitrate as N (ppm)	10	10	2.2	ND	ND – 4.6	No	Agriculture Runoff and Sewage
Nitrate + Nitrite as N (ppm)	10	10	2.2	ND	ND – 4.6	No	Agriculture Runoff and Sewage
Secondary Standards* – Tested in 2020							
Aluminum (ppb)	200*	600	ND	137	ND – 260	No	Treatment Process Residue, Natural Deposits
Chloride (ppm)	500*	n/a	70	94	19 – 130	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Color (color units)	15*	n/a	1.7	1	ND – 5	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Iron (ppb)	300*	n/a	17	ND	ND – 100	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits; Industrial Wastes
Manganese (ppb)	50*	n/a	15	ND	ND – 34	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Odor (threshold odor number)	3*	n/a	1.2	2	1 – 2	No	Naturally-occurring Organic Materials
Specific Conductance (µmho/cm)	1,600*	n/a	910	970	480 – 1,400 "	No	Substances that Form Ions in Water
Sulfate (ppm)	500*	n/a	150	216	41 – 310	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1,000*	n/a	480	592	420 – 603	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5*	n/a	0.29	ND	ND – 1.1	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Unregulated Chemicals – Tested in 2020							
Alkalinity, total as $CaCO_3$ (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	240	118	117 – 320	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Boron (ppm)	NL = 1	n/a	0.24	0.13	ND – 0.55	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Calcium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	69	66	62 – 88	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Hardness, total as $CaCO_3$ (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	270	265	210 – 420	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Hardness, total (grains/gal)	Not Regulated	n/a	16	15	12 – 25	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Chromium, Hexavalent (ppb)	Not Regulated	0.02	1.3	ND	ND – 2.7	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Magnesium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	25	26	12 – 48	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
N-nitrosodimethylamine (ppt)	NL = 10	n/a	ND	3.1	ND – 3.1	n/a	Byproduct of Drinking Water Chloramination; Industrial Processes
pH (pH units)	Not Regulated	n/a	8	8.1	7.6 – 8.4	n/a	Hydrogen Ion Concentration
Potassium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	4	4.6	3.2 – 5.1	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Sodium (ppm)	Not Regulated	n/a	92	96	16 – 180	n/a	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	TT	n/a	NR	2.4	2.2 – 2.7	n/a	Various Natural and Man-made Sources

ppb = parts-per-billion; **ppm** = parts-per-million; **ppt** = parts-per-trillion; **pCi/L** = picoCuries per liter; **NTU** = nephelometric turbidity units; **µmho/cm** = micromhos per centimeter;
NR = not required to be tested; **ND** = not detected; **<** = average is less than the detection limit for reporting purposes; **MCL** = Maximum Contaminant Level; **(MCLG)** = federal MCL Goal;
PHG = California Public Health Goal; **n/a** = not applicable; **NL** = Notification Level; **TT** = treatment technique *Contaminant is regulated by a secondary standard.

Turbidity – combined filter effluent Metropolitan Water District Diemer Filtration Plant	Treatment Technique	Turbidity Measurements	TT Violation?	Typical Source of Contaminant
1) Highest single turbidity measurement	0.3 NTU	0.04	No	Soil Runoff
2) Percentage of samples less than 0.3 NTU	95%	100%	No	Soil Runoff

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water, an indication of particulate matter, some of which might include harmful microorganisms. **NTU** = nephelometric turbidity units
Low turbidity in Metropolitan's treated water is a good indicator of effective filtration. Filtration is called a "treatment technique" (TT).
A treatment technique is a required process intended to reduce the level of contaminants in drinking water that are difficult and sometimes impossible to measure directly.

Unregulated Chemicals Requiring Monitoring

Chemical	Notification Level	PHG	Average Groundwater Amount	Average MWD Amount	Range of Detections	Most Recent Sampling Date
Germanium (ppb)	n/a	n/a	0.51	ND	ND – 0.57	2019
Manganese (ppb)	SMCL = 50	n/a	18	ND	ND – 34	2019

SMCL = Secondary MCL
Manganese was included as part of the unregulated chemicals requiring monitoring.

2020 City of La Habra Distribution System Water Quality

Disinfection Byproducts	MCL (MRDL/MRDLG)	Average Amount	Range of Detections	MCL Violation?	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Trihalomethanes (ppb)	80	78	6 – 96	No	Byproducts of Chlorine Disinfection
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	60	10	1.8 – 17	No	Byproducts of Chlorine Disinfection
Chlorine Residual (ppm)	(4 / 4)	0.87	ND – 2.2	No	Disinfectant Added for Treatment
Aesthetic Quality					
Color (color units)	15*	<3	ND – 50	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Odor (threshold odor number)	3*	1.1	1 – 2	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5*	0.22	ND – 1.8	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits

Eight locations in the distribution system are tested quarterly for total trihalomethanes and haloacetic acids, and 46 monthly for color, odor and turbidity.
MRDL = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level; **MRDLG** = Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal
*Contaminant is regulated by a secondary standard to maintain aesthetic qualities.

Bacterial Quality	MCL	MCLG	Highest Monthly Percent Positives	MCL Violation?	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Coliform Bacteria	5.0%	0	2.4%	No	Naturally Present in the Environment

No more than 5.0% of the monthly samples may be positive for total coliform bacteria.
The occurrence of 2 consecutive total coliform positive samples, one of which contains fecal coliform/*E. coli*, constitutes an acute MCL violation.

Lead and Copper Action Levels at Residential Taps

	Action Level (AL)	Public Health Goal	90th Percentile Value	Sites Exceeding AL / Number of Sites	AL Violation?	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2	ND	0 / 30	No	Corrosion of Household Plumbing
Copper (ppm)	1.3	0.3	0.18	0 / 30	No	Corrosion of Household Plumbing

Every three years 30 residences are tested for lead and copper at-the-tap. The most recent set of samples was collected in 2018.
Lead was not detected in any of the homes. Copper was detected in 25 homes; none exceeded the copper AL.
A regulatory action level is the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.

In 2020, no schools submitted a request to be sampled for lead.

Unregulated Chemicals Requiring Monitoring in the Distribution System

Chemical	Notification Level	PHG	Average Amount	Range of Detections	Most Recent Sampling Date
Haloacetic acids (HAA5) (ppb)	n/a	n/a	5.8	1.5 – 16	2019
Haloacetic acids (HAA6Br) (ppb)	n/a	n/a	13	0.99 – 31	2019
Haloacetic acids (HAA9) (ppb)	n/a	n/a	14	2.2 – 33	2019

Source Water Assessments

Imported (MWDSC) Water Assessment

Every five years, MWDSC is required by DDW to examine possible sources of drinking water contamination in its State Water Project and Colorado River source waters.

The most recent watershed sanitary surveys of its source water supplies from the Colorado River was updated in 2015 and the State Water Project was updated in 2016.

Water from the Colorado River is considered to be most vulnerable to contamination from recreation, urban/stormwater runoff, increasing urbanization in the watershed, and wastewater. Water supplies from Northern California's State Water Project are most vulnerable to contamination from urban/stormwater runoff, wildlife, agriculture, recreation, and wastewater.

USEPA also requires MWDSC to complete one Source Water Assessment (SWA) that utilizes information collected in the watershed sanitary surveys. MWDSC completed its SWA in December 2002. The SWA is used to evaluate the vulnerability of water sources to contamination and helps determine whether more protective measures are needed.

A copy of the most recent summary of either Watershed Sanitary Survey or the SWA can be obtained by calling MWDSC at (800) CALL-MWD (225-5693).

Groundwater Assessment

An assessment of the drinking water sources for the City was completed in December 2010 by City Staff. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants not detected in the water supply: body shops, gas stations, machine shops, metal plating/finishing/fabricating, repair shops, and sewer collection systems.

A copy of the complete assessment is available at State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water, 2 MacArthur Place, Suite 150, Santa Ana, CA 92707. You may request a summary of the assessment by contacting the City at (562) 383-4170.

An assessment of the drinking water sources for Cal Domestic was completed in October 2010. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: drinking water treatment plants; known contaminant plumes; underground storage tanks – confirmed leaking tanks; housing – high density; wells – water supply; and schools. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: transportation corridors – freeways/state highways; and transportation corridors – railroads. A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at: Cal Domestic, 15505 Whittier Blvd., Whittier, California 90603. You may request a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting: Ernesto Che Venegas, Operations Manager at (562) 947-3811.

Your 2021 Water Quality Report

The Knowledge You Need for Continued Consumer Confidence

Look inside to see how our water quality
is equal to or better than what is required to safeguard public health.

City of La Habra
Water Division
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La Habra, California 90633-0337

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You Can Have Confidence in the Quality of Your Water

The City of La Habra Water Division is pleased to distribute this report to its water customers. It provides important information about where your water comes from and the work we perform each day to assure the water delivered to your tap meets all Federal and State drinking water standards.

The tap water that comes out of your faucet has to meet rigorous State and Federal regulatory standards; otherwise, we wouldn't be able to deliver it to your home.

Our annual water quality report shares details about the water you receive. You can see for yourself that we are meeting and even exceeding standards required to maintain water quality.

Take a look inside for details on water sources, the constituents found in the water, and how our water compares with State and Federal standards.

The City of La Habra Water Division is committed to safeguarding its water supply and ensuring that your tap water is safe to drink. We also strive to keep you informed about the quality of your water supply.

We Invite You to Learn More About Your Water's Quality

For information about this report, or your water quality in general, please contact Brian Jones, Water and Sewer Manager, at (562) 383-4170.

The La Habra City Council meets on the first and third Mondays of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at 110 East La Habra Boulevard. Public attendance and participation is encouraged and welcomed.

For more information about the health effects of the listed constituents in the enclosed tables, call the USEPA hotline at (800) 426-4791.