ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

Reporting Year 2025



Presented By

Ramona Municipal Water District

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

PWS ID#: 3710019



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, 2025. Included are details about your sources 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.

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 can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health-care providers. 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 (800-426-4791) or epa.gov/safewater.



Q&A

Why can tap water have a taste?
Taste in drinking water is usually related to naturally occurring minerals, disinfectants, or seasonal changes in source water. While these characteristics may affect taste, they do not typically indicate a health risk.

Why is water sometimes called the "original energy drink"?
Water helps regulate body temperature, supports digestion, and keeps joints moving—without sugar, calories, or caffeine.

Can weather affect drinking water quality?
Heavy rain, drought, or seasonal changes can influence source water conditions. Water systems adjust treatment processes as needed to maintain water quality during changing environmental conditions.

Why is maintaining water infrastructure important?
Pipes, pumps, and treatment facilities are critical for delivering safe drinking water. Regular maintenance and upgrades help prevent leaks, breaks, and service disruptions.



What can customers do to help protect water quality?
Customers can help by reporting leaks, avoiding cross-connections, maintaining household plumbing, and staying informed through their annual water quality report.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The San Diego County Water Authority (CWA) purchases water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD). This water is a blend of surface water from the Colorado River and runoff from the Northern California Sierra Nevada Mountains. It is treated at the Twin Oaks Valley Treatment Plant, located in San Diego County, and the MWD Lake Skinner Filtration Plant in Riverside County. The Carlsbad Desalination Plant provides San Diego County with a locally controlled, drought-proof supply of high-quality water. The Ramona Municipal Water District purchases water from the City of Poway periodically.

Why We Test So Often

Drinking water is one of the most closely monitored resources in the United States. Water systems regularly test for bacteria, disinfectants, metals, organic chemicals, radioactive substances, and many other contaminants. Some tests are performed daily, while others are conducted weekly, monthly, quarterly, or annually, depending on regulatory requirements and system size. Microbiological testing for bacteria such as coliforms ensures that disinfection is working properly. Turbidity monitoring confirms effective filtration. Chemical testing verifies that treatment processes remain optimized. All certified laboratories must meet strict quality assurance requirements to ensure accurate results. When results approach regulatory limits, corrective actions are taken immediately.

Hard vs. Soft Water

"Hard" water contains higher levels of naturally occurring minerals, primarily calcium and magnesium. These minerals are not harmful to human health and can even contribute beneficial nutrients. However, hard water can cause scale buildup in pipes, appliances, and fixtures. "Soft" water has lower mineral content and allows soap to lather more easily. It also helps extend the life of water heaters, washing machines, and plumbing fixtures. Hardness levels vary widely depending on local geology and groundwater conditions. Some households choose to install water softeners to reduce scaling and improve appliance efficiency. It is important to note that water hardness is a quality issue, not a safety concern. Both hard and soft water supplied by public water systems meet all health-based drinking water standards.

Questions?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Sarah Yorba, Water Quality Lab Analyst, at (760) 789-1330.

Lead in Home Plumbing

Lead can cause serious health effects in people of all ages, especially pregnant people, infants (both formula-fed and breastfed), and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and parts used in service lines and in home plumbing. Ramona Municipal Water District is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water and removing lead pipes but cannot control the variety of materials used in the plumbing in your home. Because lead levels may vary over time, lead exposure is possible even when your tap sampling results do not detect lead at one point in time. You can help protect yourself and your family by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Using a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute-accredited certifier to reduce lead is effective in reducing lead exposures. Follow the instructions provided with the filter to ensure it is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula. Boiling does not remove lead from water.



Before using tap water for drinking, cooking, or making baby formula, flush your pipes for several minutes. You can do this by running your tap, taking a shower, or doing laundry or a load of dishes. If you have a lead service line or galvanized requiring replacement service line, you may need to flush your pipes for a longer period. If you are concerned about lead and wish to have your water tested, contact Ramona Municipal Water District. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at epa.gov/safewater/lead.

To address lead in drinking water, public water systems were required to develop and maintain an inventory of service line materials by October 16, 2024. Developing an inventory and identifying the location of lead service lines (LSL) is the first step for beginning LSL replacement and protecting public health. The lead service inventory may be downloaded from rmwd.org/about-us/water-operations/water-quality. Please contact us if you would like more information about the inventory or any lead sampling that has been done.

Source Water Assessment

Every five years, MWD is required by the SWRCB, Division of Drinking Water (DDW), to examine possible sources of drinking water contamination in its State Water Project and Colorado River source waters. The most recent surveys are the Colorado River Watershed Sanitary Survey 2020 update and the State Water Project Watershed Sanitary Survey 2021 update.

State Water Project supplies are considered to be most vulnerable to urban stormwater runoff, wildlife, agriculture, recreation, and wastewater. A copy of the assessment can be obtained by contacting the Metropolitan Water District at (800) 225-5693.

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.

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 by-products 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 the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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. 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. 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).

Public Meetings

You are invited to attend our district board meetings. We meet the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Ramona Community Center, 434 Aqua Lane.

Board of Directors:

Jim Hickle, President, Division II
Jim Piva, Vice President, Division III
Princess Norman, Secretary, Division V
Jacob Zoria, Treasurer, Division IV
Casey Lynch, Director, Division I
Erica Wolski, General Manager



The Benefits of Fluoridation

Our water system treats your water by adding fluoride to the naturally occurring level to help prevent dental caries in consumers. State regulations require the fluoride levels in the treated water be maintained within a range of 0.7-1.2 parts per million (ppm) with an optimum dose of 0.7 ppm. Our monitoring showed that the fluoride levels in the treated water ranged from 0.6-0.9 ppm with an average of 0.7 ppm. Information about fluoridation, oral health, and current issues is available from swrcb.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.shtml.

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 is included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

				Ramona Municipal Water District		Metropolitan Water District Skinner Plant		San Diego County Water Authority		Carlsbad Desalination Plant			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Barium (ppm)	2025	1	2	NA	NA	ND[1]	NA	ND	ND–0.5	ND	NA	No	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Bromate (ppb)	2025	10	0.1	NA	NA	1.8	ND–8.3	5	ND–13	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Chloramines (ppm)	2025	[4.0 (as Cl2)]	[4 (as Cl2)]	1.5	0.2–2.7	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Coliform Assessment and/or Corrective Action Violations (positive samples)	2025	TT	NA	ND	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	NA
***E. coli* (State Revised Total Coliform Rule)** (positive samples)	2025	0	(0)	0	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	Human and animal fecal waste
Fluoride (ppm)	2025	2.0	1	NA	NA	0.7[2]	0.6–0.8	0.6	0.2–0.7	0.694	0.569–0.874	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2025	15	(0)	NA	NA	ND	ND–4	ND	NA	ND	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2025	50[3]	(0)	NA	NA	ND	ND–5	4.23	NA	ND	NA	No	Decay of natural and human-made deposits
Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb)	2025	60	NA	10[4]	ND–23	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Hexavalent Chromium (ppb)	2025	10	20	NA	NA	ND	NA	0.24	ND–0.37	ND	NA	No	Discharge from electroplating factories, leather tanneries, wood preservation, chemical synthesis, refractory production, and textile manufacturing facilities; erosion of natural deposits
Total Trihalomethanes [TTHMs] (ppb)	2025	80	NA	36[4]	6.5–58	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity (NTU)	2025	TT	NA	NA	NA	0.07	NA	0.02	NA	0.06	NA	No	Soil runoff
Uranium (pCi/L)	2025	20	0.43	NA	NA	2	ND–3	2.3	1.7–2.8	ND	NA	No	Erosion of natural deposits

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

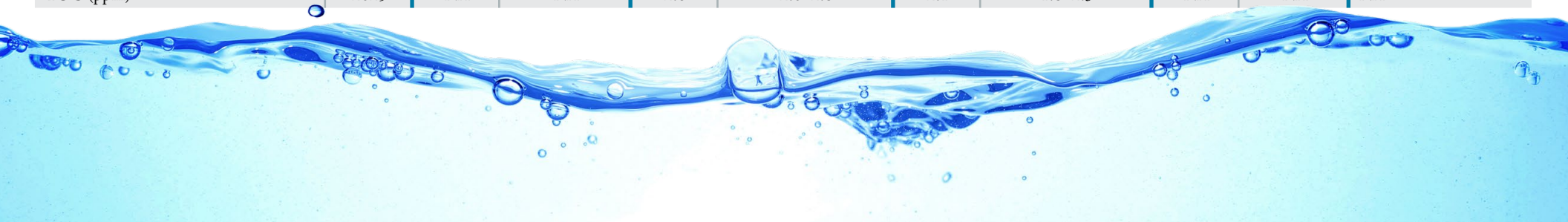
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	RANGE LOW-HIGH	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2025	1.3	0.3	0.140	0.014–0.190	0/30	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2025	15	0.2	1.71	ND–5.2	0/30	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

				Ramona Municipal Water District		Metropolitan Water District Skinner Plant		San Diego County Water Authority		Carlsbad Desalination Plant			
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2025	500	NS	NA	NA	89	87–91	NA	NA	85	59–110	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (units)	2025	15	NS	NA	NA	1	NA	ND	ND–1	ND	NA	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2025	1,600	NS	NA	NA	836	824–847	840[1]	NA	442.9	235.1–530.9	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2025	500	NS	NA	NA	168	164–171	146	100–160	13.5	12.0–15.0	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2025	1,000	NS	NA	NA	507	501–513	337	250–490	239	105–310	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES[5]

		Ramona Municipal Water District		Metropolitan Water District Skinner Plant		San Diego County Water Authority		Carlsbad Desalination Plant		
SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alkalinity (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	106	105–108	120[1,6]	NA	62	46–83	NA
Boron (ppb)	2025	NA	NA	130	NA	NA	NA	0.69	0.51–0.92	NA
Calcium (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	54	54–55	NA	NA	24.3	17.4–68.5	NA
Chlorate (ppb)	2025	NA	NA	ND	NA	303	220–460	NA	NA	NA
Corrosivity [as aggressiveness] (units)	2025	NA	NA	12.3	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
Corrosivity [as saturation] (units)	2025	NA	NA	0.52	0.48–0.57	NA	NA	0.34	0.07–0.59	NA
Hardness (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	230	228–232	NA	NA	60.5	54.4–69.0	NA
Magnesium (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	21	ND–21	24[1]	NA	1.4	1.2–1.7	NA
Potassium (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	4.3	4.2–4.4	4.8[1]	NA	31.239	ND–49.510	NA
Sodium (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	85	83–87	NA	NA	57.4	47.8–62.1	NA
TOC (ppm)	2025	NA	NA	2.6	2.0–2.8	2.1	1.8–2.3	NA	NA	NA



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.

Herbicide: Any chemical(s) used to control undesirable vegetation.

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.

Pesticide: Generally, any substance or mixture of substances intended for preventing, destroying, repelling, or mitigating any pest.

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 (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

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

ppt (parts per trillion): One part substance per trillion parts water (or nanograms per liter).

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

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

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

[1] Single sample taken.

[2] Control range 0.6-1.2 ppm, optimal fluoride level 0.7 ppm. This water system treats your water by adding fluoride to the naturally occurring level to help prevent dental caries in consumers. State regulations require the fluoride levels in the treated water be maintained within a range of 0.6-1.2 ppm, with an optimal dose of 0.7 ppm. Information about fluoridation, oral health, and current issues is available from swrcb.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.shtml.

[3] The SWRCB considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

[4] Highest locational running annual average.

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

