

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

Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>

IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

AMWC's water sources are groundwater from the Atascadero Basin, the underflow of the Salinas River, and Lake Nacimiento (via the Nacimiento Water Project (NWP) pipeline). AMWC pumps the groundwater from its 15 wells into its distribution system. If needed, water from the NWP can be discharged into AMWC's recharge basin to replenish the groundwater. The watershed that replenishes the Atascadero Basin encompasses a 247-square-mile area along the Salinas River, extending to its headwaters. Of that area, only a small percentage (about 550 acres) is owned by AMWC. The majority of the watershed is composed of open space and residential or commercial development.

WHAT'S THE SOURCE OF MY WATER?



PFAS are a large group of human-made chemicals. Of this group, perfluorobutane sulfonic acid (PFBS), perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA), perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS), and perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (PFHxS) have been detected in some of AMWC's 15 water supply wells. Most wells are below the Response Level¹ but above Notification Level² established by the SWRCB. Four wells have PFOA levels above the response level. Water from these wells is blended with water from wells with very low or no PFAS detections to effectively reduce PFAS levels, as approved by the SWRCB. Ongoing sampling shows that the blended water consistently has levels of PFBS, PFOA, PFOS, and PFHxS below the response level of 5,000, 10, 40, and 20 parts per trillion (ppt), respectively. Notification levels for these chemicals is 500, 5.1, 6.5, and 3.0 ppt, respectively. AMWC is currently designing and seeking funds to construct a water treatment facility using granulated activated carbon to remove PFAS from the drinking water. Construction of the treatment facility is expected to begin in late 2026.

PER- AND POLYFLUOROALKYL SUBSTANCES

According to the DWSAPs, our water system has a physical barrier effectiveness rating of low to moderate. It is important to understand that this susceptibility rating does not imply poor water quality, only the system's potential to become contaminated within the assessment area. If you would like to review the DWSAPs, please feel free to contact our office during regular business hours.

Drinking Water Source Assessment Plans (DWSAPs) assess the area around a drinking water source through which contaminants might move and reach that drinking water supply. They include an inventory of possible contaminating activities (PCAs) that might lead to the release of microbiological or chemical contaminants within the delineated area and a determination of the PCAs to which the drinking water source is most vulnerable.

DRINKING WATER SOURCE ASSESSMENT AND PROTECTION PROGRAM

SUBSTANCES THAT COULD BE IN WATER

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

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include: Microbial Contaminants: such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; Inorganic Chemical Contaminants: including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and which can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems; Radioactive Contaminants: that can be naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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

We are pleased to present our annual water quality report covering January 1 through December 31, 2024. Atascadero Mutual Water Company's (AMWC) highly competent staff constantly seeks the best approaches to delivering the highest quality water possible to you and is dedicated to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We are committed to meeting the state's water source protection, water conservation, and community education goals and serving the needs of all our water users.

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

LEAD IN HOME PLUMBING

In 2024, the EPA required AMWC to survey its entire system to determine the presence of lead service lines. The survey included the customer's service lines. No lead service lines were found.

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. We are 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 the filter is used properly. Use only cold water for drinking, cooking, and making baby formula.

Boiling water 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, 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 in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Mike Stephens, Chief Operator, at 805-464-5361. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at <https://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.



DO YOU NEED A GUEST SPEAKER?

AMWC offers a variety of presentations to adult and youth clubs, organizations, and troops. Topics include:

- **AMWC:** 100+ Years of Service to the Colony
- **Water 101:** Water treatment & production facilities
- **Water Conservation + Education:** Water conservation, water cycle, and activities (ages 4-18)
- **Water Wise Landscaping for Atascadero**
- **Well Field Tours** (in-person, approx. 2 hours)



CONSERVATION PROGRAMS AND REBATES

Each year, over 50% of the water produced by AMWC is directly applied to lawns and other landscaping, primarily during the months of May through August. To help offset the significant stress placed on our limited water resources by landscape irrigation, AMWC offers a range of water conservation resources and programs aimed at decreasing high summer water usage, including:

- **Home Water Survey Program**
 - › Free program to help manage landscape irrigation use
- **Landscape Rebates**
 - › Turf Conversion
 - › Weather-based Irrigation
- **Indoor Rebates**
 - › High-efficiency Toilet
 - › High-efficiency Clothes Washer
- **Other Rebates**
 - › Pressure Reducing Valve (PRV) Program
 - › Flow Sensor Pilot Program
 - › Rainwater Harvesting Program

Visit amwc.us or call (805) 466-2428 for more information

ANNUAL

Water

Quality

Report

REPORTING YEAR 2024

Presented By



Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Por favor tradúzcala o hable con alguien que la entienda.

PWS ID#: CA 4010002

Test Results

DEFINITIONS

90th percentile: 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.

grains/gal (grains per gallon): Grains of compound per gallon of water.

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.

N/A: Not applicable.

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

NS: No standard.

NTU: Nephelometric Turbidity Units

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

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

PHG (Public Health Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. PHGs are set by the California EPA.

ppb (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).

UCMR 5: The Fifth Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule

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

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

AMWC holds monthly board meetings, typically on the second Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m. The meetings are held at the AMWC business office at 5005 El Camino Real, Atascadero. Please call (805) 466-2428 or check our website to confirm the date. Agendas are available at the meetings and on our website. Public comment is welcome.

QUESTIONS?

Should you ever have questions regarding this report or the quality of your drinking water, please call Mike Stephens, Chief Operator, at (805) 464-5361, or email mstephens@amwc.us.

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule. The information in the table s represents only those substances that were detected. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing between January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024. 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 ar e included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

WITH PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Arsenic (ppb)	2024	10	.004	.65	ND—3.1	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2022	1	2	.014	ND—0.11	No	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2024	[4.0 (as Cl ₂)]	[4 (as Cl ₂)]	.90	0.81—0.95	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Fluoride (ppm)	2024	2.0	1	.23	0.10—0.30	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2022	15	0	.46	0.42—0.57	No	Erosion of natural deposits
HAA5 [Sum of 5 Haloacetic Acids] (ppb)	2024	60	N/A	16.2	7.9—19.9	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate [as N] (ppm)	2024	10	10	2.25	ND—5.1	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate + Nitrite (ppm)	2024	10	10	1.07	ND—1.6	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	2024	50	30	1.6	ND—7.6	No	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from live-stock lots (feed additive)
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2024	80	N/A	61.1	39.3—63.5	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Uranium (pCi/L)	2022	20	.43	1.68	ND—2.6	No	Erosion of natural deposits

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90th PERCENTILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2024	1.3	0.3	1	1 / 63	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2024	15	0.2	ND	0 / 63	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community.							

WITH SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2024	500	92	31—170	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (Units)	2024	15	.4	ND < 3	No	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Manganese (ppb)	2023	50	7	ND—21	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor (Units)	2024	3	2	1—3	No	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Sulfate (ppm)	2024	500	92	79—100	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2024	1600	763	650—880	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2024	1000	594	330—780	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	2024	5	.25	ND—0.70	No	Soil runoff

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES

WITH MINIMUM REPORTING LEVELS (MRL) - FEDERAL UCMR 5

SUBSTANCE (IN UNITS OF PPT UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	MRL	TYPICAL SOURCE
Perfluoroheptanoic acid (PFHpA)	2024	.20	ND—2.1	3	Industrial manufacturing. Consumer products. Persistent in environment.
Perfluorohexanoic Acid [PFHxA]	2024	1.6	ND—8.3	3	Industrial manufacturing. Persistent in environment.
Perfluoro-N-Butanoic acid (PFBA)	2024	5.5	ND—17	5	Industrial manufacturing. Consumer products. Persistent in environment.
Perfluorononanoic Acid [PFNA]	2024	1.3	ND—5.5	4	Industrial manufacturing. Persistent in environment.
Perfluoro-N-Pentanoic acid (PFPeA)	2024	3.5	ND—7.0	3	Industrial manufacturing. Consumer products. Persistent in environment.
Lithium	2024	14.3	9.0—20.7	9	Naturally occurring

WITH NOTIFICATION LEVELS (NL) AND RESPONSE LEVELS (RL) - STATE

SUBSTANCE (IN UNITS OF PPT UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	NL	RL	TYPICAL SOURCE
Boron (ppb)	2024	30	ND —140	1000	N/A	Naturally occurring
Perfluorobutane Sulfonic Acid [PFBS]	2024	5.4	ND—16	500	5,000	Industrial manufacturing. Persistent in environment.
Perfluorohexane Sulfonic Acid [PFHxS]	2024	5.6	ND—18	3	20	Industrial manufacturing. Persistent in environment.
Perfluorooctane Sulfonic Acid [PFOS]	2024	10.8	ND—32	6.5	40	Industrial manufacturing. Consumer products. Persistent in environment.
Perfluorooctanoic Acid [PFOA]	2024	4.8	ND—15	5.1	10	Industrial manufacturing. Consumer products. Persistent in environment.
Vanadium (ppb)	2024	1.48	ND—7.2	50	N/A	Industrial manufacturing. Consumer products. Persistent in environment.

OTHER SUBSTANCES OF INTEREST

SUBSTANCE (IN UNITS OF PPM UNLESS NOTED OTHERWISE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Alkalinity, Total [as CaCO3]	2024	220	180—360	Naturally occurring
Bicarbonate [HCO3]	2024	250	240—260	Naturally occurring
Calcium	2024	75	60—90	Erosion of natural deposits
Hardness, Total [as CaCO3] (grains/gal)	2024	18.1	13—23	Sum of polyvalent cations in water, generally naturally occurring magnesium and calcium
Magnesium	2024	29	26—31	Erosion of natural deposits
o-Phosphate [as PO4]	2024	2.2	2.0—2.4	Added as a corrosion inhibitor
Potassium	2024	1.4	1.1—1.8	Erosion of natural deposits
Sodium	2024	35	30—44	Naturally occurring
Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps U.S. EPA and the State Board determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.				

COMPARATIVE FIGURES FOR INTERPRETATION

1 PPM	1 PPB	1 PPT
1 second in 11.5 days	1 second in 31.7 years	1 second in 317.1 centuries
1 penny in \$10,000	1 penny in \$10,000,000	1 penny in \$10,000,000,000
1 inch in 15.9 miles	1 inch in 15,782.8 miles	1 inch in 657.6 trips around the equator
1 minute in 1.9 years	1 minute in 19 centuries	1 minute in 1,900 millenniums
1 ounce in 62,500 pounds	1 ounce in 31,250 tons	1 ounce in 31,250,000 tons