

2026 Water Quality Report

Prepared by Xavier Hopkins, June 2026

RCMWC 2026 Water Quality Report

Since 1990, California public water utilities have provided an annual water quality report to their customers. **This year's report covers calendar years 2025 drinking water quality testing and reporting.** Rancho Carrillo Mutual Water Company (RCMWC) 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 (U.S. EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (DDW) are the agencies responsible for establishing and enforcing drinking water quality standards.

RCMWC and other regional water suppliers frequently go beyond what is required by testing for unregulated chemicals that may have health risks but do not have drinking water standards. Monitoring for unregulated chemicals helps U.S. EPA and DDW determine where certain chemicals occur and whether new standards need to be established for those chemicals. Through drinking water quality compliance testing programs carried out by RCMWC, your drinking water is constantly monitored from source to tap for regulated and unregulated constituents.



The state allows drinking water agencies to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some data, though representative, is more than one year old

Questions about your water?
Contact us for questions

If you have questions about this report, please contact the Board of Directors at waterboard@ranchocarrillo.com.

Community Participation

The RCMWC Board of Directors meets on the third Tuesday of every month at the community Rec Center. We encourage homeowners to participate.

The quality of your water is our primary concern

Sources of Supply

RCMWC is committed to providing a clean and reliable water supply for its customers. Our drinking water solely consists of groundwater sourced locally in our service area. This water is currently pumped from 5 active wells located throughout the community.

Basic information about drinking water contaminants

Drinking water sources (both tap and bottled water) may 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:

• **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

• **Pesticides and herbicides**, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, stormwater runoff and residential uses.

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

• **Inorganic contaminants**, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic sewage discharges, oil and gas production, mining and farming.

• **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, stormwater runoff, agricultural application and septic systems. To ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and DDW prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. 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 can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 800-426-4791.

Immuno-compromised 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 chemotherapy, people who have had organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly people and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers.

Information the U.S. EPA would like you to know



presence of microbes (i.e., total coliform and E. coli bacteria). U.S. EPA 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. RCMWC tested the distribution system water quality for E. coli bacteria in 2024 and did not detect it.

Total Coliform Rule

This Water Quality Report 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 state Revised Total Coliform Rule became effective July 1, 2021.

The federal and state rules protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system by monitoring for the



Water quality issues that could affect your health

About lead in tap water

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.



RCMWC is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact RCMWC board of directors at waterboard@ranchocarrillo.com.

Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at *http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.*



Nitrate advisory

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months old. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin.

Nitrate levels above 10 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies.

If you are caring for an infant or are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider. Our water meets all nitrate regulations.

Rancho Carrillo Mutual Water Company Local Drinking Water Quality Results for 2023-2025							
Chemical	MCL	PHG MRDLG (MCLG)	Year Tested	Average Amount	Range of Detections	MCL Violation?	Typical Source of Contamination
Inorganic Chemicals							
Aluminum (ppm)	1	0.6	2023	ND	ND	No	Natural Deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	10	0.004	2023	1.42	ND-4.65	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Barium (ppb)	1000	2000	2023	0.494	ND-1.29	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	10	0.02	2025	ND	ND	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Nitrate (ppm as N)	10	10	2025	4.97	1.5-7.32	No	Fertilizers, Septic Tanks
Nitrate + Nitrite (ppm as N)	10	10	2025	4.97	1.5-7.32	No	Fertilizers, Septic Tanks
Secondary Standards							
Aluminum (ppb)	200	600	2023	ND	ND	No	Natural Deposits
Chloride (ppm)	500	n/a	2023	46.1	27.9-105	No	Leaching from Natural Deposits
Color (color units)	15	n/a	2023	ND	ND	No	Naturally-Occurring Organic Substances
Copper (ppm)	1.0	n/a	2023	0.0045	0.0023-0.0067	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Iron (µg/L)	300	n/a	2023	ND	ND	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (µg/L)	50	n/a	2023	ND	ND	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor (TON)	3	n/a	2023	ND	ND	No	Naturally-Occurring Organic Materials
Specific Conductance (umho/cm @ 25°C)	1600	n/a	2023	607	ND-967	No	Ions in Water
Sulfate (ppm)	500	n/a	2023	42.1	ND-60.9	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1000	n/a	2023	345	264-572	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5	n/a	2023	0.06	ND-0.2	No	Erosion of Natural Deposits
Zinc (mg/L)	5.0	n/a	2023	0.0586	0.0586	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Unregulated Contaminants							
Alkalinity (ppm as carbonate)	Not regulated	n/a	2023	ND	ND	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Alkalinity (ppm as bicarbonate)	Not regulated	n/a	2023	176	110-325	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Calcium (ppm)	Not regulated	n/a	2023	65.5	29.5-133	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Hardness, Total (ppm as CaCO3)	Not regulated	n/a	2023	179	80-365	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
Magnesium (ppm)	Not regulated	n/a	2023	13.6	4.01-30.2	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits
pH (pH units)	Not regulated	n/a	2023	7.66	7.24-7.93	No	Acidity, Hydrogen Ions

Sodium (ppm)	Not regulated	n/a	2023	50.6	31.8-78.2	No	Runoff or Leaching from Natural Deposits

ppb = parts-per-billion; **ppm** = parts-per-million; **pCi/L** = picoCuries per liter; **NTU** = nephelometric turbidity units; **ND** = not detected; **n/a** = not applicable; **MCL** = Maximum Contaminant Level; **(MCLG)** = federal MCL Goal; **PHG** = California Public Health Goal; **µmho/cm** = micromho per centimeter

Lead and Copper Action Levels at Residential Taps - 2023						
Chemical	**Action Level**	**Public Health Goal (PHG)**	**90th Percentile Value**	**Sites Exceeding AL / Number of Sites**	**MCL Violation?**	**Typical Source of Contamination**
Copper (ppm)	0.3	0.3	0.005	0/5	No	Corrosion of Household Plumbing
Lead (ppb)	15	0.2	ND	0/5	No	Corrosion of Household Plumbing

Radiologicals - 2023						
Contaminant	**MCL**	**Year Tested**	**Highest Detected Level**	**Range of Detections**	**Major Source in Drinking Water**	**Health Effects Language**
Gross Alpha Particle Activity	15 pCi/L	2023	0.299	ND to 0.299	Erosion of natural deposits	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.
Combined Radium (-226 & -228)	5 pCi/L	2023	0.157	ND to 0.157	Erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing radium 226 or 228 in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Uranium	20 pCi/L	2023	1.58	ND to 1.58	Erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL over many years may have kidney problems or an increased risk of getting cancer.