## **Consumer Confidence Report Certification Form**

(To be submitted with a copy of the CCR)

Water System Name:	Palm Springs Aerial Tramway
Water System Number:	3301494

The water system named above hereby certifies that its Consumer Confidence Report was distributed on 06/27/2022 to customers (and appropriate notices of availability have been given). Further, the system certifies that the information contained in the report is correct and consistent with the compliance monitoring data previously submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW).

Certified by:

Name: Marjorie De La Cruz	Title: VP, HR & Risk
Signature:	Date: 06/27/2022
Phone number: 760-325-1449 x 127	

To summarize report delivery used and good-faith efforts taken, please complete this page by checking all items that apply and fill-in where appropriate:

- CCR was distributed by mail or other direct delivery methods (attach description of other direct delivery methods used). We have no paying customers. Report was posted with notice of the contents of said report on the employee bulletin boards by time clocks, public bulletin board and direct delivery made to our in-house concessionaires.
- CCR was distributed using electronic delivery methods described in the Guidance for Electronic Delivery of the Consumer Confidence Report (water systems utilizing electronic delivery methods must complete the second page).
- Good faith" efforts were used to reach non-bill paying consumers. Those efforts included the following methods:
  - Posting the CCR at the following URL: www.\_\_\_\_
  - Mailing the CCR to postal patrons within the service area (attach zip codes used)
  - Advertising the availability of the CCR in news media (attach copy of press release)
  - Publication of the CCR in a local newspaper of general circulation (attach a copy of the published notice, including name of newspaper and date published)
  - Posted the CCR in public place: Valley Station Public Bulletin Board Located by Guest Services Desk.

	Delivery of multiple copies of CCR to single-billed addresses serving several
	persons, such as apartments, businesses, and schools
	Delivery to community organizations (attach a list of organizations)
	Publication of the CCR in the electronic city newsletter or electronic community
	newsletter or listserv (attach a copy of the article or notice)
	Electronic announcement of CCR availability via social media outlets (attach
	list of social media outlets utilized)
	Other (attach a list of other methods used)
For s	systems serving at least 100,000 persons: Posted CCR on a publicly-accessible
interr	net site at the following URL: www
For <sub>f</sub>	privately-owned utilities: Delivered the CCR to the California Public Utilities
Con	nmission

### **Consumer Confidence Report Electronic Delivery Certification**

Water systems utilizing electronic distribution methods for CCR delivery must complete this page by checking all items that apply and fill-in where appropriate.

- Water system mailed a notification that the CCR is available and provides a direct URL to the CCR on a publicly available website where it can be viewed (attach a copy of the mailed CCR notification). URL: www.
- Water system emailed a notification that the CCR is available and provides a direct URL to the CCR on a publicly available site on the Internet where it can be viewed (attach a copy of the emailed CCR notification). URL: www.
- Water system emailed the CCR as an electronic file email attachment. <u>Sent to all</u> <u>PSAT employees and concessionaires with a company issued e-mail address.</u>
- Water system emailed the CCR text and tables inserted or embedded into the body of an email, not as an attachment (attach a copy of the emailed CCR).
- Requires prior DDW review and approval. Water system utilized other electronic delivery method that meets the direct delivery requirement.

This form is provided as a convenience and may be used to meet the certification requirement of section 64483(c) of the California Code of Regulations.

## **2021 Consumer Confidence Report**

## Water System Information

Water System Name: Palm Springs Aerial Tramway

Report Date: June 27, 2022

Type of Water Source(s) in Use: Purchase surface water from Desert Water Agency

Name and General Location of Source(s): Chino Creek West – Palm Springs, CA 92262

**Drinking Water Source Assessment Information**: Desert Water Agency and Palm Springs Aerial Tramway

**Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation:** Third Wednesday of various months starting at 9:30 am, via zoom at this time. See www.pstramway.com for meeting dates.

For More Information, Contact: Marjorie De La Cruz at 760-325-1449 x 127.

## **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, 2021 and may include earlier monitoring data.

# Importance of This Report Statement in Five Non-English Languages (Spanish, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Hmong)

Language in Spanish: Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse Palm Springs Aerial Tramway a 760-325-1449 para asistirlo en español.

Language in Mandarin: 这份报告含有关于您的饮用水的重要讯息。请用以下地址和电话联系 [Enter

Water System Name]以获得中文的帮助: Palm Springs Aerial Tramway, 760-325-1449

Language in Tagalog: Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa Palm Springs Aerial Tramway 1 Tram Way Palm springs, CA 92262 o tumawag sa 760-325-1449 para matulungan sa wikang Tagalog.

Language in Vietnamese: Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Xin vui lòng liên hệ Palm Springs Aerial Tramway tại 760-325-1449 để được hỗ trợ giúp bằng tiếng Việt.

Language in Hmong: Tsab ntawv no muaj cov ntsiab lus tseem ceeb txog koj cov dej haus. Thov hu rau Palm Springs Aerial Tramway ntawm 760-325-1449 rau kev pab hauv lus Askiv.

# Terms Used in This Report

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 <i>E. coli</i> 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)
ррд	parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/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, 4, 5, 6, and 8 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, MRDL, or TT is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

### Table 1. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Coliform Bacteria

Complete if bacteria are detected.

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
E. coli	(In the year) 0	0	(a)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive and either is *E. coli*-positive or system fails to take repeat samples following *E. coli*-positive routine sample or system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for *E. coli*.

# Table 1.A. Compliance with Total Coliform MCL between January 1, 2021 and June 30, 2021 (inclusive)

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	(In a month) 0	0	1 positive monthly sample (a)	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and <i>E. coli</i>	(in the year) 0	0	0	None	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) For systems collecting fewer than 40 samples per month: two or more positively monthly samples is a violation of the total coliform MCL

### Table 2. Sampling Results Showing the Detection of Lead and Copper

Complete if lead or copper is detected in the last sample set.

Lead and Copper	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	No. of Schools Requesting Lead Sampling	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	9/4/2019	5	4.1	0	15	0.2	Not applicable	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm)	9/4/2019	5	0.715	0	1.3	0.3	Not applicable	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

## Table 3. Sampling Results for Sodium and Hardness - From Distribution System

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	12/23/2021	103.3	100-110	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring.
Hardness (ppm)	12/23/2021	16	16-16	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring.

## Table 4. Detection of Contaminants with a Primary Drinking Water Standard

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detection s	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chlorine (ppm) <i>Mountain Station</i>	2021	0.5	0.2-1.2	4.0 (as Cl ] 2)	4 (as Cl 2)	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Chlorine (ppm) Ranger Station	2021	0.5	0.2-1.2	4.0 (as Cl ] 2)	4 (as Cl 2)	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Chlorine (ppm) Valley Station	2021	0.8	0.4-1.4	4.0 (as Cl ] 2)	4 (as Cl 2)	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids)(ppb) <i>Valley Station</i>	2021	39.5	30-50	60	NA	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids)(ppb) <i>Mountain Station</i>	2021	49.5	38-58	60	NA	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
TTHMS ( Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb) <i>Valley Station</i>	2021	32.3	20-51	80	NA	Byproduct of drinking water disinfectant
TTHMS ( Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb) <i>Mountain Station</i>	2021	42	37-45	80	NA	Byproduct of drinking water disinfectant

Table 5. Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard - From
Distribution System

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (mg/l)	12/23/2021	5.7	5.7-5.8	500	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Sulfate (mg/l)	12/23/2021	11.2	9.8-14	500	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Specific Conductance (umhos/cm)	12/23/2021	273.3	270-280	1600	NA	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/l)	12/23/2021	160	140-170	1000	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Copper (ug/l)	12/23/2021	103.3	100-110	1000	NA	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

### 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 health care 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. Palm Springs Aerial Tramway 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. [Optional: 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 <a href="http://www.epa.gov/lead">http://www.epa.gov/lead</a>.

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2021. These revisions add the requirements of the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule, effective since April 1, 2016, to the existing state Total Coliform Rule. The revised rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of microbials (i.e., total coliform and E. coli bacteria). The U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection as the rule requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. 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. The state Revised Total Coliform Rule became effective July 1, 2021.

# Summary Information for Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, or Monitoring and Reporting Requirement

Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct Violation	Health Effects Language
Total Revised Coliform Monitoring Violation	Required to resample from 3 locations within 24 hours after a positive bacti on 8/7/21 and failed to resample in time.	1 week	Sampled on 8/10/21 and 8/11/21. All results were absent.	See below.

### Table 7. Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT or Monitoring Reporting Requirement

# **Summary Information for Revised Total Coliform Rule Level 1 and Level 2 Assessment Requirements**

If a water system is required to comply with a Level 1 or Level 2 assessment requirement that is not due to an *E. coli* MCL violation, include the following information below [22 CCR section 64481(n)(1)].

### Level 1 or Level 2 Assessment Requirement not Due to an E. coli MCL Violation

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year we were required to conduct one Level 1 assessment. One Level 1 assessment was completed. In addition, we were required to take four corrective actions and we corrected all four of these actions.

### **APPENDIX 1. NOTIFICATION TEMPLATE**

## **IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER**

(The following two sentences are in Spanish relaying information on the importance of this notice. Translated to English, it would read as follows: [This notice contains important information regarding your drinking water, please read the Spanish notice if it is included. If the Spanish notice is not included, please contact the water system and ask for a copy.])

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.

Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

### MONITORING REQUIREMENTS NOT MET FOR PALM SPRINGS AERIAL TRAMWAY

Our water system failed to monitor as required for drinking water standards during August 2021 and, therefore, was in violation of the regulations. Even though this failure was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we did to correct this situation.

We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. During August 2021, we failed to collect 3 resamples for bacteria within 24 hours after a total coliform present result and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.

### What should I do?

- There is nothing you need to do at this time.
- The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how many samples we are required to take and how often, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

Contaminant	Required Sampling Frequency	Number of Samples Taken	When All Samples Should Have Been Taken	When Samples Were or Will Be Taken
Bacteria	3 resamples are required within 24 hours of being notified of the positive result.	Two resamples were taken but not within 24 hours of being notified of the positive result	8/7/21	8/10/21 and 8/11/2021

• If you have health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

### What happened? What is being done?

During August 2021, we failed to collect 3 resamples for bacteria within 24 hours after being notified of the positive result. We collected 1 resample on 8/10/21 and 1 resample on 8/11/21. Both results were absent for total coliform present. We also collected 3 routine samples on 8/11/21. All results were absent for total coliform bacteria.

For more information, please contact Marjorie De La Cruz at (760) 969-4359.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

### **Secondary Notification Requirements**

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- SCHOOLS: Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).
- RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.
- BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS: Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

This notice is being sent to you by Palm Springs Aerial Tramway.

State Water System ID#: 3301494 Date distributed:



# WATER QUALITY REPORT

DELIVERED JUNE 2022 (Based on 2021 data)



# A LETTER FROM OUR GENERAL MANAGER



# Building a sustainable tomorrow today

California is experiencing extremely dry conditions, which means serious issues in some parts of the state. While, thanks to the aquifer, our community is not hard hit by the drought, we've always got our eye on sustainability. Desert Water Agency provides incentives to our customers to make saving water easy. These programs are a great way for you to do your part to show support during the drought.

It is our responsibility to protect our community's precious water resources and we need your help to do it. Through our programs for grass removal, smart controllers, water efficient irrigation, EnergyStar washing machines, we can support water conservation together while making improvements to your property.

Our goal as a government agency and utility is to make sure there is water in the Palms Springs area for future generations. The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) was implemented statewide in 2015 to protect groundwater and require diligent management like we've had in place for decades. We've partnered with our neighbors to develop plans through 2045 and have projected water demands to the year 2070 so we can do our best to keep water safe, reliable and affordable even in the face of longer droughts and climate change. From those that focus on these planning efforts to the team that collects and analyzes water quality samples – our employees embody the spirit of public service. If you ever have a question about water or need help with your account, just know we're here for you. This report is part of our commitment to transparency. On the following pages, you'll see results from thousands of water quality samples collected in 2021.

If you have any questions regarding this report or our conservation efforts, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Yours in service,

Mark S. Krause

MARK S. KRAUSE General Manager & Chief Engineer





# **OUR WATER SUPPLY**

# WATER SOURCE INFORMATION

## **DESERT WATER AGENCY**

Established in 1961, Desert Water Agency (DWA) is a public nonprofit agency and State Water Contractor managing water in a 325-squaremile area that includes parts of Cathedral City, Palm Springs, and Desert Hot Springs, as well as some unincorporated areas of Riverside County. The Agency's responsibility is to provide safe, reliable water to its retail customers while managing water resources throughout its boundary. DWA is guided by an elected board of five community members. Board members make policy decisions as public representatives.

## WATER SOURCES

Desert Water Agency's groundwater comes from the Indio Subbasin of the Coachella Valley Groundwater Basin, a natural reservoir storing water beneath the valley floor. Mountain streams also bring water by way of Chino Creek, Falls Creek, Snow Creek and the Whitewater River. A new surface water filtration plant came online in late 2020 to filter Snow Creek and Falls Creek surface water. Chino Creek operates in accordance with filtration avoidance criteria.

Natural groundwater replenishment is supplemented with Colorado River water, imported via the Colorado River Aqueduct and infiltrated into the groundwater basin through recharge ponds near Windy Point.

## WATER QUALITY MONITORING

Unless otherwise noted, data presented in this report was obtained between January 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021. Water quality monitoring was performed in accordance with regulations established by the State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

In some cases, the State Water Resources Control Board allows DWA to test for certain contaminants less than once a year, because the Agency's system is not susceptible to these contaminants, or because the levels recorded are expected to change little from year to year. 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.



## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

• Source Water Assessment Plans (SWAPs), last updated 2000-2014, for various sources, are available at our office. This plan is an assessment of the delineated area around our listed sources through which contaminants, if present, could migrate and reach our source water. It also includes an inventory of potential sources of contamination within the delineated area and a determination of the water supply's susceptibility to contamination by the identified potential sources.

• These sources are considered vulnerable to activities normally associated with residential, commercial and industrial development. However, all water provided by Desert Water Agency meets all U.S. EPA and SWRCB guidelines. To review the SWAPs, please contact our office during regular business hours.

Questions? For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Paul Monroy, laboratory director, at (760) 323-4971 ext. 169.



Action Level (AL): The level at which the system must undertake a number of additional actions to control corrosion.

Aggressive Index: A calculation used to determine the corrosivity of water in our pipes. Numbers ≤ 10 are considered very aggressive, between 10-12 are moderately aggressive and ≥12 are non-aggressive.

**Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA):** The average of sample analytical results for samples taken during the previous four calendar quarters.

**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. MCLG's are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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. **REGULATED SUBSTANCES** 

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. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

**Microsiemens Per Centimeter (\muS/cm):** A measurement of the electrolytes in the water, which determines the ability of the water to conduct electrical current.

**Micrograms Per Liter (µg/L):** A measure of a contaminant in a known quantity of water. 1 µg/L equals 1 part per billion (see parts per billion).

**Milligrams Per Liter (mg/L):** A measure of a contaminant in a known quantity of water. 1 mg/L equals 1 part per million (see parts per million).

NA: Not applicable.

**Nanograms per Liter (ng/L):** A measurement of a contaminant in a known quantity of water. 1ng/L equals 1 part per trillion. (see parts per trillion).

**ND:** Not detected or below the reporting detection limit.

Nephelometric Turbidity Units (NTU): A

measure of cloudiness due to undissolved solids in the water. We measure turbidity because it is a good indication of the effectiveness of our filtration system and/or water quality.

# SAMPLING RESULTS

During the past year we have taken more than 2,550 water samples in order to determine the presence of any radioactive, biological, inorganic, volatile organic, or synthetic organic contaminants. **The tables below show those contaminants that were detected in the water**. The State allows us to monitor for certain substances less often than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. Some of our data, although representative, are more than one year old. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

, ,				Groundwater Source				Surface Water Source			Violation		
Substance	Unit of Measure	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Year	Amount Detected			ear npled	Amount Detected	Range (Low-	Yes	No	Likely source of contamination
Chlorine	mg/L	(4.0 as Cl <sub>2</sub> )	[4 as Cl <sub>2</sub> ]	2021	0.45	ND-2.2	20	021	0.78	ND-3.0		х	Drinking water disinfectant added to treatment
Fluoride	mg/L	2.0	1	2019-2021	0.4 <sup>1</sup>	0.4 <sup>1</sup> ND-0.64		2021 ND		ND		x	Erosion of natural deposits: discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity	pCi/L	15	0	2014-2021	6.8	ND-16	20	013	ND	ND		х	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)*	ug/L	60	NONE	2021	9.9 <b>2</b>	9.9 <sup>2</sup> ND		2021 34 <sup>2</sup>		17-44		x	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (as N)	mg/L	10	10	2021	0.99	0.3-2.6		2021 ND		ND		x	Runoff/leaching from fertilizer use: leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposit
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE)	ug/L	5	0.06	2019-2021	<0.5	ND <b>-</b> 0.71 <sup>3</sup>	).71 <sup>3</sup> N		NA	NA		х	Runoff/leaching from natural deposit
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)*	ug/L	80	NONE	2021	16 <sup>2</sup>	ND-12	20	.021 38 <sup>2</sup>		33-42		x	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity	NTU	5	NONE	2019 <b>-</b> 2021	0.2	0.1 <b>-</b> 0.72	20	021	0.31	0.22-0.40		х	Soil runoff
Surface Water Turbidity <sup>4</sup>	NTU	TT=1 NTU	NONE	NA	NA	NA	20	021	0.31	0.07-0.31		х	Soil runoff
Surface Water Turbidity <sup>9</sup>	NTU	TT= 95% of samples < 0.2 NTU	NONE	NA	NA	NA	20	)21	98.9%	98.9-100%		x	Soil runoff
Uranium	pCi/L	20	0.43	2014-2021	6.3	2.75 <b>-</b> 15.9	١	٨V	NA	NA		х	Erosion of natural deposits
		Tap wat	er samples v	vere collected	re collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout							y.	
				Di	stribution System						Vio <b>l</b> ation		
Substance	Unit of Measure	AL	PHG	Year Sampled	Amou Detected Percen	(90th AL/1	Above Fotal oples	Number of School Sampled		School samples above AL/Total Samples	Yes	No	Likely source of contamination
Copper	mg/L	1.3	0.3	2021	0.22	2 0/	0/30		NA NA			х	Internal corrosion of household/busines water plumbing systems; discharges from industrual manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Lead	ug/L	15	0.2	2021	0	2**	2**/30		0	0		×	Internal corrosion of household/business water plumbing systems; discharges from industrual manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Substance		MCL		MCLG	Highest % postivie samples in any month			Total # of routine positive samples		Total # of repeat <sup>5</sup> positive samples	Violation Yes No		Likely source of contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (State Total Coliform Rule)	5.0% of r	nonth <b>l</b> y sam positive	ples are	0	3.0%			3		0		x	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform and E. coli (State Total Coliform Rule)	Se	ee Footnote	6	0	0			0		0		x	Human and animal fecal waste
E. coli (Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule	Se	ee Footnote	7	0	0					0		x	Human and animal fecal waste

Notification Level (NL): Health-based advisory levels established by the State for chemicals in drinking water that lack maximum contaminant levels (MCLs). When chemicals are found at concentrations greater than their notification levels, certain requirements and recommendations apply.

**Parts Per Billion (PPB):** One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years or one penny in \$10,000,000 (Ten million dollars).

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

OTHER SUBSTANCES

**Parts Per Million (PPM):** One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or one penny in \$10,000 (Ten thousand dollars).

**pH:** An expression of the intensity of the basic or acidcondition of a liquid. The pH may range from 0 to 14, where 0 is most acidic, 14 most basic and 7 neutral.

**PicoCuries per Liter (pCi/L):** A measure of the radioactivity in the water.

Primary Drinking Water Standard (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, such as public notification, that a water system must follow.

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

**UCMR:** Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule

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

< Means "less than": For example <0.2 means the lowest detectable levels is 0.2 and that the contaminant was less than 0.2 and therefore not detected.

\* This number is not the average annual amount \*\* Levels found in rarely used customer faucet, but not in primary fixtures or DWA distribution line. 1. DWA does not add flouride to drinking water.

2. Highest LRAA for 2021.

**3.** Of 22 wellheads in the system, 21 tested nondetect. **4.** Turbidity is regulated as a TT for filtration avoidance and filtration treatment. TT=1 is a requirement for both filtration avoidance and filtration treatment. TT=95% of samples  $\leq 0.2$  NTU is for filtration treatment only. **5.** These repeat sample results validate no violation occurred.

**6.** If a routine and repeat sample are total coliform-positive and either is E. coli positive, or system fails to take repeat samples following E. coli-positive routine sample or a system fails to analyze total coliform positive repeat sample for E. coli, then a violation occurs.

If a routine sample is E. Coli positive and a repeat sample is total coliform positive, then a violation has occurred.
 8. Currently pending approval for regulatory limits.
 9. Surface water provided by Snow Creek Filtration Plant.

				Groundwater Source			Surface Water Source			Violation		
Substance	Unit of Measure	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Year Sampled	Amount Detected	Range (Low- High)	Year Sampled	Amount Detected	Range (Low-High)	Yes	No	Likely source of contamination
Chloride	mg/L	500	NONE	2019-2021	48	10-92	2021	1.3	1.3		x	Runoff/leaching from natural deposit; seawater influence
Color	Units	15	NONE	2019-2020	ND	ND	2021	ND	ND		x	Naturally occurring organic materials
Odor-Theshold	TON	3	NONE	2019-2020	1	1-2	2021	1	1		x	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance	uS/cm	1600	NONE	2019-2020	610	270 <b>-</b> 960	2021	130	130		x	Substance that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate	mg/L	500	45	2019-2021	120	23-220	2021	1.2	1.2		x	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	1000	NONE	2019-2021	400	190 <b>-</b> 640	2021	75	75		х	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Aggressive Index	Al	Non-ag- gressive	NONE	2007-2019	12.4	12-12.7	2021	10.7	10.7		x	Influenced by hydrogen, carbon, oxygen and temperature
Alkalinity	mg/L	NONE	NONE	2019-2021	130	100-150	2021	61	61		x	Function of carbonate, hydroxide and bicarbonate; naturally occuring
Bicarbonate	mg/L	NONE	NONE	2019-2021	130	100-150	2021	61	61		x	Naturally occurring
Barium	mg/L	1	2	2019-2021	ND	ND-0.11	2021	0.039	0.039		x	Naturally occurring
Calcium	mg/L	NONE	NONE	2019-2021	73	29-100	2021	13	13		x	Contributes to water hardness; naturally occurring
Hexavalent Chromium <sup>8</sup>	ug/L	NONE	NONE	2013-2018	1.3	ND-3.9	NA	NA	NA		x	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Hardness	mg/L	NONE	NONE	2019-2021	230	86-330	2021	38	38		x	Naturally occurring
Iron	ug/L	300	None	2019-2020	ND	ND-120	2021	ND	ND		x	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Magnesium	mg/L	NONE	NONE	2019-2021	13	3.2-21	2021	1.1	1.1		x	Contributes to water hardness; naturally occurring
Potassium	mg/L	NONE	NONE	2019	4.5	3.0-7.8	2021	2.3	2.3		×	Leaching from water softeners, fertilizers and natural deposits
рН	pH Unit	NONE	NONE	2019-2021	8.1	8-8.2	2021	7.4	7.4		x	Naturally occurring
Sodium	mg/L	NONE	NONE	2019-2021	40	23 <b>-</b> 77	2021	10	10		x	Naturally occurring

Effective April 1, 2016, all water systems are required to comply with the state Total Coliform Rule and the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule. The new federal rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of microbials (total Coliform and E. coli bacteria). U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection as the new rule requires water systems vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. Water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences are required to do an assessment to determine if any sanitary defects exist. If found, the water system must take corrective action.

# **HEALTH INFORMATION**

# **CHROMIUM-6: WHAT YOU NEED KNOW**



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 can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care 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).

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. Desert Water Agency is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in your property's plumbing. 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 or at http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.



Desert Water Agency is continually monitoring our water system, performing thousands of tests per year to make sure the drinking water we deliver to customers meets all public health standards.

One of the things we test for is chromium-6, also known as hexavalent chromium, a mineral that occurs naturally in the Coachella Valley's groundwater. California may soon become the first and only state in the nation to set a drinking water standard for chromium-6. DWA is fortunate because its water supplies are below the proposed state standard of 10 parts per billion.

Any chromium-6 that is present in the aquifer is diluted when Colorado River imports are blended with groundwater in our portion of the Coachella Valley Groundwater Basin. Because the success of our groundwater recharge program means our water already complies with this new state regulation, DWA is one of the only water providers in the region that will not have to perform additional treatment or build costly new facilities.

The state continues to monitor possible long-term health risks of chromium-6. However, there is no immediate health threat. DWA will continue to prioritize water quality, to ensure that families and businesses in the communities we serve have access to a safe and reliable water supply.

# COMMON WATER QUALITY QUESTIONS

### WHY DOES TAP WATER SOMETIMES SMELL FUNNY?

When your water tastes or smells funny, the problem may or may not be in the water. Odors might actually be coming from your sink drain, where bacteria grow on hair, soap, food, and other things that get trapped. Odorous gases get stirred up when water pours into the drain. Odor can also come from bacteria growing on devices such as water heaters.

### WHY DOES TAP WATER HAVE A FAINT CHLORINE SMELL?

A small amount of chlorine is added to meet drinking water regulations. It is a disinfectant used to provide continuous protection against possible microbial contamination. Regulations limit the amount of chlorine added to tap water so that the water is safe to drink. A slight smell or taste of chlorine is normal.

### WHY DOES MY WATER HAVE A ROTTEN EGG OR SULFUR SMELL?

This smell can occur under some conditions when sulfate is present in the water supply. Improperly maintained water heaters or lack of water circulation within a residence during warmer months are circumstances that may contribute to this odor.

### WHY DOES MY WATER LOOK CLOUDY?

Occasionally, tiny air bubbles in tap water cause a cloudy appearance. Air dissolves into water when pressurized, which occurs in the groundwater basin and in the water pipes that deliver water to your tap. These bubbles dissipate after a few moments in a glass.



### **DO I NEED A SOFTENER?**

No. Desert Water Agency tap water meets all drinking water standards and does not need to be conditioned or filtered. DWA does not prohibit the use of water softeners, but Agency ordinance does prohibit the discharge of excess salt down the drain. Discharged salt can harm the groundwater and may require additional treatment, which would increase the future costs of providing sewer and water services.



# **REGULATORY INFORMATION**

#### 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 by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.

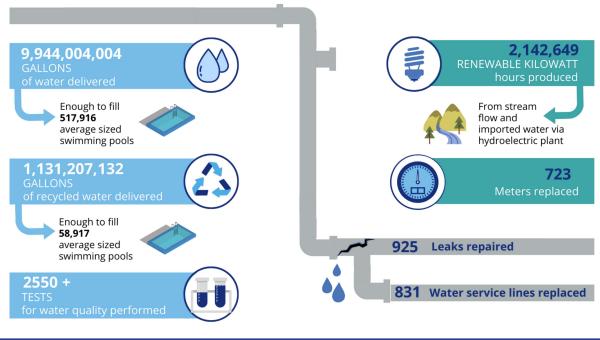
• **Radioactive contaminants**, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.



In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water 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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects is available through the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

# **DESERT WATER AGENCY 2021 YEAR AT A GLANCE**



## **Your Water Quality**

Desert Water Agency is committed to serving healthy, safe drinking water and to keeping you informed about the quality of the water that is delivered to your tap. Our team samples water daily to ensure it meets strict standards. As fluctuating conditions in California continue to affect water supply, it is important for us to support our customers and work together to protect this precious local resource.

By explaining the sources of our water and defining the constituents in the water, this report is our way of providing clear, transparent information to our customers. The board and staff take their responsibility to provide high-quality water very seriously and we're proud to report that our water meets and beats the strictest standards in the nation. If you have any questions when reviewing this report, please contact Paul Monroy, laboratory director, at (760) 323-4971 ext. 169.

# **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**KRISTIN BLOOMER President- Division 5**  JAMES CIOFFI Vice President JOSEPH K. STUART Secretary - Treasurer PATRICIA G. OYGAR Director PAUL ORTEGA Director - Division 4

Board Meetings are held the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 8 a.m.





1200 Gene Autry Trail South, Palm Springs, CA 92264 | (760) 323-4971 www.dwa.org

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Para alguna pregunta o inquietud, llame al 760-323-4971.