The State Water Resources Control Board Division of Drinking Water (DDW) requires community water systems to publish an annual Consumer Confidence Report. This report provides information on water quality and compliance with federal and state standards.

Sweetwater Authority's 2024 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report offers a snapshot of the quality of your local water supply, including its sources, contents, and how it meets strict regulations. In 2024, water delivered by Sweetwater Authority met all current primary state and federal health standards.

# ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT FOR 2024

THIS REPORT CONTAINS IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT THE QUALITY OF YOUR DRINKING WATER.
It is available on our website.
www.sweetwater.org/wqreport

EL REPORTE CONTIENE INFORMACION IMPORTANTE SOBRE LA CALIDAD DE SU AGUA POTABLE.
Está disponible en nuestro sitio de web
www.sweetwater.org/wqreportsp

ANG PAG-UULAT NA ITO AY NAGLALAMAN NG MAHALAGANG IMPORMASYON TUNGKOL SA INYONG TUBIG.
Mahahanap ito sa aming website
www.sweetwater.org/wqreport-tagalog

SWEETWATER AUTHORITY

## SWEETWATER AUTHORITY'S TAP WATER SUPPLY MEETS ALL STATE AND FEDERAL HEALTH STANDARDS IN 2024

Sweetwater Authority's mission is to provide customers with safe, reliable water. We are proud to provide this essential service to our community, and through securing sustainable water supplies, regular system maintenance, a balanced approach to human and environmental needs and responsible agency management, we are prepared to continue to do so for generations to come. Behind each drop of water we deliver is a diverse team of dedicated industry professionals who work around-the-clock to ensure our customers have access to safe, high quality tap water every single day.

Based on water quality monitoring data collected in 2024, the Authority's tap water met all current primary state and federal health standards, which define our current understanding of safe drinking water.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California State Water Resource Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (State Water Board) mandate all water systems in California to produce an annual report educating customers about their drinking water quality for the previous year. This annual Drinking Water Quality Report details the sources of the Authority's water supply, what it contains and how it meets health standards. If you have questions about Authority operations or the contents of this report, please visit www.sweetwater.org or call the Water Quality Laboratory Supervisor at (619) 409-6813.

## ABOUT SWEETWATER AUTHORITY

The Authority is a publicly-owned, joint powers water agency, with policies and procedures established by a seven-member Governing Board. Five directors are elected by the citizens of the South Bay Water.* Two directors are appointed by the Mayor of National City, subject to City Council confirmation.

The Authority provides water service to approximately 200,000 people in National City, Bonita, and western and central portions of Chula Vista. Its customers include residential, business, government, and industrial water users in an area covering more than 36 square miles in the South Bay region of San Diego County.


### GET INVOLVED

Public participation is welcome at all Sweetwater Authority Governing Board meetings. Meetings are held at 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, the second and fourth Wednesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. (except July). Agendas are posted at 505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista. Meeting agendas and minutes are published on the Authority's website at www.sweetwater.org/agendacenter.

***In April 2024, the South Bay Irrigation District Board of Directors voted to rename the district "South Bay Water".***

## ABOUT YOUR DRINKING 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.

Before water is treated, raw water may contain contaminants including:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which 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 applications, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally occurring or the result of oil and gas production, and mining activities.

To learn more about contaminants and health effects, call the U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791. Further information is available at www.sweetwater.org or www.mwdh2o.com.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Water 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.

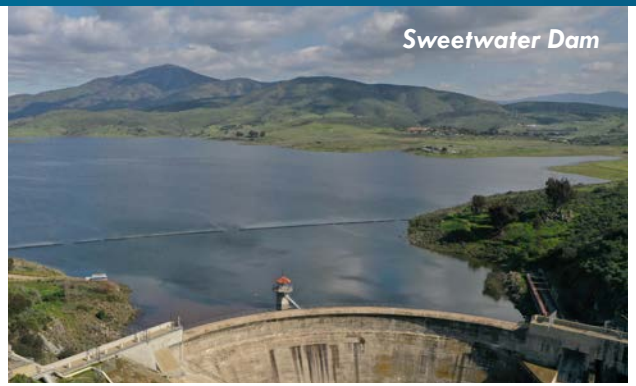
## OUR WATER SOURCES

Authority customers receive water from four sources: the Sweetwater River (drawn at Sweetwater Reservoir in Spring Valley), deep freshwater wells in National City, brackish water wells in Chula Vista, and the region's imported supply, which is drawn from the Colorado River and/or the State Water Project in northern California. Source water assessments are available for each of these sources.

## PROTECTING WATER FROM CONTAMINATION

The local water used by the Authority can be affected by activities within its watershed, a 230-square-mile area leading into the streams that feed the Sweetwater River. The Authority uses a multiple-barrier approach to ensure water quality. Education, stakeholder involvement, and comments to local planners are part of Authority efforts, in addition to the "hardware" solutions described here:


SWEETWATER RIVER WATERSHED





1. An innovative diversion system captures urban runoff before it enters Sweetwater Reservoir and transports the runoff below Sweetwater Dam, reducing the buildup of mineral salts in the reservoir. The diversion system can also capture and hold runoff from a chemical spill or sewage system failure, allowing the contaminants to be removed and trucked away for proper disposal.
2. Well sites are closely monitored to assure that contaminants have not entered the well fields.
3. Surface water is treated and disinfected at the Robert A. Perdue Water Treatment Plant.
4. Potable groundwater is disinfected.
5. Brackish groundwater is treated with reverse osmosis and disinfected. To learn more, visit www.sweetwater.org/water.

## SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

This assessment identifies activities to which water sources are considered "most vulnerable." In 2002, source water assessments were completed for the Authority's water supplies. There were NO contaminants from the "possible contaminating activities" found in the Authority's water supplies. To request a summary of the assessments, contact the Water Quality Services Technician at: (619) 409-6805, or jreyes@sweetwater.org.

## UNDERSTANDING THE SOURCES AND POTENTIAL CONTAMINANTS IN 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 Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791, or visiting the U.S. EPA website at www.epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water.

***Note to special populations:*** 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).

**QUESTIONS?** **Frequently asked questions and answers about water quality, taste, color and odor, can be found at www.sweetwater.org/wq.**

# 1 ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER AND THIS REPORT

Water quality standards are measured in “parts per million,” “parts per billion” or "parts per trillion." But those terms can be difficult to relate to, and it’s hard to know what they mean. This chart can help you visualize the proportions in terms of some ordinary items.

| A Comparative Guide to Water Quality Standards | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Concentration** | **Linear Measure (Equivalent Distance)** | **Time (Equivalent Duration)** | **Money (Equivalent in Dollars)** | **Water (1 Drop in...)** |
| 1 ppm (1 in 1,000,000) | 1 inch in 16 miles | 1 second in 11.5 days | $1 in $1 million | 1 drop in 13 gallons |
| 1 ppb (1 in 1,000,000,000) | 1 inch in 16,000 miles | 1 second in 32 years | $1 in $1 billion | 1 drop in an olympic-sized pool (660,000 gallons) |
| 1 ppt (1 in 1,000,000,000,000) | 1 inch in 16 million miles | 1 second in 32,000 years | $1 in $1 trillion | 1 drop in 20,000 olympic-sized pools |

## HOW TO REACH US

### CALL

Customer Service ..... (619) 420-1413
After Hours Emergency ..... (619) 420-1413
Water Quality Info ..... (619) 409-6780
Water Efficiency Helpline ..... (619) 409-6779
Fluoride Info Line ..... (619) 409-6780
Construction Info ..... (619) 409-6850
Community Presentations ..... (619) 409-6724
Board Secretary ..... (619) 409-6703

### CONNECT

Website: www.sweetwater.org
Instagram www.instagram.com/sweetwaterauthority
Facebook: facebook.com/swawater
X: x.com/sweetwaterauth
YouTube: youtube.com/user/SweetwaterAuthority
LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/sweetwater-authority

# 2 DEFINITION OF TERMS

**AL = Regulatory Action Level:** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow (AL now applies only to lead and copper).

**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 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** (No standard specified or no monitoring required)

**ND = Not Detected**

**NL = Notification Level :** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded triggers notification requirements that a water system must follow.

**pCi/l = picoCuries per liter** (a measure of radiation).

**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 (CalEPA).

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

**ppb = Parts per billion** or micrograms per liter.

**ppm = Parts per million** or milligrams per liter.

**ppt = Parts per trillion** or nanograms per liter.

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

| **PRIMARY STANDARDS** For the 2024 calendar year | | | | National City Wells (Disinfected with chloramine) | | | Treated at Reynolds Groundwater Desal Facility | Treated at Robert A. Perdue Water Treatment Plant | | Treated[1] Sweetwater Authority Drinking Water | If you do not see a contaminant listed here, it was not detected in 2024. Typical Source of Contaminant: |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inorganic Contaminants | MCL [MRDL] | PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG] | Range and Average | — BEFORE TREATMENT — | | | | | | | |
| | | | | National City Well 2 | National City Well 3 | National City Well 4 | SD Formation Wells 1- 11 | Lake Skinner Outlet (Aqueduct) | Sweetwater Reservoir | | |
| Fluoride (ppm) | 2.0 | 1 | Range | 0.3 - 0.3 | 0.4 - 0.4 | 0.4 - 0.4 | ND - 0.5 | 0.2 - 0.3 | 0.2 - 0.3 | 0.5 - 0.9[10] | Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories; water additive that promotes oral health |
| | | | Average | 0.3 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 0.3 | 0.7 | |
| Aluminum (ppb) | 1000 | 600 | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND | 58[4] | ND - 70[2] | ND | Erosion of natural deposits; residue from surface water treatment processes |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | ND | 58 | 47 | ND | |
| Arsenic (ppb) | 10 | 0.004 | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND - 3.4[2] | ND | ND - 1.9[2] | ND | Erosion of natural deposits; glass and electronics production wastes |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | 1.6 | ND | |
| Barium (ppm) | 1 | 2 | Range | 0.1- 0.1 | ND | 0.1- 0.1 | 0.1 - 0.2[2] | ND | ND | ND - 0.1 | Erosion of natural deposits; discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries |
| | | | Average | 0.1 | ND | 0.1 | 0.1 | ND | ND | ND | |
| Chromium, Hexavalent (ppb) | 10 | 0.02 | Range | 0.2[4] | ND | ND | ND - 0.3 | ND | 0.2[4] | ND - 0.4 | Erosion of natural deposits; industrial discharges; transformation of trivalent chromium to hexavalent chromium |
| | | | Average | 0.2 | ND | ND | ND | ND | 0.2 | 0.2 | |
| Nitrate (as nitrogen) (ppm) | 10 | 10 | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND - 1.0[2] | ND | ND | ND | Runoff/leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | |
| Selenium (ppb) | 50 | 30 | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND - 19[2] | ND | ND | ND | Refineries, mines, and chemical waste discharges; erosion of natural deposits; runoff |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | 4.6 | ND | ND | ND | |
| Radionuclides [(a)] | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Gross Alpha (pCi/L) | 15 | (0) | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND - 11.1[2,3] | ND - 3.6[3] | ND | NA | Erosion of natural deposits |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | 3.9 | ND | ND | NA | |
| Gross Beta (pCi/L) | 50 | (0) | Range | NA | NA | NA | 4.7 - 7.4[2,3] | ND - 5.0[3] | ND - 4.4[3] | NA | Decay of natural and man-made deposits |
| | | | Average | NA | NA | NA | 5.8 | ND | 3.8 | NA | |
| Radium- 226 (pCi/L) | 5 | 0.05 | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND - 1.3[2,3] | ND | ND | NA | Erosion of natural deposits |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | 0.7 | ND | ND | NA | |
| Radium- 228 (pCi/L) | 5 | 0.019 | Range | 0.6[3,4] | ND | ND | 0.6 - 1.4[2,3] | ND | 1.0 | NA | Erosion of natural deposits |
| | | | Average | 0.6 | ND | ND | 1.0 | ND | 1.0 | NA | |
| Uranium (pCi/L) | 20 | 0.43 | Range | 1.3[3,4] | ND | 0.8[3,4] | ND - 8.5[2,3] | 1.5 - 3.1[2,3] | 2.4[2,3,4] | NA | Erosion of natural deposits |
| | | | Average | 1.3 | ND | 0.8 | 3.7 | 2.4 | 2.4 | NA | |
| Turbidity [(b)] | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Combined Filter Effluent Turbidity (NTU) | TT = 1 NTU | NA | Highest single measurement | | | | | | | 0.27 | Soil runoff |
| | TT = 95% of samples ≤0.3 NTU | | Lowest monthly percent of samples meeting MCL | | | | | | | 100.0% | |

| PRIMARY STANDARDS CONTINUED | | | | National City Wells (Disinfected with chloramine) | | | Treated at Reynolds Groundwater Desal Facility | Treated at Robert A. Perdue Water Treatment Plant | | Treated[1] Sweetwater Authority Drinking Water | If you do not see a contaminant listed here, it was not detected in 2024. Typical Source of Contaminant: |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inorganic Contaminants | MCL [MRDL] | PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG] | Range and Average | — BEFORE TREATMENT — | | | | | | | |
| | | | | National City Well 2 | National City Well 3 | National City Well 4 | SD Formation Wells 1- 11 | Lake Skinner Outlet (Aqueduct) | Sweetwater Reservoir | | |
| Unregulated Contaminants[5] | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Boron (ppm) | NA | NL = 1.0 | Range | 0.11 - 0.13 | 0.20 - 0.23 | 0.15 - 0.18 | 0.08 - 0.54 | 0.15[4] | 0.11- 0.12 | 0.11 - 0.31 | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes |
| | | | Average | 0.12 | 0.22 | 0.16 | 0.32 | 0.15 | 0.12 | 0.20 | |
| Vanadium (ppb) | NA | NL = 50 | Range | 14 - 19 | ND | 13 - 14 | ND - 4.7[2] | ND | 3.4 - 6.9 | ND - 8.0 | Naturally occurring; industrial waste discharge |
| | | | Average | 17 | ND | 14 | ND | ND | 5.2 | 2.6 | |
| Lithium [C1] (ppb) | NA | NA | Range | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | NA | ND - 13.6 | Naturally occurring; industrial waste discharge |
| | | | Average | | | | | | | ND | |
| Unregulated PFAS Chemicals | | | | | | | | | | UCMR 5 (c1) | |
| Perfluoro-octanesulfonic acid [5a, 5b] (PFOS) (ppt) | 4.0 | 1 NL = 6.5 | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND - 33[2] | ND | NA | ND - 5.7 | Products manufactured with perfluoro-alkyl substances (PFAS) include non-stick cookware, fast-food packaging, stain- and water-repellent fabrics, including clothing and carpets. PFAS chemicals are also found in fire-fighting foam, wastewater effluent, and in landfills. |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | 5.4 | ND | NA | ND | |
| Perfluoro-octanoic acid [5a, 5b] (PFOA) (ppt) | 4.0 | 0.007 NL = 5.1 | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND - 7.5[2] | ND | NA | ND - 9.4 | |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | NA | ND | |
| Perfluoro-butanesulfonic acid [5a, 5b] (PFBS) (ppt) | 1 (unitless) | (1) (unitless) NL = 500 | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND - 11[2] | ND | NA | ND - 10.7 | |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | NA | 3.6 | |
| Perfluoro-butanoic acid [5a] (PFBA) (ppt) | NA | NA | Range | NA | NA | NA | ND - 15[2] | ND | NA | ND - 10.5 | |
| | | | Average | NA | NA | NA | ND | ND | NA | ND | |
| Perfluoro-pentanoic acid [5a] (PFPeA) (ppt) | NA | NA | Range | NA | NA | NA | ND - 3.4[2] | ND | NA | ND - 7.3 | |
| | | | Average | NA | NA | NA | ND | ND | NA | ND | |
| Perfluorohexanoic acid [5a] (PFHxA) (ppt) | NA | NA | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND - 2.5[2] | ND | NA | ND - 7.7 | |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | NA | 2.6 | |
| Perfluoro-hexanesulfonic acid [5a,5b] (PFHxS) (ppt) | 10 1 (unitless) | (10) (1) (unitless) NL = 3 | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND - 26[2] | ND | NA | ND - 6.7 | |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | 5.2 | ND | NA | ND | |
| Perfluoroheptanoic acid [5a] (PFHpA) (ppt) | NA | NA | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | NA | ND - 4.6 | |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | NA | ND | |
| PFAS Chemical Hazard Index [5b,5c] (Calculated value) | 1 (unitless) | 1 (unitless) | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND- 2.6[2] | ND | NA | ND - 0.68 | |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | 0.5 | ND | NA | 0.23 | |

| PRIMARY STANDARDS CONTINUED | | | | National City Wells (Disinfected with chloramine) | | | Treated at Reyn-olds Ground-water Desal Facility | Treated at Robert A. Perdue Water Treatment Plant | | Treated[1] Sweetwater Authority Drinking Water | If you do not see a contaminant listed here, it was not detected in 2024. Typical Source of Contaminant: |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inorganic Contaminants | MCL [MRDL] | PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG] | Range and Average | — BEFORE TREATMENT — | | | | | | | |
| | | | | National City Well 2 | National City Well 3 | National City Well 4 | SD Formation Wells 1- 11 | Lake Skinner Outlet (Aqueduct) | Sweetwater Reservoir | | |
| Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 4 (UCMR4) [(c)] | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Organic Carbon (ppm) | TT | NA | Range | Perdue Water Treatment Plant- Raw Water Influent (Before Treatment) | | | | 2.9 - 12 | | NA | Various natural and man-made sources |
| | | | Average | | | | | 8.6 | | NA | |
| Bromide (ppb) | NA | NA | Range | Perdue Water Treatment Plant- Raw Water Influent (Before Treatment) | | | | 81 - 420 | | NA | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence |
| | | | Average | | | | | 315 | | NA | |
| Manganese (ppb) | 50 | NL = 500 | Range | Combined Distribution System Range | | | | | | ND - 10 | Leaching from natural deposits |
| | | | Average | Combined Distribution System Average | | | | | | 3.3 | |
| HAA5 (ppb) | 60 | NA | Combined Distribution System Range | | | | | | | ND - 38.2 | Byproduct of drinking water chlorination |
| | | | Combined Distribution System Average | | | | | | | 17.3 | |
| HAA6Br (ppb) | NA | NA | Combined Distribution System Range | | | | | | | ND - 39.6 | Byproduct of drinking water chlorination |
| | | | Combined Distribution System Average | | | | | | | 17.0 | |
| HAA9 (ppb) | NA | NA | Combined Distribution System Range | | | | | | | ND - 66.4 | Byproduct of drinking water chlorination |
| | | | Combined Distribution System Average | | | | | | | 30.0 | |
| Disinfection and By-product Contaminants | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ppb) | 80 | NA | Highest Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) | | | | | | | 53.4 | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| | | | Range of All Distribution Sample Points | | | | | | | 4.6 - 85.4[6] | |
| Haloacetic Acids (HAAs) (ppb) | 60 | NA | Highest Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA) | | | | | | | 33.6 | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| | | | Range of All Distribution Sample Points | | | | | | | 2.3 - 26.1[6, 6a] | |
| Chloramines (ppm) | [4.0] | [4] | Highest Running Annual Average (RAA) | | | | | | | 3.1 | Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment |
| | | | Combined Distribution System Range | | | | | | | 0.2 - 4.6[6] | |
| Chlorine Dioxide (ppb) | [800] | [800] | Perdue Plant Clearwell Effluent Range | | | | | | | ND - 95[6] | Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment |
| | | | Perdue Plant Clearwell Effluent Average | | | | | | | ND | |
| Chlorite (ppm) | 1.0 | 0.05 | Combined Distribution System Range | | | | | | | 0.02 - 0.42[6] | By-product of drinking water disinfection when using chlorine dioxide |
| | | | Combined Distribution System Average | | | | | | | 0.20 | |
| Chlorate (ppb) | NA | NL = 800 | Combined Distribution System Range | | | | | | | 130 - 430[6] | By-product of drinking water disinfection when using chlorine dioxide; hypochlorite degradation |
| | | | Combined Distribution System Average | | | | | | | 280 | |
| Lead and Copper Rule | | | Number of sites found above AL | | | | | | 90 percent of samples below | | |
| Lead (ppb) | AL = 15 | 0.2 | 1 sites above AL out of 53 sites sampled | | | | | | | ND[3] | Corrosion of onsite plumbing systems |
| Copper (ppm) | AL = 1.3 | 0.3 | 0 sites above AL out of 53 sites sampled | | | | | | | 0.31[3] | |

| PRIMARY STANDARDS CONTINUED | | | | National City Wells (Disinfected with chloramine) | | | Treated at Reynolds Groundwater Desal Facility | Treated at Robert A. Perdue Water Treatment Plant | | Treated[1] Sweetwater Authority Drinking Water | If you do not see a contaminant listed here, it was not detected in 2024. Typical Source of Contaminant: |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inorganic Contaminants | MCL [MRDL] | PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG] | Range and Average | — BEFORE TREATMENT — | | | | | | | |
| | | | | National City Well 2 | National City Well 3 | National City Well 4 | SD Formation Wells 1- 11 | Lake Skinner Outlet (Aqueduct) | Sweetwater Reservoir | | |
| Microbiological [(d)] | | | | | | | | | | Highest monthly percentage | |
| Total Coliform Bacteria | 5.0% (TT) | (0) | Number of positive samples taken this year = 3 | | | | | | | 0.7% | Naturally present in the environment |
| E.coli Coliform Bacteria | (0) | (0) | Number of positive samples taken this year = 0 | | | | | | | 0% | Human and animal fecal waste |
| Cryptosporidium (Oocysts/10L) | TT | (0) | Range | NA | | | | NA | ND- 3.0[7] | NA | Human and animal fecal waste |
| | | | Average | NA | | | | NA | 1.0 | NA | |
| **SECONDARY STANDARDS** | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Aluminum[8] (ppb) | 200 | NA | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND | 58[4] | ND - 70[2] | ND | Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | ND | 58 | 47 | ND | |
| Iron (ppb) | 300 | NA | Range | ND - 160 | ND | ND | ND - 110[2] | ND | ND - 120[2] | ND | Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | |
| Manganese (ppb) | 50 | NL = 500 | Range | ND | ND | ND | 26 - 4300[2] | ND | 44 - 78[2] | ND | Leaching from natural deposits |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | 737 | ND | 64 | ND | |
| Specific Conductance (microseimens/centimeter) | 1600 | NA | Range | 970 - 1000 | 1100 - 1100 | 880 - 940 | 2100 - 12000[2] | 668 - 887 | 980 - 1200 | 760 - 1000 | Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence |
| | | | Average | 985 | 1100 | 910 | 3936 | 768 | 1090 | 935 | |
| Total Dissolved Solids (ppm) | 1000 | NA | Range | 510 - 570 | 620 - 630 | 480 - 530 | 1100 - 7300[2] | 394 - 565 | 580 - 690 | 400 - 600 | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence |
| | | | Average | 540 | 625 | 505 | 2277 | 480 | 635 | 535 | |
| Chloride (ppm) | 500 | NA | Range | 180 - 190 | 200 - 200 | 140 - 150 | 470 - 3800[2] | 78 - 87 | 150 - 180 | 120 - 220 | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence |
| | | | Average | 185 | 200 | 145 | 1086 | 82 | 165 | 173 | |
| Sulfate (ppm) | 500 | NA | Range | 35 - 44 | 51 - 66 | 32 - 40 | 130 - 650[2] | 114 - 184 | 100 - 110 | 31 - 156 | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes |
| | | | Average | 40 | 59 | 37 | 214 | 149 | 106 | 73 | |
| Color (units) | 15 | NA | Range | 1 - 1 | 1 - 1 | 1 - 1 | 1 - 3 | 5 - 10 | 30 - 40 | 1 - 3 | Naturally occurring organic materials; iron and manganese |
| | | | Average | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 8 | 35 | 1 | |
| Odor-Threshold (units) | 3 | NA | Range | 1 - 1 | 1 - 1 | 1 - 1 | 1 - 1 | 9[4] | 4 - 8 | 1 - 3 | Naturally occurring organic materials |
| | | | Average | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 9 | 6 | 1 | |
| Turbidity[8] (NTU) | 5 | NA | Range | 0.3 - 0.4 | 0.1 - 0.2 | 0.1 - 0.1 | ND - 0.6 | 1.0 - 2.2 | 2.4 - 3.5 | ND - 0.1 | Soil runoff |
| | | | Average | 0.3 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 1.6 | 2.9 | 0.1 | |
| Foaming Agents (MBAS) (ppb) | 500 | NA | Range | ND | ND | ND | ND - 120[2] | ND | ND - 100 | ND - 100 | Municipal and industrial waste discharges |
| | | | Average | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | ND | |

# 3 WATER QUALITY REPORT DATE TABLES (CONT.)

| OTHER PARAMETERS | | | | National City Wells (Disinfected with chloramine) | | | Treated at Reynolds Groundwater Desal Facility | Treated at Robert A. Perdue Water Treatment Plant | | Treated[1] Sweetwater Authority Drinking Water | If you do not see a contaminant listed here, it was not detected in 2024. Typical Source of Contaminant: |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Inorganic Contaminants | MCL [MRDL] | PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG] | Range and Average | — BEFORE TREATMENT — | | | | | | | |
| | | | | National City Well 2 | National City Well 3 | National City Well 4 | SD Formation Wells 1- 11 | Lake Skinner Outlet (Aqueduct) | Sweetwater Reservoir | | |
| OTHER PARAMETERS MONITORED | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Sodium (ppm) | NA | NA | Range | 130 - 130 | 160 - 160 | 130 - 130 | 290 - 1700[2] | 67 - 82 | 100 - 120 | 100 - 150 | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence |
| | | | Average | 130 | 160 | 130 | 545 | 74 | 110 | 123 | |
| Hardness (Total Hardness as $CaCO_3$) (ppm) | NA | NA | Range | 180 - 190 | 200 - 210 | 160 - 170 | 400 - 2300[2] | 172 - 245 | 290 - 320 | 100 - 280 | Leaching from natural deposits |
| | | | Average | 185 | 205 | 165 | 738 | 208 | 305 | 187 | |
| Radon (pCi/L)[9] | NA | NA | Range | 270[4] | 270[4] | 374[4] | 190 - 300[2] | ND | NA | NA | Decay of natural deposits |
| | | | Average | 270 | 270 | 374 | 240 | ND | NA | NA | |
| pH (Standard Units) | NA | NA | Range | 7.8 - 7.8 | 7.7 - 7.9 | 7.7 - 7.8 | 7.3 - 7.9 | 8.0 - 8.4 | 8.1 - 8.3 | 7.9 - 8.5 | Soil geology, water hardness, and alkalinity |
| | | | Average | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.8 | 7.7 | 8.2 | 8.2 | 8.1 | |
| Total Organic Carbon (ppm) | TT | NA | Range | NA | NA | NA | NA | 3.3 - 3.4 | 9.6 - 12.6 | 2.2 - 8.5 | Various natural and man-made sources |
| | | | Average | NA | NA | NA | NA | 3.3 | 10.9 | 6.7 | |

# 4 INFORMATIONAL STATEMENTS

The Authority vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and has met all state and federal health standards. The following information describes potential health effects of drinking water that contain contaminants above federal maximum levels.

**RADON:** Radon is a radioactive gas that you can't see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. Fix your home if the level of radon in your air is 4 picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L) or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that aren't too costly. For additional information, call your State radon program or call EPA's Radon Hotline (800-SOS-RADON).

**LEAD:** If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women, infants, and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and household plumbing. The Authority is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in household 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 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 U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791) or at www.epa.gov/lead.

As required by the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule Revisions, the Authority performed a service line inventory utilizing a review of historical records, field verifications, and statistical methodology. No lead or galvanized requiring replacement service lines were identified. More information can be found of the Authority's webpage at http://www.sweetwater.org/485/Lead-Service-Line-Inventory

**FLUORIDE:** is a naturally occurring mineral found in both surface water and groundwater. Fluoridation is the addition of fluoride to a drinking water supply so that it contains the level recommended for optimal protection against tooth decay. California law mandates fluoridation. Public water systems with at least 10,000 service connections are required, once funded, to fluoridate their drinking water. The Authority began fluoridation of the water supply delivered to customers in January 2017. This action is in compliance with the State Water Board Regulations Related to Drinking Water (Section 64433). State regulations require the fluoride levels in the treated water be maintained within a concentration range of 0.6 mg/L to 1.2 mg/L with

the optimal target dose set at 0.7 mg/L, which is considered to provide optimal oral health benefits. Additional information about fluoridation is available from the State Water Board Division of Drinking Water at www.swrcb.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.shtml.

**CRYPTOSPORIDIUM** is a microbial pathogen found in surface water throughout the U.S. Although filtration removes cryptosporidium, the most commonly-used methods cannot guarantee 100 percent removal. Our monitoring indicates the presence of these organisms in our source water. Current test methods do not allow us to determine if the organisms are dead or if they are capable of causing disease. Ingestion of cryptosporidium may cause cryptosporidiosis, an abdominal infection. Symptoms of infection include nausea, diarrhea, and abdominal cramps. Most healthy individuals can overcome the disease within a few weeks. However, immuno-compromised people, infants and small children, and the elderly are at greater risk of developing life-threatening illness. We encourage immuno-compromised individuals to consult their doctor regarding appropriate precautions to take to avoid infection. Cryptosporidium must be ingested to cause disease, and it may be spread through means other than drinking water

**In accordance with State Water Board requirements, the PFAS Notification provided below was formally presented to the Sweetwater Authority Board of Directors, the County of San Diego, and the cities of National City and Chula Vista on December 6, 2024**

**PFAS Notification**

The purpose of this letter, consistent with Health and Safety Code Sections 116378 and 116455, is to inform you of the presence of Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in the Sweetwater Reservoir, 3710025-006, which is treated at the Robert A. Perdue Water Treatment Plant (Perdue WTP), that is currently in service without PFAS treatment.

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code Sections 116378 and 116455, the Sweetwater Authority is required to inform its governing body and the governing body of any local agency whose jurisdiction includes the areas supplied with drinking water by the Sweetwater Authority of concentrations exceeding the Notification Levels for PFAS. These Notification Levels are health-based advisory levels established by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Drinking Water (DDW) for chemicals in drinking water that lack maximum contaminant levels. When chemicals are found at concentrations greater than their Notification Levels, certain notification requirements and recommendations apply.

The DDW determined that the Notification Level(s) have been exceeded specifically for PFAS as set forth in the following table:

| PFAS | Notification Level | Response Level | Concentration | Health Effects |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| PFHxS | 3 ng/L | 20 ng/L | 6.7 ng/l | PFHxS has been shown to interfere with thyroid hormones levels. Thyroid hormones are needed for normal prenatal growth and development of the fetus, as well as for normal growth and development in the infant and child. In adults, thyroid hormones are needed for normal metabolism and mental function. |
| PFOA | 5.1 ng/L | 10 ng/L | 9.4 ng/l | Some people who drink water containing PFOA in excess of the Notification Level over many years may experience adverse health effects. PFOA exposures have been shown to cause increased liver weight and cancer in laboratory animals. |

PFAS are manmade substances that have been synthesized for their water and liquid resistance properties. They have been used extensively in consumer products such as carpets, clothing, fabrics for furniture, paper packaging for food, and other materials (e.g., cookware) designed to be waterproof, stain-resistant or non-stick. In addition, they have been used in fire-retarding foam and various industrial processes. The origin of the contaminant in our water supply at this time is unknown but the water system is working with the State Water Board and other agencies to identify the circumstances of the contamination.

Pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 116378, if a chemical is present in drinking water that is provided to consumers at concentrations exceeding the Response Level, the drinking water system must either (1) take the source out of service immediately; (2) utilize treatment or blending; or (3) provide public notification of the Response Level exceedance. Additional information will be provided to our customers in the Sweetwater Authority Consumer Confidence Report that comes out next year.

Please refer to the following links for additional information about PFAS:

**DDW PFAS Website:**

www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/pfas.html

**DDW PFAS Factsheet:**

www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/docs/2024/pfas-fact-sheet-ddw-2024.pdf

**1. Sweetwater Authority drinking water** data is representative of water which has been processed through the Robert A. Perdue Water Treatment Plant (conventional treatment), the Richard A. Reynolds Desalination Facility (reverse osmosis treatment), or the National City Wells Groundwater Facility.

**2. The contaminants** listed are in the untreated waters. The water is processed through either a reverse osmosis filtration plant (Reynolds Groundwater Desalination Facility) or through a conventional water treatment plant (Perdue Water Treatment Plant). These water treatment applications typically remove these contaminants to concentrations below detectable levels.

**3. The State Water Board** allows the Authority to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of the contaminants do not change frequently. Radiological data on untreated source waters was collected in 2006-2007, 2019, 2022, and 2024. The Lead and Copper Study samples were collected in July 2023. Compliance with the lead and copper action levels is determined at the 90th percentile.

**4. Reported value** represents a single measurement; therefore, the range and average are the same.

**5. Unregulated contaminant** monitoring helps U.S. EPA and the State Water Board to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

**5a.** In October 2022, the State Water Board issued a new Monitoring Order (DW 2022-0001-DDW), which required the Authority to monitor quarterly for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl (PFAS) substances in SDF Wells 2-5, SDF Wells 7- 11, and the Reynolds Desalination Facility effluent, starting January 1, 2023. In January 2025, the State Water Board amended Order DW 2022-0001-DDW to include quarterly monitoring for Sweetwater Reservoir, starting on January 1, 2025. In 2024, at least one PFAS chemical was detected in SDF Wells 2, 3, 4, and 5 above its notification level, however the reverse osmosis technology used at the Reynolds Desalination Facility effectively removed these chemicals to below detectable levels in the finished drinking water leaving the Facility and therefore no notification was required. In March 2025, the State Water Board-DDW requested the Authority to implement monthly monitoring of the Reynolds Facility finished drinking water.

**5b.** In calendar year 2024, the State Water Board developed new Public Health Goals (PHGs) for PFOA (0.007 ng/L) and PFOS (1 ng/L). In April 2024, USEPA promulgated an MCL of 4.0 ng/L for PFOA and PFOS (and set the corresponding MCLGs to zero). In addition, USEPA set MCLs (and MCLGs) for PFHxS, Perfluorononanoate (PFNA), and 2,3,3,3-Tetrafluoro-2-(heptafluoropropoxy)propanoate (HFPO-DA) to 10 ng/L. USEPA also developed a new PFAS chemical Hazard Index (HI), calculated as follows: HI = ([HFPO-DA ng/L]/[10ng/L]) + ([PFBS ng/L]/[2000 ng/L]) + ([PFNA ng/L]/[10 ng/L]) + ([PFHxS ng/L]/[10 ng/L]). The HI MCL (and MCLG) was set to 1 (unitless). Please note all USEPA PFAS chemical MCLs will become effective in April 2029.

**5c.** Please note only one sampling event was available to determine the HI for the three (UCMR5) entry point sample locations in 2024. The HI was calculated as zero (not detected) for both the National City Wells and the Reynolds Desaliantion Facility. The Perdue WTP HI was calculated as 0.68.

**6. MRDL compliance** for chloramines is determined on a system-wide basis by calculating a running annual average of all distribution sampling point averages. MCL compliance for trihalomethanes (TTHMs) and haloacetic acids (HAAs) is determined by calculating a quarterly locational running annual average at each Stage 2 DBP Rule monitoring location. MCL compliance for chlorine dioxide is based on daily samples at the entrance to the distribution system and follow-up distribution system monitoring following an MRDL exceedance. MCL compliance for chlorite is based on daily samples at the entrance to the distribution system, monthly distribution system monitoring, and follow-up/confirmation sampling following an MCL exceedance.

**6a.** Please note the highest HAA5 LRAA (33.6 ppb) was higher than the maximum single HAA5 value (26.1 ppb) in 2024. This was because the highest HAA5 LRAA occurred in the first quarter of 2024 and was influenced by the last three quarters of 2023 HAA5 data.

**7. Cryptosporidium (Crypto)** voluntary quarterly monitoring. In 2024, Crypto was detected in Sweetwater Reservoir in February (3 oocysts in 10 liters) and May 2024 (1 oocyst in 10 liters). The Authority investigated and determined the crypto detects were likely false positives due to contamination in the raw water sample line. Once the sample line was disinfected and flushed, no further detections of crypto occurred.

**8. Aluminum and Turbidity** have both a primary and a secondary MCL.

**9. Radon** was sampled in 2000 for San Diego Formation Wells 1-5, in 2001 for the National City Wells 2 and 3, and in 2008 for San Diego Formation Well 6 and National City Well 4.

**10. Fluoride** The Authority treats your water by adding fluoride to the naturally occurring level to help prevent tooth decay in consumers. State regulations require the fluoride levels in the treated water be maintained within a concentration range of 0.6 mg/L to 1.2 mg/L with an optimal target dose set at 0.7 mg/L, which is considered to provide optimal oral health benefits. In 2024 (during fully fluoridating conditions), the Authority's distribution system monitoring showed fluoride levels in the treated water ranged from 0.5 mg/L to 0.9 mg/L, with an average of 0.7 mg/L. Please note a minimum of 80% of all distribution system samples taken each month must be within the fluoride control range. In 2024 (during fully fluoridating conditions), the lowest monthly percentage of Authority fluoride samples within the fluoride control range was 97%. Information about fluoridation, oral health and current issues is available at the State Water Board Division of Drinking Water at www.swrcb.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/Fluoridation.shtml.

**(a) Compliance with the radiological MCLs** is typically based upon samples collected every three to nine years (depending on previous monitoring results), unless waived by the State Water Board. Compliance with the gross alpha MCL is determined by excluding the values for radon and uranium. The State Water Board considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles. The MCL for radium is for the combination of the "226" and "228" isotopes.

**(b) The turbidity level** of the filtered water shall be less than or equal to 0.3 NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units) in 95 percent of the measurements taken each month and shall not exceed 1.0 NTU for more than eight consecutive hours or 1 NTU for more than one continuous hour and none of the 4-hour interval readings shall exceed 1 NTU.

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. The Authority monitors turbidity because it is a good indicator of the effectiveness of our filtration system.

**(c) Quarterly UCMR4** monitoring was conducted in 2018-2019 for the 17 List 1 chemicals and the 11 List 2 chemicals. Of these, only TOC, bromide, manganese, and haloacetic acids were detected. For UCMR4, the haloacetic acids are reported in three groups (HAA5, HAA6Br, and HAA9), as follows:

**HAA5** equals the sum of monochloroacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid, and dibromoacetic acid.

**HAA6Br** equals the sum of monobromoacetic acid, dibromoacetic acid, bromochloroacetic acid, bromodichloroacetic acid, chlorodibromoacetic acid, and tribromoacetic acid.

**HAA9** equals the sum of monochloroacetic acid, dichloroacetic acid, trichloroacetic acid, monobromoacetic acid, dibromoacetic acid, bromochloroacetic acid, bromodichloroacetic acid, chlorodibromoacetic acid, and tribromoacetic acid.

In addition to UCMR4, the Authority routinely monitors for HAA5 and TOC as part of the Disinfection By-products Rule.

**(c1) USEPA UCMR5** monitoring was initiated in October 2024 for 29 PFAS chemicals and lithium. Of the PFAS chemicals, the detected concentrations of PFHxS (6.7 ng/L) and PFOA (9.4 ng/L) excceded their respective notification levels of 3 ng/L and 5.1 ng/L in the Perdue WTP Clearwell Effluent sample, located at the entry point to the Authority's (finished drinking water) distribution system. No PFAS chemicals were detected at the National City Wells or Reynolds Desalination Facility entry points to the distribution system.

Pursuant to California Health and Safety Code Sections 116378 and 116455, on December 6, 2024 the Authority informed its governing board and the city councils of the City of Chula Vista and the City of National City as well as the San Diego County Board of Supervisors of PFHxS and PFOA concentrations exceeding their respective Notification Levels within the Authority's service area. Further details regarding the PFAS Notification are provided in Section 4 of the Authority's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report for 2024.

**(d) State of California Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR)** Total Coliform TT trigger, Level 1 assessments, and total coliform TT violations: More than 5.0% total coliform positive samples in a month trigger a Level 1 assessment. Failure to conduct an assessment and take corrective action within 30 days is a total coliform violation. In 2024, no triggers, Level 1 assessments, or violations occurred. E.coli MCL and Level 2 TT triggers for assessments: Routine and repeat samples are total coliform positive and either sample is E.coli positive or the system fails to collect all repeat samples following an E.coli positive sample, or fails to test for E.coli when the repeat sample is total coliform positive. In 2024, 1,908 RTCR samples were analyzed and no samples were E. coli positive and no MCL violations or assessments occurred.

## A CLEAN WATER SUPPLY IS THE NORM THANKS TO MODERN WATER TREATMENT

Modern treatment techniques have improved water supplies to the point where people often take the safety of tap water for granted.

However, ensuring water quality is a big commitment. Local and regional water agencies work around-the-clock to make sure customers have safe, reliable drinking water.

A century ago, however, many people did not have access to safe, reliable water. That was why filtration and chlorination systems were first installed in municipal water systems.

That seemingly basic service made a profound difference; U.S. life expectancy increased and child mortality decreased. Once-common diseases such as cholera and typhoid have been essentially wiped out.

Continuous advances in technology have allowed water agencies to adopt increasingly sophisticated ways of preventing harmful levels of bacteria and chemicals from fouling water supplies.

Federal and state agencies oversee the testing process, periodically setting more stringent safeguards. Over the past 30 years, the number of regulated contaminants in potable water has nearly quadrupled; and contaminant levels that once were measured in parts per million are now traced to parts per billion – giving consumers an even greater margin of safety.

The entire process has delivered a major public health benefit, a real value that customers help pay for a little at a time.

***Public water providers just charge what it costs to deliver safe supplies***

Every few months when corporations publicly announce their revenues, shareholders expect a big return. Some multi-national energy companies routinely post annual profits in the billions.

Not so for the public agencies which deliver another crucial resource – water – right to your home or business every day. They make $0 profit annually. In fact, agencies such as the Authority are legally required to charge only what it costs to treat and deliver drinking water.

All the money collected is invested into the pumps, pipes, and other elements of the water system. The system is complex, and includes securing supplies; pumping, moving, treating, and testing water; maintaining and financing infrastructure; and establishing financial reserves for emergencies and paying for environmental enhancements or mitigation.

Related costs have grown over time due to a variety of factors, such as increases in the price of energy and treatment chemicals. Local water suppliers are also strategically increasing the use of local sources, such as recycled water and groundwater, to buffer our region from shortages.

In all those efforts, customers of public water agencies can be confident that they are paying the actual costs of providing safe and reliable water service – a real value day in and day out.

The Authority is committed to maintaining a safe and reliable supply of drinking water for current and future customers.

SWEETWATER AUTHORITY

## CONNECT WITH US

**SWEETWATER AUTHORITY**
505 Garrett Avenue, Chula Vista, CA 91910 • (619) 420-1413
Office Hours: 8:00 am - 5:00 pm, Monday - Friday
www.sweetwater.org