

2023

# Consumer Confidence Report

## INTRODUCTION

This Consumer Confidence Report was created to help City of Sacramento water customers understand where their water comes from and what it contains.

Routine water supply testing for more than 100 substances is performed to confirm that your water meets or exceeds all federal and state drinking water standards.

This report, published on June 3, 2024, summarizes detected water quality results for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023 and may include earlier monitoring data.

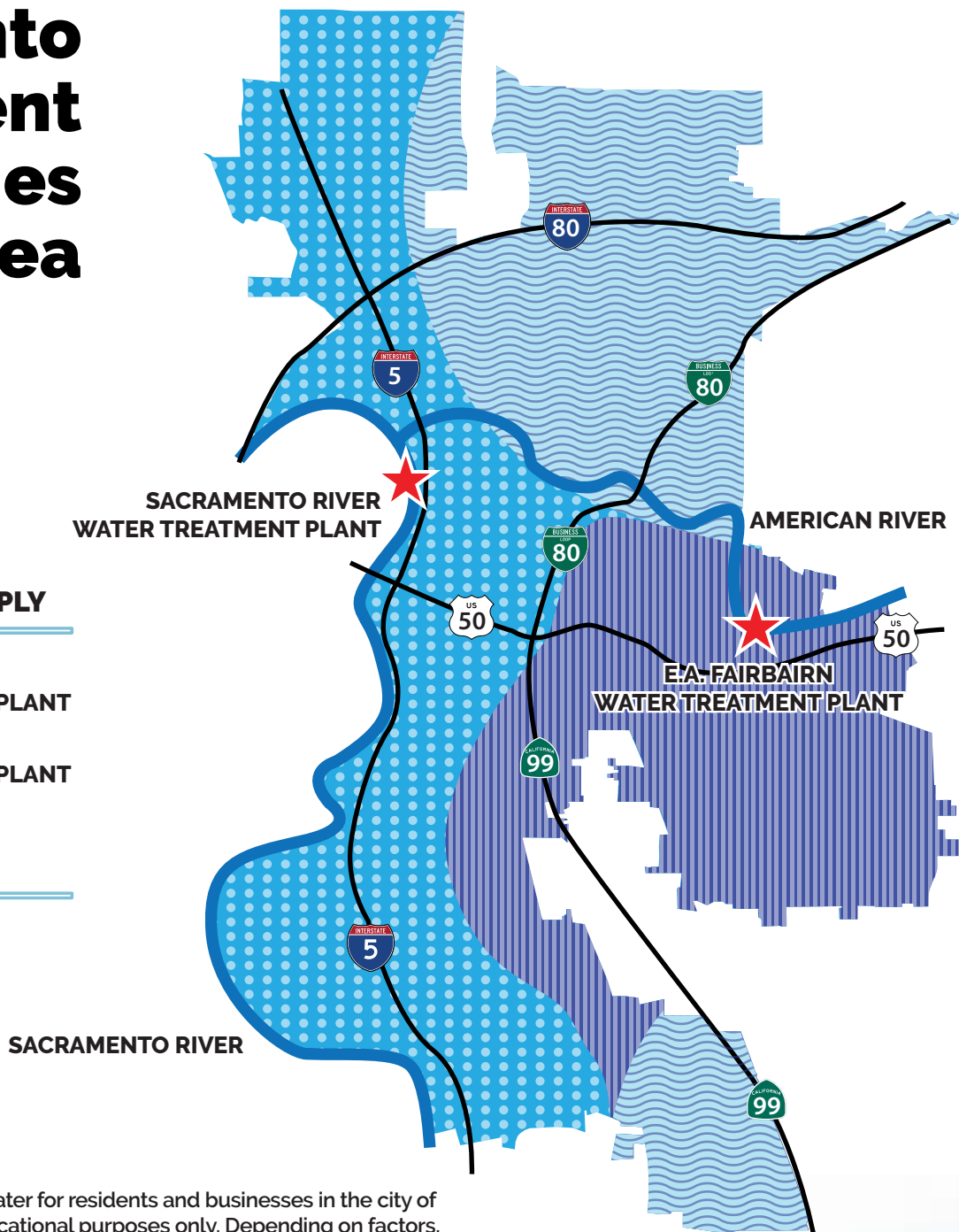
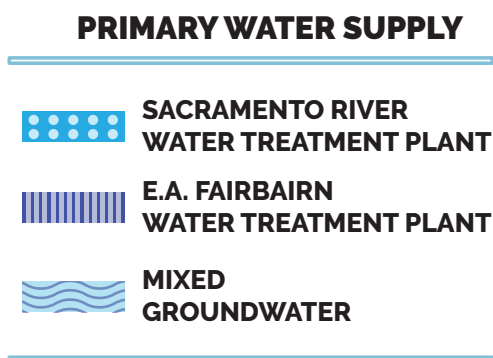
The City is committed to providing customers with up-to-date information on their drinking water. For more detailed information, visit [www.sacramentowaterquality.com](http://www.sacramentowaterquality.com)



## WATER EFFICIENCY

Water efficiency is a way of life in California, and the City of Sacramento continues to encourage water conservation. Find tips to save water and available rebates at [www.sacwaterwise.com](http://www.sacwaterwise.com)

# City of Sacramento Department of Utilities Service Area



This map represents sources of water for residents and businesses in the city of Sacramento, and is meant for educational purposes only. Depending on factors, such as water supply, demand, and time of year, individual residents or businesses could receive water from a mixture of City of Sacramento water sources.

## Sources of Water

Eighty percent of the City of Sacramento's water supply comes from the American and Sacramento rivers, and about 20 percent comes from groundwater wells. For more information on sources of water, see the "Source Water Assessment" on page 03.

# Source Water Assessment

A watershed sanitary survey evaluates source water quality and potential watershed contaminant sources to provide information that helps maintain and improve source water protection, the first barrier in protecting public health. An evaluation of water treatment plant capabilities and treated water quality provides an assessment of the ability of a water utility to treat their source water.

Initial reports for the Sacramento River and American River water sources were completed in 2000 and 2001. These reports indicated that both rivers are vulnerable to contaminants from recreational activities and that the Sacramento River is also vulnerable to agricultural contaminants. The City of Sacramento, in partnership with several other water utilities, complete Watershed Sanitary Survey updates of the river water sources every five years. These updates were most recently completed in 2020 and 2023 for the Sacramento and American rivers, respectively.

An assessment of the City's groundwater wells was completed in January 2001. Due to their proximity to potential contaminant sources, the wells north of the American River are considered vulnerable to sewage collection systems, leaking underground storage tanks, known contaminants, agricultural drainage, gas stations, dry cleaners, metal plating and chemical processing storage facilities, electrical/electronic manufacturing, and automobile repair and body shops. Wells south of the American River are considered vulnerable to leaking underground storage tanks and sewage collection systems.

Despite these potential vulnerabilities, your water continues to meet or exceed all state and federal drinking water standards. Please call 916-808-5454 to request a summary of the assessments or make an appointment for an in-person viewing.



# Required Disclosures for Drinking Water Consumers

This information is presented to further educate consumers 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 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.

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. State Water Board regulations 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'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).

# Water Quality Analysis Results For 2023

Your water meets or exceeds all federal and state drinking water standards.

- The City of Sacramento tests for more than 100 substances; however, this report only lists those detected at or above the federal or state level for reporting.
- Per the State, some contaminants may be monitored 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.

1 Regulated for Public Health (Primary Drinking Water Standard)						Regulated for Public Health (Primary Drinking Water Standard)			
	Constituent (Unit)	Highest Amount Allowed MCL, MRDL or TT	State or Federal Goal PHG, MCLG or MRDLG	Year Monitored	System Average	PRIMARY WATER SUPPLY			Typical Sources in Drinking Water
						E.A. Fairbairn Water Treatment Plant (American River)	Sacramento River Water Treatment Plant	City of Sacramento Groundwater	
DISINFECTION and DBPs	Chlorine as Cl <sub>2</sub> (mg/L)	4	4	2023	0.7	ND – 1.3 <sup>A</sup>			Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
	Haloacetic Acids (µg/L)	60	NA	2023	45 <sup>B</sup>	5.5 – 53 <sup>B</sup>			By-product of drinking water disinfection
	Trihalomethanes (µg/L)	80	NA	2023	68 <sup>B</sup>	10 – 74 <sup>B</sup>			By-product of drinking water disinfection
	Control of DBP Precursors - TOC (mg/L)	2.0	NA	2023	NA	1.8 <sup>C</sup>	1.5 <sup>C</sup>	NA	Various natural and man-made sources
INORGANIC COMPOUNDS	Arsenic (µg/L)	10	0.004	2023	2.7	ND	ND	2.3 – 4.6	Erosion of natural deposits
	Barium (mg/L)	1	2	2023	ND	ND	ND	ND – 0.2	Erosion of natural deposits
	Copper (mg/L)	1.3 [AL]	0.3	2023	0.06	56 samples collected; 0 individual samples exceeded AL; 90th percentile concentration: 0.06 (Less than AL, meets requirement)			Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems
	Fluoride in source water (mg/L) <sup>D</sup>	2.0	1	2023	ND	ND	ND	ND – 0.1	Erosion of natural deposits
	Fluoride in treated water (mg/L) <sup>D</sup>	2.0	1	2023	0.7	0.0 – 1.5 <sup>A</sup>			Water additive that promotes strong teeth
	Lead (µg/L)	15 [AL]	0.2	2023	ND	56 samples collected; 0 individual samples exceeded AL; 90th percentile concentration: ND (Less than AL, meets requirement)			Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems
	Nitrate as Nitrogen (mg/L)	10	10	2023	1.5	ND	ND	ND – 3.7	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
	Selenium (µg/L)	50	30	2023	ND	ND	ND	ND – 5.9	Erosion of natural deposits
RADIO-LOGICAL	Combined Radium (pCi/L)	5	0	2016 - 2023	ND	ND	ND	ND – 4.2	Erosion of natural deposits
	Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	15	0	2016 - 2023	ND	ND	ND	ND – 10	Erosion of natural deposits
	Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0	2016 - 2023	ND	ND	ND	ND – 3.9	Erosion of natural deposits
TREATMENT TECHNIQUE	Turbidity (NTU) <sup>E</sup>	1	NA	2023	NA	0.09	0.24	NA	Soil runoff
	Turbidity (NTU) <sup>E</sup>	at least 95% of samples ≤ 0.3	NA	2023	NA	100%	100%	NA	Soil runoff

(A) Range of all results observed in distribution system; samples with ND chlorine undergo further analysis to ensure water supply safety.

(B) Compliance with MCL confirmed quarterly (every three months); system average shown represents highest locational running annual average calculated during any of the four quarters of 2023 while range represents all results observed in distribution system. Individual results may exceed the MCL as long as the running annual average does not.

(C) Compliance with TT confirmed quarterly (every three months); value shown represents highest running annual average calculated during any of the four quarters of 2023.

(D) In accordance with State law, the City of Sacramento adjusts the natural levels of fluoride in our water supplies to the optimal level determined by the Centers for Disease Control. More information about fluoridation is available at: [www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.shtml)

(E) Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. We monitor it because it is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants.

Units

µg/L

micrograms per liter: unit of concentration, equivalent to 1 part per billion or 1 second in nearly 32 years

µS/cm

microsiemens per centimeter: measure of electrical conductivity

mg/L

milligrams per liter: unit of concentration equivalent to 1 part per million or 1 second in 11.5 years

ng/L

nanograms per liter: unit of concentration equivalent to 1 part per trillion or 1 second in nearly 32,000 years

NTU

Nephelometric Turbidity Units: measures cloudiness of water

pCi/L

picocuries per liter: measures radiation

TON

Theshold Odor Number: The greatest dilution of a sample with odor-free water that yields a detectable odor

Key Terms and Abbreviations

90th Percentile

The value for which 90 percent of samples had a lower result

AL

Action Level: The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow

Constituent

A chemical or parameter measured in the water supply

DBPs

Disinfection By-Products: Substances that can form during a reaction of a disinfectant with naturally present organic matter in the water

Cl<sub>2</sub>

Free Chlorine: chlorine available for disinfection

MCL

Maximum Contaminant Level: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHG (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

MCLG

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal: 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.

MRDL

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level: 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.

MRDLG

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal: The level of 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.

NA

Not applicable

ND

Not detected

PDWS

Primary Drinking Water Standard: MCLs, MRDLs and treatment techniques (TTs) for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements

PHG

Public Health Goal: 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.

TOC

Total Organic Carbon: a measurement of the potential of water to form DBPs

TT

Treatment Technique: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water



## 2 Regulated for Drinking Water Aesthetics (Secondary MCL)

Constituent (Unit)	Highest Amount Allowed MCL	Year Monitored	System Average	PRIMARY WATER SUPPLY			Typical Sources
				E.A. Fairbairn Water Treatment Plant (American River)	Sacramento River Water Treatment Plant	City of Sacramento Groundwater	
Chloride (mg/L)	500	2023	33	ND	5.8	19 – 64	Erosion or leaching of natural deposits
Color (units)	15	2023	ND	ND – 5 <sup>A</sup>			Naturally occurring organic materials
Odor (TON)	3	2023	ND	ND – 1.5 <sup>A</sup>			Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	1600	2023	386	66.9	162	310 – 731	Substances that form ions when in water
Sulfate (mg/L)	500	2023	11	4.9	17	5.6 – 35	Erosion or leaching of natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	1000	2023	254	40	100	200 – 500	Erosion or leaching of natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5	2023	ND	ND – 4.3 <sup>A</sup>			Soil runoff

(A) Range of all results observed in distribution system.

## 3 Other Parameters of Interest to Customers / Constituents With No Established MCL

Constituent (Unit)	Year Monitored	System Average	PRIMARY WATER SUPPLY		
			E.A. Fairbairn Water Treatment Plant (American River)	Sacramento River Water Treatment Plant	City of Sacramento Groundwater
Calcium (mg/L)	2023	26	8.5	17	18 – 56
Chromium, Hexavalent (µg/L) <sup>G</sup>	2023	4.4	ND	ND	ND – 7.6
Hardness (mg/L)	2023	135	26	61	84 – 284
Hardness (grains per gallon)	2023	7.9	1.5	3.6	4.9 – 17
Magnesium (mg/L)	2023	17	1.1	4.9	9.7 – 37
Sodium (mg/L)	2023	24	1.4	6.6	16 – 43
Total Alkalinity (mg/L)	2023	123	17	49	94 – 230
UCMR4	Manganese (µg/L)	2018 - 2020	2.3	0.8	ND
	Total HAA5 (µg/L) <sup>H</sup>	2018 - 2020	24.1	4.2 – 35 <sup>A</sup>	
	Total HAA6Br (µg/L) <sup>H</sup>	2018 - 2020	3.4	1.0 – 7.8 <sup>A</sup>	
	Total HAA9 (µg/L) <sup>H</sup>	2018 - 2020	27	5.0 – 38 <sup>A</sup>	
UCMR5	Lithium (µg/L)	2023	ND	ND	ND – 22
	Perfluorobutanoic acid (ng/L)	2023	ND	ND	ND – 7.4
	Perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (ng/L)	2023	ND	ND	ND – 6.2
	Perfluoroheptanoic acid (ng/L)	2023	ND	ND	ND – 4.4
	Perfluorohexanoic acid (ng/L)	2023	ND	ND	ND – 5.7
	Perfluorohexanesulfonic acid (ng/L)	2023	ND	ND	ND – 19
	Perfluorooctanoic acid (ng/L)	2023	ND	ND	ND – 17
	Perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (ng/L)	2023	ND	ND	ND – 36
	Perfluoropentanoic acid (ng/L)	2023	ND	ND	ND – 6.4

(A) Range of all results observed in distribution system.

(G) There was no MCL for hexavalent chromium in effect during 2023; The previous MCL of 10 µg/L was withdrawn on September 11, 2017.

(H) The Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR) requires a new list of no more than 30 unregulated contaminants to be monitored by public water systems every five years in order to assist the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in regulatory decisions.

(I) The fourth UCMR required monitoring for Haloacetic Acid groups "HAA5", "HAA6Br" and "HAA9", in addition to regulated Haloacetic Acids (HAA5) presented in Table 1. For more information visit [www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2017-03/documents/ucmr4-fact-sheet-general.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2017-03/documents/ucmr4-fact-sheet-general.pdf)



# What You Should Know About...

## LEAD

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 customer service lines and home plumbing. The City of Sacramento is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in customer 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 EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791 or at [www.epa.gov/lead](http://www.epa.gov/lead)

## LEAD IN SCHOOLS

The City of Sacramento from 2017 to 2019 provided lead testing to all public schools pre-kindergarten to 12th grade that receive City of Sacramento water, as well as private schools that opted to participate. More than 600 samples were tested from 132 schools, and results were non-detect (less than 5 micrograms per liter) in 97 percent of the samples. All results are publicly available on the State Water Board's website: [www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/leadsamplinginschools.html](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/leadsamplinginschools.html)

## CYANOTOXINS

Microcystins and cylindrospermopsin are algal toxins produced by naturally occurring cyanobacteria in surface water sources (such as the American and Sacramento rivers). These compounds are subject to a U.S. EPA Health Advisory and due to their potential presence in our source waters, the City of Sacramento voluntarily monitors for these compounds during certain seasons, typically summer through late fall. There were no detections of microcystins or cylindrospermopsin during routine monitoring in 2023. For more information, visit: [www.epa.gov/habs/epa-drinking-water-health-advisories-cyanotoxins](http://www.epa.gov/habs/epa-drinking-water-health-advisories-cyanotoxins)



## **EARTHY OR MUSTY TASTE AND ODOR**

Some customers may notice an “earthy” taste in City drinking water, most often in late summer. This is due to the presence of geosmin and 2-methylisoborneol, which are odor compounds that are not removed through conventional water treatment. Although these compounds do not affect the safety of the City’s drinking water, some customers find the taste and odor to be unpleasant. Chilling the water can help improve the taste.

## **REVISED TOTAL COLIFORM RULE COMPLIANCE STATUS**

The Revised Total Coliform Rule protects public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of microbials, specifically 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. Additionally, water systems that exceed the E. coli maximum contaminant level are required to issue public notification within 24 hours. On June 21, 2023, one routine sample tested positive for E. coli but repeat samples tested negative for total coliforms (and E. coli), demonstrating that the E. coli maximum contaminant level was not exceeded. The City of Sacramento was in compliance with the rule throughout 2023.

## **PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES (PFAS)**

According to the California State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water, exposure to per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (which are known as PFAS) through drinking water has become an increasing concern due to the tendency of PFAS to accumulate in groundwater. PFAS are a large group of human-made chemicals that have been used in waterproof, stain-resistant, or non-stick consumer products. In addition, they have been used in firefighting foam and various industrial processes.

As part of our mission to provide City customers with drinking water of the highest quality, the City of Sacramento is committed to continued monitoring, public notification, and effective management of this emerging water quality issue. For more detailed information, visit: [www.cityofsacramento.gov/utilities/water-quality/frequently-asked-questions/pfas](https://www.cityofsacramento.gov/utilities/water-quality/frequently-asked-questions/pfas)



## TO REPORT A CONCERN

City of Sacramento, Department of Utilities  
311 or 916-264-5011  
24 hours a day, 7 days a week  
[www.cityofsacramento.gov/utilities](http://www.cityofsacramento.gov/utilities)

## FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS REPORT, CONTACT:

Rory Hartkemeyer, Program Specialist,  
Water Quality Lab  
City of Sacramento, Department of Utilities  
916-808-3738  
[rHartkemeyer@cityofsacramento.org](mailto:rHartkemeyer@cityofsacramento.org)

U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline  
1-800-426-4791  
[www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water](http://www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water)

## NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Sacramento City Council generally holds public meetings on Tuesdays at 2 p.m. and/or 5 p.m. in the City Council Chambers at 915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. You can access City Council agendas at [www.cityofsacramento.gov/mayor-council](http://www.cityofsacramento.gov/mayor-council)

## POTABILITY STATEMENT

The City of Sacramento water supply meets all potability requirements as set forth by the U.S. EPA and the California Safe Drinking Water Act, Title 22. This certification applies to City of Sacramento water that is provided up to the property line, backflow preventer, or water meter (whichever comes first) of water customers within the City of Sacramento service area.

**UP-TO-DATE WATER QUALITY INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE AT**  
[www.sacramentowaterquality.com](http://www.sacramentowaterquality.com)



916-264-5011

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Мы говорим по-русски · ขวากเริ่เจ้าขาสาละวได้  
Peb hais lus Hmoob · Chúng tôi nói tiếng Việt

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse City of Sacramento a 311 para asistirlo en español.

本報告包含閣下飲用水嘅重要訊息。如需廣東話垂詢，請聯絡 City of Sacramento 1391 35th Avenue, Sacramento CA 95822 / 311。

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 City of Sacramento 以获得中文的帮助: 1391 35th Avenue, Sacramento CA 95822 / 311

這份報告含有關於您的飲用水的重要訊息。請用以下地址和電話聯繫 City of Sacramento 以獲得中文的幫助 1391 35th Avenue, Sacramento CA 95822 / 311

Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Xin vui lòng liên hệ City of Sacramento tại 311 để được trợ giúp bằng tiếng

Tsab ntawv no muaj cov ntsiab lus tseem ceeb hais txog koj cov dej haus. Thov hu rau City of Sacramento ntawm 311 yog koj xav tau kev pab hais lus Hmoob.

ਐਸ ਰਪੋਰਟ ਵਿਚਿ ਤੁਹਾਡੇ ਪੀਣੇ ਦੇ ਵਾਏ ਮਹੱਤਵਪੂਰਨ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਹੈ। ਪੰਜਾਬੀ ਵਿਚਿ ਮਦਦ ਲਈ, City of Sacramento ਤੂੰ 1391 35th Avenue, Sacramento CA 95822 ਜਾਂ 311 ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mang-yaring makipag-ugnayan sa City of Sacramento o tumawag sa 311 para matulungan sa wikang Tagalog.

รายงานฉบับนี้มีข้อมูลที่สำคัญเกี่ยวกับน้ำประปาของท่าน กรุณาติดต่อ City of Sacramento ที่ 311 เพื่อการช่วยเหลือในภาษาไทย

Этот отчет содержит важную информацию о вашей питьевой воде. Пожалуйста, свяжитесь с City of Sacramento по 311 для получения помощи на русском языке.

इस रपिर्ट में आपके पीने के जल से सम्बंधित महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी है। हृदि में सहायता के लए, City of Sacramento को 1391 35th Avenue, Sacramento CA 95822 अथवा 311 पर संपर्क करें।

この報告書には上水道に関する重要な情報が記されております。ご質問等ございましたら、City of Sacramento, 311 まで日本語でご連絡下さい。

Stay Connected!

Visit: [cityofsacramento.gov/utilities](http://cityofsacramento.gov/utilities)



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[www.instagram.com/sacdou](https://www.instagram.com/sacdou)