

ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2023



Presented By
City of Loma Linda

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

PWS ID#: 3610013

Our Commitment

We are pleased to present to you this year's annual water quality report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2023. Included are details about your source of water, what it contains, and how it compares to standards set by regulatory agencies.

Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and providing you with this information because informed customers are our best allies.

Water Treatment Processes

The city removes contaminants in a variety of ways. All water is chlorinated to kill or remove bacteria, viruses, and pathogens that may be present. To accomplish this, water is passed through a cylinder containing calcium hypochlorite, which produces a chlorine solution. Then it flows into a storage tank from which the solution is pumped into a pipeline connected to the wellhead, where it mixes with the water to provide contact time. A minimum of 0.2 part per million (ppm) is maintained throughout the water system to ensure that all possible bacteriological contaminants are deactivated. There are 14 stations throughout the city where we collect bacteriological samples and test chlorine residuals.

Blending is another form of treatment used to reduce or remove chemical and mineral contaminants. This is achieved by introducing water from a high-quality source into a common pipeline, where it is combined with a source of lower quality. Water is then pushed through an in-line mixer, which reduces the contaminant or mineral to levels that meet or exceed standards set forth by the U.S. EPA and California water quality regulations. The sources and combined water are tested at frequencies determined by CDPH to ensure high-quality drinking water. The city uses this method to reduce levels of nitrate and arsenic.

We also treat water to remove arsenic using a process known as adsorption. First, the pH of the well water is adjusted using carbon dioxide gas and chlorine. This changes the arsenic to an oxidized state, making it more readily adsorbed. From there, water enters treatment vessels that contain iron oxide media. As water passes through the bed of media, arsenic is removed to levels that meet or exceed the standards set by the U.S. EPA and CDPH. From there, the water passes through post-treatment filters that prevent loose media from entering the distribution system. The performance of the media is closely monitored by frequent testing of the treated water. When the treated water contains arsenic close to 80 percent of the maximum allowable level, filter maintenance is performed by backwashing and forward-flushing the media vessels or replacing the media. Perchlorate and volatile organic chemicals are removed in filtration processes similar to those used for arsenic.

If you have any questions regarding any of our treatment processes, please call (909) 799-4410 and ask to speak with one of our treatment operators or the utilities superintendent. All water is closely monitored by trained and certified personnel to ensure that it meets all water quality regulations set forth by the U.S. EPA and CDPH.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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, may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)/Centers for Disease Control and 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 (800) 426-4791 or water.epa.gov/drink/hotline.



Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 two minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. (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 at (800) 426-4791 or epa.gov/safewater/lead.

QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Kirk Mayo, Utilities Superintendent, at (909) 799-4420.

Substances That Could Be in 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) 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. 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.

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;

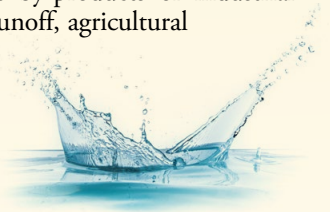
Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or can result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;

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, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and which can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants that can be naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.



Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Loma Linda's customers are fortunate because we enjoy an abundant groundwater supply. We operate seven wells: Richardson Wells 3, 4, 5, and 6 and Mountain View Wells 3, 5, and 6. All of the city's wells are located in the Bunker Hill Basin, a vast, natural underground water storage area referred to as an aquifer. The Bunker Hill Basin stretches from the San Bernardino Mountain range to the south hills of Loma Linda. The water that replenishes the Bunker Hill Basin comes from annual rainfall and snowmelt from the San Bernardino Mountains. The wells are located in the north area of the City of Loma Linda.

Loma Linda also uses a supplemental supply of water as needed from the City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department. Both the City of Loma Linda and the City of San Bernardino Municipal Water Department fall under the same regulations for water set forth by the U.S. EPA and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

In June 2006, an arsenic removal facility was installed to treat water at Mountain View Wells 3 and 5. This was done to maintain compliance with the U.S. EPA's decision to lower the maximum contaminant level (MCL) from 50 to 10 parts per billion (ppb).

In 2011, as part of a joint project with Lockheed Martin Inc., two treatment facilities were installed to remove perchlorate and volatile organic chemicals from two new wells that were installed in 2010. This was done in an effort to isolate and remove those contaminants in the aquifer and keep them from migrating further into Bunker Hill Basin.

Source Water Assessment

To find and protect against any potential contamination sources to our water supply, the City of Loma Linda completed a drinking water source assessment for each well. These assessments were completed as follows:

- Mountain View Well 3, November 1999
- Richardson Well 4, February 2000
- Richardson Well 3, November 2000
- Mountain View Well 5, February 2003
- Richardson Well 6, August 2009
- Mountain View Well 6 and Richardson Well 5, April 2009

The drinking water source assessment is the first step in the development of a complete drinking water source protection program. The assessment includes a delineation of the area around a drinking water source through which contaminants might move and reach that drinking water supply. In addition, it includes an inventory of activities that might lead to the release of microbiological or chemical contaminants within the delineated area. This allows us to determine whether the drinking water source might be vulnerable to contamination. All information obtained during the process is provided to CDPH for review.

A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting us during regular business hours at (909) 799-4420.

“When the well is dry, we know the worth of water.”
-Benjamin Franklin

Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken. We participated in the fifth stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR5) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR5 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the U.S. EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water to determine if it needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data is available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
1,1-Dichloroethylene (ppb)	2023	6	10	0.12	ND–0.60	No	Discharge from industrial chemical factories
Arsenic (ppb)	2023	10	0.004	3.37	ND–17	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Cadmium (ppb)	2023	5	0.04	0.08	ND–0.22	No	Internal corrosion of galvanized pipes; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from electroplating, industrial chemical factories, and metal refineries; runoff from waste batteries and paints
Chlorine (ppm)	2023	[4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	[4 (as Cl ₂)]	0.46	0.21–0.76	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Chromium, Total (ppb)	2023	50	(100)	2.17	ND–3.3	No	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2023	2.0	1	.88	0.66–1.2	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2023	15	(0)	4.14	0.35–8.45	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	2020	NS ¹	0.02	1.99	0.17–2.9	No	Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities; erosion of natural deposits
Mercury, Inorganic (ppb)	2023	2	1.2	.24	ND–0.51	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries and factories; runoff from landfills and cropland
Nickel (ppb)	2023	100	12	.52	ND–0.88	No	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal factories
Nitrate [as nitrogen] (ppm)	2023	10	10	3.1	0.32–6.6	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate + Nitrite (ppm)	2023	10	10	4.41	0.35–8.4	No	NA
Thallium (ppb)	2023	2	0.1	.27	ND–0.54	No	Leaching from ore-processing sites; discharge from electronics, glass, and drug factories
TTHMs [total trihalomethanes]– Stage 2 (ppb)	2023	80	NA	4.4	4.0–4.8	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Uranium (pCi/L)	2023	20	0.43	3.58	ND–11	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2023	1.3	0.3	0.15	0/30	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Aluminum (ppb)	2023	0.02	NS	5.75	ND-23	No	Erosion of natural deposits from surface water plants
Chloride (ppm)	2023	500	NS	15.92	3.7–26	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Copper (ppm)	2023	1.0	NS	2.5	ND-10	No	Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Foaming Agents [MBAS] (ppb)	2023	500	NS	ND	NA	No	Municipal and industrial waste discharges
Iron (ppb)	2023	300	NS	3.5	ND–14	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2023	50	NS	.55	ND–11	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor, Threshold (TON)	2023	3	NS	0.5	ND–1	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
Silver (ppb)	2023	100	NS	.22	ND–0.50	No	Industrial discharges
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2023	1,600	NS	410	270–530	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2023	500	NS	32.25	15–42	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2023	1,000	NS	255	160–340	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	2023	5	NS	0.032	ND–0.13	No	Soil runoff

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES ²

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Boron (ppb)	2023	86	660–100	NA
Chromium VI [hexavalent chromium] (ppb)	2020	1.99	0.17–2.9	NA
Hardness, Total [as CaCO ₃] (ppm)	2023	89.35	7.4–240	NA
Sodium (ppm)	2023	57.25	24–74	NA
Vanadium (ppb)	2023	17.55	5.4–44	NA

OTHER UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES ²

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alkalinity, Total (ppm)	2023	135	110–180	NA
Bicarbonate (ppm)	2023	152	100–220	NA
Calcium (ppm)	2023	30.25	3.0–77	NA
Carbonate (ppm)	2023	5.25	ND–21	NA
Chromium, Total (ppb)	2023	2.17	ND–3.3	NA
Magnesium (ppb)	2023	3.1	ND–11	NA
pH (units)	2023	8.15	7.8–8.9	NA
Potassium (ppm)	2023	1.81	0.66–2.5	NA

¹ There is currently no MCL for hexavalent chromium. The previous MCL of 10 ppb was withdrawn on September 11, 2017.

² Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps U.S. EPA and the SWRCB determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

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

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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 (SMCLs) 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. EPA.

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 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.

NA: Not applicable.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NS: No standard.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):

Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

PDWS (Primary Drinking Water Standard):

MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements and water treatment 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 EPA.

ppb (µg/L) (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (mg/L) (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

TON (Threshold Odor Number): A measure of odor in water.

µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter): A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.