ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

REPORTING YEAR 2019

Presented By
City of Paso Robles

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

PWS ID#: 4010007

Our Mission Continues

We are once again pleased to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2019. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best-quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

Please remember that we are always available should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Paso Robles uses as its water source 19 groundwater wells and surface water from Lake Nacimiento that is treated at our water treatment plant. Water that is not immediately used in the system fills water storage tanks with approximately 12 million gallons of capacity. These tanks provide water for system emergencies, fire fighting, and maintaining system pressure.

Community Participation

We welcome your comments, questions, and concerns regarding your drinking water. We encourage you to directly contact the city Utilities Department at (805) 237-3861, or you can voice your concerns at the City of Paso Robles city council meetings during the public comment portion. The meetings are held on the first and third Tuesdays of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the City Hall/Library Complex, 1000 Spring Street.

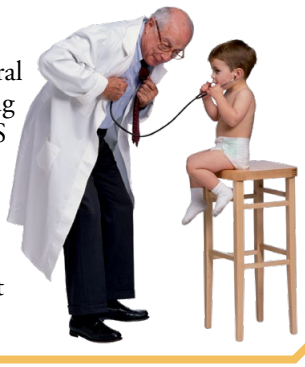
To view a copy of this report or get more information regarding the City of Paso Robles Water Division, visit us at www.pasowater.com.

Source Water Assessment

The City of Paso Robles has completed an assessment of our drinking water sources. The assessment found our sources potentially vulnerable to agricultural drainage, auto repair shops, gas stations, home manufacturing, low-density septic systems, sewer collection systems, metal plating/finishing/fabricating, animal operations, agriculture and irrigation wells, and plastic and synthetics producers. This simply means that these activities take place in the general vicinity of some wells. It does not mean there are any problems resulting from these activities, only that a potential vulnerability exists. If you would like to view the completed assessments or have questions regarding them, please contact Colton Young at the Paso Robles Water Division at (805) 237-3866.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, people 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 the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline.



QUESTIONS?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call Colton Young at (805) 237-3866 or email us at water@prcity.com

Safeguarding Our Water

During the state-wide drought emergency, City water customers exceeded our state-mandated conservation target by a small margin. The City is also on track to meeting current long-range water conservation requirements. However, new legislation will require more efficient use of water throughout our community. Although the mandate will not impose restrictions on individual customers, all water customers, existing and new, will need to use water more efficiently so the City can comply with new water use efficiency objectives.

Existing customers can improve water use efficiency by checking irrigation systems regularly and making necessary repairs, optimizing watering schedules, converting lawns to drought-tolerant landscaping, and correcting leaks around the house. New developments constructed with modern plumbing fixtures and lower landscape watering demands will also help our community meet water efficiency objectives. Using recycled water at the City's most water-intensive sites like grass fields, parks and recreational facilities will further improve our compliance with the new regulations.

> "We remain vigilant in delivering the best-quality drinking water"

For more information on ways you can save water now, including our customer rebate programs, visit www.prcity.com/469/Conservation or call (805) 227-7250.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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. (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 at (800) 426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

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 (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. 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 Contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or can 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 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.

Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule. Also, the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here, we show only those substances that were detected in our water. (A complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request.) Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less often than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

We participated in the 4th stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR4 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water, in order to determine if the EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data are available to the public so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Arsenic (ppb)	2019	10	0.004	1.84	0–7.9	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	2019	1	2	0.0399	0–0.33	No	Discharges of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Chlorine (ppm)	2019	[4.0 (as Cl2)]	[4 (as Cl2)]	1.2	0.5–1.6	No	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Fluoride (ppm)	2019	2.0	1	0.19	0.0–0.35	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2019	15	(0)	2.14	0.0–11	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Haloacetic Acids (ppb)	2019	60	NA	5.38	1.8–22	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate [as nitrogen] (ppm)	2019	10	10	1.24	0–4.9	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate + Nitrite [as N] (ppb)	2019	10,000	10,000	1340	0–4,900	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	2019	50	30	11.48	0–29	No	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	80	NA	21.64	8.6–38.3	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Turbidity (NTU)	2019	TT	NA	0.059	0.002–0.059	No	Soil runoff
Turbidity [lowest monthly percent of samples meeting limit]	2019	TT = 95% of samples meet the limit	NA	100	NA	No	Soil runoff
Uranium (pCi/L)	2019	20	0.43	1.52	0–4.5	No	Erosion of natural deposits

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

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2019	1.3	0.3	0.3	0/30	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

*** Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community (There were no detections of Lead)**

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Aluminum (ppb)	2019	200	NS	0.02	0–51	No	Erosion of natural deposits; residual from some surface water treatment processes
Chloride (ppm)	2019	500	NS	35.48	9.3–120	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Iron (ppb)	2019	300	NS	0.12	0–320	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2019	50	NS	2.77	0–29	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Odor–Threshold (Units)	2019	3	NS	1.28	1–3	No	Naturally occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2019	1,600	NS	629.46	230–890	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2019	500	NS	90.29	18–160	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2019	1,000	NS	388.49	120–660	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (Units)	2019	5	NS	0.25	0.0–2	No	Soil runoff
Zinc (ppm)	2019	5.0	NS	0.03	0–0.093	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

UNREGULATED AND OTHER SUBSTANCES [1]

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH
Bicarbonate (ppm)	2019	240.95	0–440
Boron (ppb)	2019	132.23	0–670
Calcium (ppm)	2019	60.22	21–100
Chromium-6 (ppb)	2019	0.28	0–2.6
Hardness, Total [as CaCO3] (grains/gal)	2019	14.11	5.2–18.7
pH (Units)	2019	7.72	7.2–8.2
Potassium (ppm)	2019	1.55	1.2–2.8
Sodium (ppm)	2019	37.72	10–110
Total Alkalinity (ppm)	2019	199.51	76–360
Vanadium (ppb)	2019	10.6	0–64

[1] Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps the U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90% of our lead and copper detections.

AL (Regulatory Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant that, 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.

LRAA (Locational Running Annual Average): The average of sample analytical results for samples taken at a particular monitoring location during the previous four calendar quarters. Amount Detected values for TTHMs and HAAs are reported as the highest LRAAs.

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

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

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA: Not applicable

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

NS: No standard

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

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

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

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).

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

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