

2021 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: Garden Farms Comm. Water District Report Date: March 2022

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the up to date results for this testing.

Probamos la calidad del agua potable para muchos componentes según lo exigen las reglamentaciones estatales y federales. Este informe muestra los resultados actualizados para esta prueba.

Type of water source(s) in use: Groundwater Wells

Name & general location of source(s): Well #1 - 17205 Poplar Avenue, Well #2 - 17125 Oak Avenue, Well #3 - 16505 El Camino Real

Drinking Water Source Assessment information: Source Water Assessments were conducted for Garden Farms Wells from Jan-Dec, 2021. A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at: Environmental Health Services County of San Luis Obispo, Ca 93401. You may request a summary of the assessment to be mailed by calling (805) 781-5544.

Time and place of regularly scheduled board meetings for public participation: Garden Farms Chapel Meeting Hall 7:00 pm on the second Wednesday of every month

For more information, contact: GFCWD Office Phone: 805-438-3751

TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. Primary MCLs are set as close to the PHGs (or MCLGs) as is economically and technologically feasible. Secondary MCLs are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

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.

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.

Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS): MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and

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.

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

Variations and Exemptions: State Board permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

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)

water treatment requirements.	pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)
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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 be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. State Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

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 (complete if bacteria detected)	Highest No. of Detections	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria (state Total Coliform Rule)	0	0	1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i> (state Total Coliform Rule)	0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive	0	Human and animal fecal waste
<i>E. coli</i> (federal Revised Total Coliform Rule)	0	0	(a)	0	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 (complete if lead or copper detected in the last sample set)	Sample Date	No. of samples collected	90 th percentile level detected	No. sites exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	2021	10	ND	0	15	0.2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2021	10	.960	0	1.3	0.3	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 (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	2019	39	67 – 73	none	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2019	307	271 – 550	none	none	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

TABLE 4 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD						
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
Aluminum (ppm)	2019	17	ND – 0.072	1000	0.6	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes
Arsenic (ppb)	2019	1.3	ND – 3.4	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2019	0.06	ND – 0.11	1	2	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Total Chlorine Residual (ppm)	2019	.85	0.79 - 0.98	[4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	[4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Fluoride (ppm)	2019	0.15	ND – 0.29	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2020	2.45	2.1 – 7.8	15	(0)	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2019	6.0	ND – 17.5	60	NA	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Nickel (ppb)	2019	ND	ND – 10	100	12	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal factories
Nitrate, as N (ppm)	2021	3.38	ND – 3.2	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrite (ppm)	2019	ND	ND – 2.6	10	1	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	2019	ND	ND – 8.2	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)
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2019	2.0	18.5 – 60.7	80	NA	By-product of drinking water disinfection

TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A <u>SECONDARY</u> DRINKING WATER STANDARD						
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	2019	40	19 - 160	500	NS	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (units)	2019	6.6	ND – 6.0	15	NS	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Odor-Threshold (TON)	2019	NS	1.0 – 4.0	3	NS	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2019	707	510 – 1,400	1,600	NS	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Manganese (ppb)	2019	ND	ND - 29	50	NS	Leaching from natural deposits
Sulfates (ppm)	2019	60	67 – 150	107	NS	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Turbidity Units (TU)	2019	0.21	0.123 – 17.0	5.0	NS	Soil runoff
Total Dissolved Solids	2016	420	420 – 1000	1000	NS	Runoff and/or leaching from natural deposits
Iron [well water after treatment] (ppm)	2019	ND	ND - 50	300	NS	Leaching from natural deposits and/or industrial wastes

TABLE 6 – DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects Language
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃ (ppm)	2019	270	160 – 330	Informational	Naturally occurring
Bicarbonate [HCO ₃]	2019	327	200 – 400	Informational	Naturally occurring
Calcium (ppm)	2019	68	49 – 120	Informational	Erosion of natural deposits
Chloride (ppm)	2019	53	6.8 – 220	Informational	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Hardness as CaCO ₃ (grains/gal)	2019	307	13 – 27	Informational	The sum of the polyvalent cations present in the water, generally, magnesium and calcium; usually naturally occurring
Magnesium (ppm)	2019	33.3	25 - 42	Informational	Erosion of natural deposits
pH	2019	7.9	7.6 – 8.29	Informational	NA
Potassium (ppm)	2019	2.0	ND – 2.7	Informational	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium (ppm)	2019	45.3	10 – 120	Informational	Refers to the salt present in the water; generally naturally occurring
Sulfate as SO ₄	2019	60	72 – 140	Informational	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

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 USEPA’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. USEPA/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 for Community Water Systems: 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. [INSERT NAME OF UTILITY] 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 (1-800-426-4701) or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

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
1	** see note below	2021	retested	-

For Water Systems Providing Ground Water as a Source of Drinking Water

Microbiological Contaminants (complete if fecal-indicator detected)	Total No. of Detections	Sample Dates	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
<i>E. coli</i>	(0)	1 monthly Jan-Dec	0	(0)	Human and animal fecal waste
Enterococci	(0)	1 monthly Jan-Dec	TT	n/a	Human and animal fecal waste
Coliphage	(0)	1 monthly Jan-Dec	TT	n/a	Human and animal fecal waste

** We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not your drinking water meets health standards. During the calendar year of 2021, we did not monitor for nitrate from Wells 01 and 02 and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of your drinking water during that time.