

## 2022 Consumer Confidence Report

### Water System Information

**Water System Name:** Earthbound Farm Water System

**Report Date:** 6/22/2023

**Type of Water Source(s) in Use:** Groundwater

**Name and General Location of Source(s):** Wells 3 and 4 are located at Earthbound Farms, 1721 San Juan Highway, San Juan Bautista, Well 5 is located near Anzar High School, 2300 San Juan Highway, San Juan Bautista.

**Drinking Water Source Assessment Information:** A source water assessment has been performed on Wells 3, 4, and 5. Based on the assessment the only source of vulnerability to the water supply is from the septic systems and nearby agriculture. A copy of the source water assessment can be reviewed at the offices of Earthbound Farm.

**Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation:** Contact Earthbound Farm

**For More Information, Contact:** Ricardo Novoa (831) 623-7880

### 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, 2022 and may include earlier monitoring data.

### Importance of This Report Statement in Non-English Language (Spanish)

**Language in Spanish:** Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse Earthbound Farm Water System a (831) 623-7880 para asistirlo en español.

#### TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

**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

**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.

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT	
<p>health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA).</p> <p><b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):</b> 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.</p> <p><b>SMCL:</b> Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level</p>	<p><b>Regulatory Action Level (AL):</b> The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.</p> <p><b>Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS):</b> 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.</p> <p><b>Treatment Technique (TT):</b> A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.</p> <p><b>Variations and Exemptions:</b> Permissions from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.</p> <p><b>ND:</b> not detectable at testing limit</p> <p><b>ppm:</b> parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)</p> <p><b>ppb:</b> parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)</p> <p><b>ppt:</b> parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)</p> <p><b>ppq:</b> parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)</p> <p><b>pCi/L:</b> picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)</p>

## 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, and 6 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**

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
<i>E. coli</i>	(In the year) 0	0	(a)		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 2 – SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER**

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)	2022	10	ND	0	15	0.2		Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2022	10	0.263	0	1.3	0.3	Not applicable	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

Chemical	Sample Date	Level Detected	Min Detected	Max Detected	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Units	Typical Source Of Contaminant
<b>TABLE 3 – SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS</b>								
HARDNESS, TOTAL (AS CaCO <sub>3</sub> )	2022	413	409	551			ppm	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring
SODIUM	2022	129	126	316			ppm	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
<b>TABLE 4 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD</b>								
ARSENIC	2022	2.4	2.4	2.6	10	0.004	ppb	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
CHLORITE	2015	0.133	0.045	0.22	1	0.05	ppm	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
COMBINED URANIUM	2022/2017	0.2	5.6	6.7	20	0.43	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
FLUORIDE	2021	0.2	0.2	0.2	2	1	ppm	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
GROSS ALPHA PARTICLE ACTIVITY	2020	0.12	8.11	8.11	15	0	pCi/L	Erosion of natural deposits
NITRATE	2022	0.5	0.5	2.2	10	10	ppm	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TOLUENE	2022	0.01	0.50	0.65	150	150	ppb	Discharge from petroleum and chemical factories; underground gas tank leaks
TTHM	2022	22	22	22	80		ppb	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
<b>TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD</b>								
CHLORIDE	2022	104	102	163	500		ppm	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
CONDUCTIVITY @ 25 C UMHOS/CM	2022	1169	1150	<b>2053*</b>	1600		µS/cm	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
IRON	2022	0.25	0.08	<b>0.66*</b>	0.3		ppm	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
SULFATE	2022	141	136	393	500		ppm	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
TDS	2022	699	686	<b>1320*</b>	1000		ppm	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
TURBIDITY	2022	0.64	0.15	0.65	5		Units	Soil runoff
<b>TABLE 6 – DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS</b>								
BROMIDE	2021	0.4	0.4	0.7			ppm	NA
POTASSIUM	2021	4.0	1.9	4.6			ppm	NA
CHROMIUM, HEX	2017	0.1	3.5	3.5			ppb	NA

### **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. Earthbound Farm Water System 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 <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2022. 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 Operating Under a Variance or Exemption**

Earthbound Farm Water System did not operate under a variance or exemption in 2022.

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

<b>VIOLATION OF A MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, OR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT</b>				
<b>Violation</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Actions Taken to Correct the Violation</b>	<b>Health Effects Language</b>
<b>Specific Conductance (uS/cm)</b>	There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.	<b>2022</b>	A blend of Well 3, 4, and 5 is used to keep the average concentration below the Secondary MCL.	None.
<b>Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)</b>	There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.	<b>2022</b>	A blend of Well 3, 4, and 5 is used to keep the average concentration below the Secondary MCL.	None.
<b>Iron (ppm)</b>	The iron MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic effects (e.g., color, taste, and odor) and the staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs and sinks) and clothing while washing. The high iron levels are due to leaching of natural deposits.	<b>2022</b>	A blend of Well 3, 4, and 5 is used to keep the average concentration below the Secondary MCL.	None.