

2023 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Information

Water System Name: Earthbound Farm Water System

Report Date: 6/27/2024

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, 2023 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.	Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.
Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to	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

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.

SMCL: Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level

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)

ppq: 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, 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
E. coli	(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 th 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

TABLE 3 – SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (units)	Sample Date	Level Detected			MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
		Average	Min	Max			
Hardness, Total (as CaCO ₃) (mg/L)	12/14/2021	372					Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring
Sodium (mg/L)	2022	244	126	316			Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring

TABLE 4 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (units)	Sample Date	Level Detected			MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
		Average	Min	Max			
Arsenic (ug/L)	2022	2.5	2.4	2.6	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (mg/L)	2022	0.0555	0.0408	0.08	1	2	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chlorite (mg/L)	2015	0.132	0.045	0.22	1	0.05	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chromium (ug/L)	2022	8.8	6.5	9.6	50	0.02	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Combined Uranium (pCi/L)	2023	5.5	5.3	5.7	20	0.43	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (mg/L)	2021	0.2	0.2	0.2	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2023	5.29	1.95	5.46	15	0	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (mg/L)	2023	1.6	1.6	1.7	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate-Nitrite (mg/L)	2021	1.2	0.8	1.7	10	10	Fertilizers, Septic Tanks
Selenium (ug/L)	2022	3.1	1.7	3.3	50	30	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (ug/L)	8/2/2023	8.6			80		Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (units)	Sample Date	Level Detected			MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
		Average	Min	Max			
Conductivity (uS/cm)	2022	1778*	1150	2053	1600		Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Iron (mg/L)	2022	0.075	0.16	0.253	0.3		Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Sulfate (mg/L)	2022	297	136	393	500		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
TDS (mg/L)	2022	1126*	686	1320	1000		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (Units)	2022	0.38	0.15	0.65	5		Soil runoff
Zinc (mg/L)	3/7/2022	0.0305			5		Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

TABLE 6 – DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Chemical or Constituent (units)	Sample Date	Level Detected			MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
		Average	Min	Max			
Bromide (mg/L)	2021	0.6	0.4	0.7			
Potassium (mg/L)	2021	3.4	1.9	4.6			

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 2023. 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 2023.

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

VIOLATION OF A MCL, MRDL, AL, TT, OR MONITORING AND REPORTING REQUIREMENT				
Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct the Violation	Health Effects Language
Conductivity (uS/cm)	There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.	2022	A blend of Well 3, 4, and 5 is used to keep the average concentration below the Secondary MCL.	There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.	2022	A blend of Well 3, 4, and 5 is used to keep the average concentration below the Secondary MCL.	There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetics.