



ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

PUBLISHED JUNE 2023
EVMWD.COM



**ELSINORE
VALLEY**

MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable.
Nuestros clientes que hablan español pueden comunicarse con el Distrito
al teléfono (951) 674-3146 para recibir una traducción del informe.

Letter from the
GENERAL MANAGER

At Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD), we take our mission to deliver total water management that powers the health and vibrancy of our communities so that life can flourish seriously. Clean, affordable, and available water is necessary for a sustainable future. We understand that our community relies on the water services that we provide.

As a water agency with more than 47,000 water and wastewater connections, we know that the future vitality of our region lies in EVMWD's commitment to the following:



WATER QUALITY

A dedication to meeting and exceeding state and federal regulations relating to water quality. Transparency to communicate the efforts we take to ensure we are meeting water quality targets by compiling over 34,711 water test results obtained from 3,039 water samples collected throughout the year in accordance with State requirements.



SUSTAINABILITY

EVMWD's ongoing commitment to sustainable supplies for our region means having a diverse portfolio of water resources, including local groundwater, surface water and imported water for drinking; and recycled water supplies to support irrigation throughout our community.



PLANNING FOR FUTURE

Through ongoing planning, collaboration and innovation, we are dedicated to ensuring reliable resources for the future. Long term planning and expert guidance helps us prepare for future changing weather conditions, growth, and replacing infrastructure.

We always keep our mission, vision, and values at the forefront of all that we do to ensure quality for our customers. As we continue to look into the future, our water management solutions and commitment to water quality will remain a top priority. As you review this 2022 water quality report, we encourage you to learn more about how EVMWD provides you with clean and reliable drinking water everyday for everyone.



Greg Thomas
GREG THOMAS
General Manager
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District

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Phone: (951) 674-3146
Mon.-Thurs. 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Fri. 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

STAY CONNECTED EVMWD.COM



INTEGRATED RESOURCES PLAN
Investing in our future through
resource planning

In 2017, EVMWD's Integrated Resources Plan (IRP) was established as the basis for water supply reliability and resilience planning. Over the past five years, various factors such as population growth, climate change impacts on imported water, and the rising cost of imported water have prompted EVMWD to revise the plan.

Currently, EVMWD is reviewing its IRP so we can achieve critical goals to ensure our customers receive reliable, high-quality water and continue to thrive. We invite the public to take part in this process by tuning into presentations about the IRP at upcoming EVMWD board meetings.

Learn more at www.evmwd.com.



PFAS: Upgrades to
Canyon Lake Treatment Plant

At Elsinore Valley and other communities across California, low levels of widely understood per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS – PFOA, PFHxS, and PFOS) – have been recently detected in local water supplies. These “forever chemicals” enter our water sources through runoff, landfills, and manufacturing.

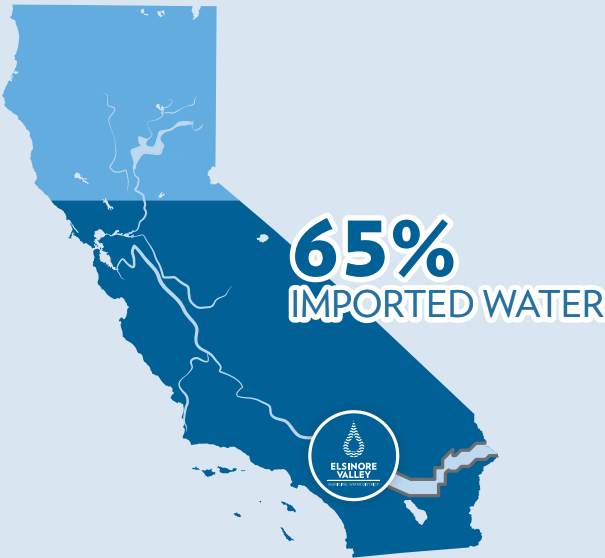
In 2019, elevated levels of PFAS were detected at the Canyon Lake Treatment plant, and the facility was taken offline. EVMWD secured \$3.7 million in federal relief funds to help upgrade the treatment plant, a critical local water source. Once the upgrade project is completed, the plant will again provide a safe and consistent supply of local drinking water for our community.

As these levels are better understood, EVMWD will continue to be on the forefront of water treatment technologies and ensure our drinking water continues to meet all federal and state standards for PFAS.



EVMWD WATER SOURCES

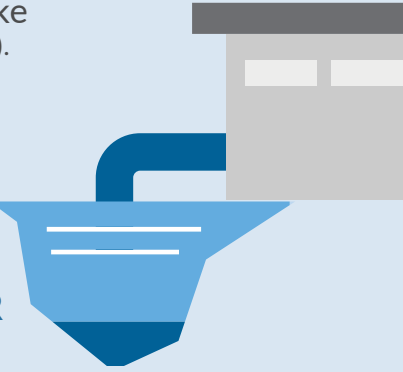
Where does EVMWD water come from?



Our imported water comes from the State Water Project in Northern California and the Colorado River Aqueduct. This water travels through pipes and canals to Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and on through to our facilities at Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District

Our local water is pumped from groundwater wells and from surface water reserves in Canyon Lake (currently offline).

35%
LOCAL WATER



California's SHIFT in WEATHER Patterns

Thanks to record winter storms that brought increased rainfall, most of California has escaped the clutches of a long and harsh drought. Our reservoirs and groundwater basins are filling up as a much-needed result, which will be essential to supporting our communities and businesses throughout the rest of this year. Despite this exciting short-term success, it is clear we are in need of a much longer-term answer to our state's growing water crisis.

The irregular weather patterns we've been seeing – long periods of drought and heavy rains that result in flooding – create uncertainty for our water systems. We can safely anticipate that California is going to continue experiencing unpredictable weather like this well into the future.

We commend our community for embracing water efficiency as a way of life in every season. Together, we can continue working to improve our local water situation by optimizing our current resources and investing in future solutions.

We are doing our part, too. EVMWD actively seeks funds from State and Federal sources for storage and infrastructure development. We've secured over \$7,000,000 towards crucial water quality projects, like Canyon Lake Treatment Plant upgrade and Lee Lake Wells PFAS treatment upgrade.

Participation in regional initiatives, like the 'Solve the Water Crisis' effort, is another key contribution by EVMWD. This initiative aims at addressing state level storage and supply issues while advocating for broad infrastructure investments, ensuring reliable water supplies for communities.

Despite the latest drought crisis and in the face of increasingly frequent climatic changes, EVMWD's commitment to water sustainability and resiliency remains steadfast. The efforts will continue as EVMWD embarks on it's next phases securing water for the future of our community.



Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District

FACES BEHIND EVMWD WATER

Water quality is our top priority. Did you know that the EVMWD team works 24/7 to ensure that you always have clean, reliable water every time you turn on the tap? From our operations administrative group team, to water quality, to our operations crew, we work around the clock to serve our customers every day and every hour.



ANIVEY CASANADA
Administrative Assistant,
Water Resources and Operations

Customers calling EVMWD with a water emergency, such as a burst hydrant or a water main break, will likely speak with Anivey. She dispatches a crew as quickly as possible to stop water waste and ensure that the area remains safe for pedestrians and cars. She completes valuable outreach regarding annual backflow compliance testing and backflow device theft prevention measures to ensure the community is safe and has access to a reliable water supply.

"When I receive water emergency phone calls, I am always aware of the time-sensitive nature of the situation. Effective and reliable communication both internally and externally is critical to prevent the major loss of water."

- Anivey



LENAI HUNTER
Regulatory Compliance Specialist

Serving as a Regulatory Compliance Specialist, Lenai ensures that water quality always meets or exceeds federal, state, and local regulations by analyzing sample data, monitoring permits, and performing inspections. Lenai is a vital part of the team, working to protect local water resources, public health and the surrounding environment.

"I take pride in serving the community by providing oversight of the permits and ensuring that water quality goals are achieved. I believe it is incredibly important to people, including myself and my family, that when they turn on the tap they can trust and have confidence they are receiving high quality water."

- Lenai



RAYMOND MCCULLOUGH
Field Maintenance Worker III,
Preventative Maintenance

Raymond loves his job at EVMWD. His team has the important role of maintaining EVMWD's critical infrastructure for reliable water supply to the community. Having worked with EVMWD 13 years, he enjoys mentoring the newer employees that are entering the field to ensure the local community has infrastructure that they can depend on. He has been an important part of building resiliency in the face of constant climate and environmental challenges.

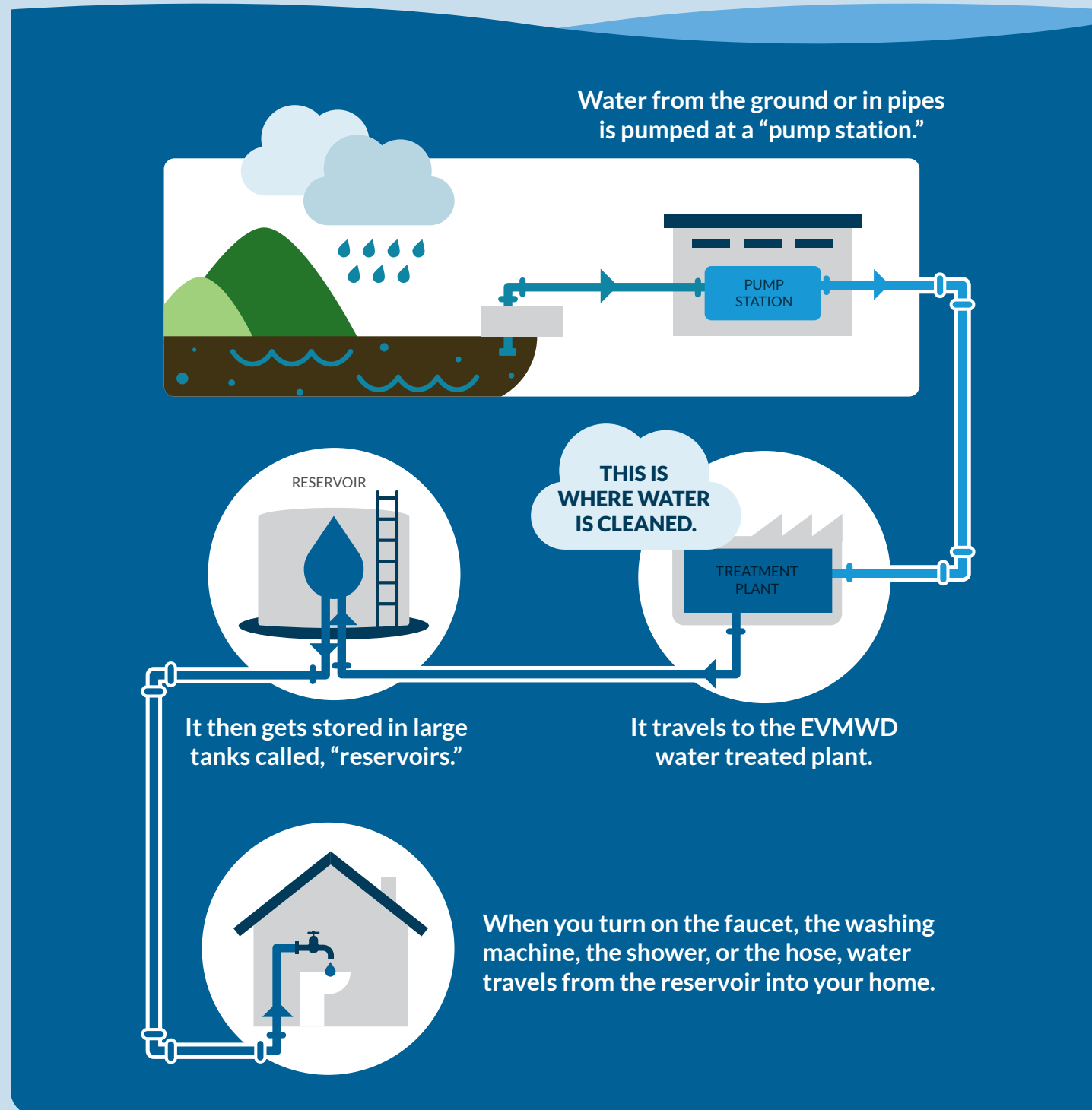
"I enjoy the genuine camaraderie that has been built in my team because we know we have the common purpose of making sure our infrastructure can serve the people in our community. We work hard to test and service our infrastructure in order to prevent any issues."

- Raymond

TAP WATER DISTRIBUTION

How WATER is Delivered to YOUR HOME

We provide our customers with high-quality water service. We work hard to secure water from a variety of sources – ensuring a reliable supply to your home.



How to Read Your Water Quality Report

Reading this Water Quality Report doesn't have to be complicated.

This report is produced in 2023 but contains information from over 34,711 water tests collected in 2022. Each year the State of California requires that water agencies report water quality reports from June 30th for the previous year.

What does DLR mean?

DLR stands for Detection Limits for Purposes of Reporting. This is the result from water quality sampling that is shown in this report.

TIP: Compare the DLR (detected results) to the MCLs and the PHGs. Remember that MCL are required limits and PHG are recommendations.

What does ND mean?

ND means the constituent being tested was non detectable.

What is the Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)?

The MCL is the highest level that a contaminant can safely be present in drinking water. Review the report tables. Find the contaminant that you want to evaluate. Look at what the allowable MCL is. Next, see the level listed in the data chart.

TIP: Compare the MCLs for each contaminant to the levels noted in the data charts.

What does the PHG column mean?

The PHG column represents the Public Health Goals set by the California Environmental Protection Agency. They represent the level at which a contaminant has no known or expected health risks.

TIP: Compare the PHGs for each contaminant to the levels noted in the data charts. Public Health Goals can differ from MCLs and not all PHGs have a maximum level stated.



152 Drinking Water System sampling sites tested throughout the service area



3,039 Water Samples collected



34,711 Tests Performed to ensure water quality

FOR PERSPECTIVE



Part Per **MILLION** or Milligrams/Liter
= **1 DROP IN 13.6 GALLONS**



Part Per **BILLION** or Milligrams/Liter
= **1 DROP IN 13,563 GALLONS**



Part Per **TRILLION** or Milligrams/Liter
= **1 DROP IN 13,563,368 GALLONS**

ABOUT YOUR WATER QUALITY REPORT

Enclosed for your review is our accumulation of 2022 water quality testing. Testing frequency and water quality levels are set by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (SWRCB-DDW). Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District's goals are to provide safe drinking water to its customers and follow the policies and procedures of the State of California and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA). EVMWD maintains chlorine disinfectant residuals in the drinking water as mandated by the SWRCB-DDW and U.S. EPA.

Assessments of drinking water sources were completed as required by the SWRCB-DDW. Copies of source assessments are available at EVMWD. Per State guidelines, some EVMWD wells are considered vulnerable to activities including: airports, gravel mining, machine shops, maintenance yards, septic systems, sewer collections systems, and transportation corridors, which can each contribute to Nitrate and PFAS detections. The below wells had detections in their raw waters during 2022 and underwent blending and/or treatment as per State Permits. Water deliveries to the distribution system met all State drinking water quality standards.

PFOA: Above RL (Response Level) of 10 ppt in Station 71 Well, Flagler 2A Well, Flagler 3A Well, Summerly Well and Above NL of 5.1 ppt in Diamond Well, MWD-Mills TYP & Flagler Wells Blend, and Temescal System Blend
PFOS: Above NL of 6.5 ppt in Flagler 2A Well, Flagler 3A Well, Summerly Well and Diamond Well
Vanadium: Above NL of 50 ppb in Cereal 3 Well, Cereal 4 Well (naturally occurring)
PFHxS: Above NL of 3 ppt in Flagler 2A & 3A Wells, Station 71 Well, Corydon Well, Diamond Well, Cereal 1 Well, Cereal 4 Well, and CLWTP (Off during 2022); and Above RL of 20 ppt in Summerly Well (Off during 2022).
Nitrate: Below MCL of 10 ppm but above AL in Flagler 2A Well and Terra Cotta Well
Arsenic: Above MCL of 10 ppb in Cereal 3 Well, Cereal 4 Well, Joy Well (naturally occurring)

HEALTH EFFECTS LANGUAGE:
PFOA: Exposures resulted in increased liver weight and cancer in laboratory animals.
PFOS: Exposures resulted in immune suppression and cancer in laboratory animals.
PFHxS: Exposures resulted in decreased total thyroid hormone in male rats.
Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. 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
Vanadium: Exposures resulted in developmental and reproductive effects in rats.

Important facts from the US EPA about drinking water

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 UNTREATED SOURCES MAY INCLUDE:

Primary Contaminants adversely affect public health. **Secondary Contaminants** may cause cosmetic effects (such as skin or tooth discoloration) or aesthetic effects (such as taste, odor, or color) in drinking water.



Microbial contaminants (Primary), such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.



Pesticides and herbicides (Primary), which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff, and residential uses.



Organic chemical contaminants (Primary), including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.



Inorganic contaminants (Primary & Secondary), such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.



Radioactive contaminants (Primary), which can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production, and mining activities.

In order to ensure water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the SWRCB prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. SWRCB regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water to provide the same protection for public health.

WATER QUALITY TERMS

- AVERAGE:** The average reported in the data is the combined result of multiple collection samples.

MAXIMUM CONTAMINANT LEVEL (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the Public Health Goals (PHG) (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 (EPA).

MAXIMUM RESIDUAL DISINFECTANT LEVEL (MRDL): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that the 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.

RESPONSE LEVEL (RL): Are health-based advisory level established by the state for chemicals in drinking water that lack maximum contaminant levels (MCLs).

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 that a water system must follow.

TREATMENT TECHNIQUE (TT): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

TURBIDITY: Is a measure of the cloudiness of the water, and it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

UNREGULATED CONTAMINANT MONITORING RULE (UCMR): Helps USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.
- 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, is more than one year old.

Important Info from the EPA 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 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 at 1-800-426-4791 or visiting the EPA's web site at www.epa.gov. Trace chemicals are measured in parts per million (ppm), which is the same as milligrams per liter (mg/L). Some constituents are measured in parts per billion (ppb).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Those who may be particularly at risk include cancer patients, organ transplant recipients, people with HIV-AIDS or other immune system disorders, as well as some elderly individuals and infants. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (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 at 1-800-426-4791 or visit water.epa.gov/drink/hotline.

 **ARSENIC** Your drinking water contains low levels of arsenic that fall within state and federal health-based standards and are below thresholds that would require corrective action. To protect public health, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency sets maximum levels for contaminants based on the best available treatment technology to remove them from drinking water. The EPA continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations that is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and circulatory problems. In 2008, EVMWD completed construction on the \$8 million Back Basin Groundwater Treatment facility that removes arsenic and other naturally occurring contaminants that are often found in groundwater.

 **LEAD** Since 2017, public schools have had the option of requesting that local water agencies collect water samples to test for lead. New regulations required local water agencies to test lead levels by July 1, 2019, at all K-12 schools constructed before 2010. During 2018-19, EVMWD completed drinking water lead testing at all K-12 public schools in the service area. None of the schools exceeded the Action Level for Lead in tap waters. 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. EVMWD 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, toll free at 1-800-426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Federal and State regulations have been updated with new guidelines for identifying service pipe materials for the customer owned portions (from the water meter to the dwelling unit), installed before 1986. We invite you to participate in the required data collection effort. Visit www.evmwd.com/CLTest to learn more about these requirements.

 **SALT** One of the most important issues facing water supplies throughout Southern California today is salinity. Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), also known as salinity, is the concentration of dissolved mineral salts such as calcium, magnesium, sodium sulfate, and chloride. Local water supplies and recycled water have continued to show an increase in salt content. Though these salts are viewed as an aesthetic standard by the State Water Resources Control Board, too much salt can negatively impact our local water sources, agriculture, and our environment. EVMWD is currently exploring options on how to meet state-mandated requirements to eliminate the overabundance of these salts.

 **RADON** Radon is a naturally occurring gas formed from the normal radioactive decay of uranium. Radon has been detected in our finished water supply. There are no regulatory limits prescribed for radon levels in drinking water – the pathway to radon exposure occurs primarily through its presence in the air. Exposure over a long period of time to air containing radon may cause adverse health effects. If you are concerned about radon in your home, testing is inexpensive and easy. For more information, call your state radon program (1-800-745- 7236), the National Safe Council's Radon Hotline (1-800-SOSRADON), or the EPA Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline (1-800- 426-4791).



Revised Total Coliform Rule

This water quality report reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements effective since July 2021. These revisions add the requirements of the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule. We continually ensure the integrity of our drinking water distribution system via ongoing testing for the presence of microbials (i.e., total coliform and E. coli bacteria). 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.



Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
31315 Chaney Street
P.O. Box 3000
Lake Elsinore, CA 92531

Annual Water Quality Report

PUBLISHED JUNE 2023

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- ◆ Jack T. Ferguson, Division 4
- ◆ Andy Morris, Division 5

Spanish Water Quality Report Now Available

The Water Quality Report is now available in Spanish. Please contact us for a copy to be mailed to your home or view electronically at EVMWD.com/ccr

El Informe de Calidad del Agua ahora está disponible en español. Por favor contáctenos para obtener una copia que le enviaremos por correo a su domicilio o puede ver en forma electrónica a través de EVMWD.com/ccr

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