

## 2025 Consumer Confidence Report

### Water System Information

Water System Name: Monte Sereno Mutual Water Company

Report Date: May 20, 2026

Type of Water Source(s) in Use: Groundwater Wells

Name and General Location of Source(s): Wells A & B are located near 2777 Lopez Drive, Arroyo Grande, CA.

Drinking Water Source Assessment Information: Source assessment information is available from the County of San Luis Obispo Environmental Health Services at 1256 Sierra Way, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation: Annual meetings are held in March; time and place announced in advance of meeting.

For More Information, Contact: Wallace Group for Monte Sereno Mutual Water Company (805) 544-4011.

### About This Report

We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by state and federal regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2024, and may include earlier monitoring data.

### Importance of This Report Statement in Five Non-English Languages (Spanish, Mandarin, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Hmong)

Language in Spanish: Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse [Enter Water System's Name] a [Enter Water System's Address or Phone Number] para asistirlo en español.

Language in Mandarin: 这份报告含有关于您的饮用水的重要讯息。请用以下地址和电话联系 [Enter Water System Name]以获得中文的帮助: [Enter Water System's Address][Enter Water System's Phone Number].

Language in Tagalog: Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa [Enter Water System's Name and Address] o tumawag sa [Enter Water System's Phone Number] para matulungan sa wikang Tagalog.

Language in Vietnamese: Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Xin vui lòng liên hệ [Enter Water System's Name] tại [Enter Water System's Address or Phone Number] để được hỗ trợ giúp bằng tiếng Việt.

Language in Hmong: Tsab ntawv no muaj cov ntsiab lus tseem ceeb txog koj cov dej haus. Thov hu rau [Enter Water System's Name] ntawm [Enter Water System's Address or Phone Number ] rau kev pab hauv lus Askiv.

## Terms Used in This Report

Term	Definition
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 <i>E. coli</i> MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.
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 (U.S. EPA).
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)	The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.
Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)	The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.
Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS)	MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.
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.
Regulatory Action Level (AL)	The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS)	MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.
Treatment Technique (TT)	A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.
Variances and Exemptions	Permissions from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.
ND	Not detectable at testing limit.
ppm	parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)
ppb	parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

Term	Definition
ppt	parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)
ppq	parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)
pCi/L	picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

## Sources of Drinking Water and Contaminants that May Be Present in Source Water

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

## Regulation of Drinking Water and Bottled Water Quality

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

## About Your Drinking Water Quality

### Drinking Water Contaminants Detected

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and 8 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**

Complete if bacteria are detected.

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
<i>E. coli</i>	(In the year) 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**

Complete if lead or copper is detected in the last sample set.

Lead and Copper	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	Range of Results	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	2024	5	ND	0	-	15	0.2	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2024	5	0.146	0	0 – 0.22	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)	7/22/2024	35.5	35 – 36	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring

Hardness (ppm)	7/22/2024	610	580 – 640	None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring
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**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
Barium (mg/L)	7/22/2024	0.0945	0.089 – 0.100	1	2	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chromium [total] (µg/L)	7/22/2024	3.8	ND – 7.6	50	(100)	Discharge from steel and pulp mills and chrome plating; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (mg/L)	7/22/2024	0.022	0.24 – 0.26	2.0	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
HAA5 [Sum of 5 Haloacetic Acids] (µg/L)	8/11/2025	22	-	60	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Nickel (µg/L)	7/22/2024	1.8	ND – 3.6	100	12	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from metal factories
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (µg/L)	2025 (various)	64	40 – 92	80	N/A	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection

**Table 5. Detection of Contaminants with a Secondary Drinking Water Standard**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (mg/L)	7/22/2024	37	35 – 39	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural

						deposits; seawater influence
Color (units)	7/22/2024	4	3 – 5	15	N/A	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Copper (mg/L)	7/22/2024	0.022	ND – 0.043	1.0	N/A	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
<b>Iron – Raw Wells (µg/L)*</b>	<b>2025 (various)</b>	<b>3037.5</b>	<b>2400 – 4000</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes</b>
Iron – Distribution (µg/L)	2025 (various)	29.8	0 – 84			
<b>Manganese – Raw Wells (µg/L)*</b>	<b>2025 (various)</b>	<b>531.3</b>	<b>450 – 630</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Leaching from natural deposits</b>
<b>Manganese – Distribution (µg/L)*</b>	<b>2025 (various)</b>	<b>55.6</b>	<b>0 – 180</b>			
Odor (units)	2024 (various)	0.7	ND – 1.4	3	N/A	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	7/22/2024	1150	1100 – 1200	1600	N/A	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (mg/L)	2024 (various)	215	190 – 240	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids [TDS] (mg/L)	12/9/2024	775	750 – 800	1,000	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
<b>Turbidity (NTU)*</b>	<b>12/9/2024</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>13 - 24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>Soil runoff</b>

\* Any violation of an MCL, MRDL, or TT is asterisked and additional information regarding the violation is provided in Table 7 below.

**Additional General Information on Drinking Water**

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA’s Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. U.S. EPA/Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Lead-Specific Language: 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. Monte Sereno Mutual Water Company is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Monte Sereno Mutual Water Company, Greg Petersen, [gapetersen123@gmail.com](mailto:gapetersen123@gmail.com). Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

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

**Table 7. Violation of a MCL, MRDL, AL, TT or Monitoring Reporting Requirement**

<b>Violation</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Duration</b>	<b>Actions Taken to Correct Violation</b>	<b>Health Effects Language</b>
Iron – Raw Well Secondary MCL Exceedance	Naturally occurring iron is present in the groundwater at levels above the MCL.	Ongoing	Monte Sereno MWC treats the source water to ensure water provided to customers meets the secondary drinking water standards.	There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetic concerns.

Violation	Explanation	Duration	Actions Taken to Correct Violation	Health Effects Language
Manganese – Raw Well Secondary MCL Exceedance	Naturally occurring manganese is present in the groundwater at levels above the MCL.	Ongoing	Monte Sereno MWC treats the source water to ensure water provided to customers meets the secondary drinking water standards.	Under current regulations, manganese is still considered a secondary contaminant and no health effects language is required.
Manganese – Distribution Secondary MCL Exceedance	The treatment unit had a failure and the media had to be replaced. During that time, there were periods when water exceeding the manganese MCL was present in the distribution system.	2024 through October 2025	The media was replaced and tighter controls have been implemented to ensure the treatment unit is working. Additional controls are being investigated to increase safeguards that ensure proper treatment and will protect the treatment unit, including remote access and automatic shut off.	However, more recent studies have triggered the process for manganese to become a primary standard and regulatory approvals are underway. As such, the following health effects language may be considered: Manganese exposures resulted in neurological effects. High levels of manganese in people have been shown to result in adverse effects to the nervous system.
Turbidity – Raw Well Secondary MCL Exceedance	Naturally occurring turbidity is present in the groundwater at levels above the MCL.	Ongoing	Monte Sereno MWC treats the source water to ensure water provided to customers meets the secondary drinking water standards.	There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetic concerns.