2020 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: Palo Alto Park Mutual Water Company **Report Date:** March 16, 2021

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 through December 31, 2020 and may include earlier monitoring data.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de communicarse Palo Alto Mutual Water Company a 650-322-6903 para asistirlo en español.

Type of Water Source(s) in Use: Well/Groundwater.

Name and General Location of Source(s): San Mateo Plain Groundwater Basin, 2190 Addison Ave., E. Palo Alto, CA. There are five wells (#2, #3, #5, #6 and #7), but #2 and #7 were offline in 2020.

Drinking Water Source Assessment Information: The Source Water Assessment was prepared on February 1, 2021 and is available on the Company's website: https://www.papmwc.org

Time and Place of Regularly Scheduled Board Meetings for Public Participation: The Annual Board Meeting was held December 19, 2020. It is regularly held in December of each year. Regularly scheduled Board meetings are held every third Thursday at 4:00 p.m. at 2190 Addison Ave., E. Palo Alto, CA.

For More Information, Contact: Ms. Niambi K. V. Lincoln, MBA, 650-322-6903

IMPORTANT WATER QUALITY TERMS

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.

***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).

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.

ND: Not detectable at testing limit.

pCi/L: Picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation).

ppb: Parts per billion or micrograms per liter (µg/L).

ppm: Parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L).

ppq: Parts per quadrillion or picograms per liter (pg/L).

ppt: Parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L).

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 (CEPA).

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: Permission from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (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 (FDA) regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Tables 1-6 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 Department 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 water quality data is 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 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	One positive monthly sample (a)	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or *E. coli* (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 *E. coli* positive		Human and animal fecal waste
E. coli (Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule)	0	0	(b)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) Two or more positive monthly samples is a violation of the MCL.
(b) 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 DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER

Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in last sample set)	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90th percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Copper (ppm)	6-7/20	10	0.19	0	1.3	03	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Lead (ppb)	6-7/20	10	ND	0	0.015	N/A	

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)	8/4/20	105	90-120	0	0	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	8/4/20	70.3	70.3	0	0	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
Dichloromethane (ppb)	11/8/16	0.93		5	4	Discharge from pharmaceutical and chemical factories; insecticide
Fluoride (ppm)	6/18/19	0.19	0.18-0.22	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additives which promote strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	8/22/17	4.57	4.57	15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm) - N	8/4/20	0.935	0.94-0.93	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs (Total Trihalomethanes) (ppb)	8/4/20	2.7		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	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Aluminum (ppb)	8/15/20	71	71	200		Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment
Chloride (ppm)	8/4/20	72	51-93	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater intrusion
Color (Units)	8/4/20	3	3	15		Naturally-occurring organic materials
Copper (ppm)	8/4/20	0.012	0.012	1		Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Iron (ppb)	60 samples in 2020	ND	ND	300	N./A	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	59 samples in 2020	ND	ND	50	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits
MBAS (ppb)	12/22/19	160	ND-160	500		Municipal and industrial waste discharges
Odor-Threshold	8/4/20	0	0		3	Naturally-occurring organic materials
Specific Conductance	8/4/20	667	667	1600	N/A	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	8/4/20	41	28-54	500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Turbidity (NTU)	8/4/20	2.2	0.42-5	5	N/A	Soil runoff
Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) (ppm)	8/4/20	407	315-474	1000	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

TABLE 6 - DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS					
Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	Notification Level	Health Effects Language
Vanadium (ppb)	5/19/14	3.25	3.1-3.2	50	The babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing vanadium in excess of the notification level may have an increased risk of developmental effects based on studies in laboratory animals

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. Immunocompromised 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: 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. The Palo Alto Park Mutual Water Company 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. 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 ***(1-800-426-4791)*** or at:

http://www.epa.gov/lead

For Water Systems Providing Groundwater as a Source of Drinking Water

TABLE 7 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING FECAL INDICATOR-POSITIVE GROUNDWATER SOURCE SAMPLES					
Microbiological Contaminants (complete if fecal indicator detected)	Total No. of Detections	Sample Dates	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Typical Source of Contaminant
E. coli	0		0	(0)	Human and animal fecal waste
Enterococci	0		TT	N/A	Human and animal fecal waste
Coliphage	0		TT	N/A	Human and animal fecal waste

STATEMENTS: Active, Sorted: Location
Printed: 06/30/2021 18:15

Zip Code	City	Count	Total
33319	LAUDERHILL	1	1
64063	LEE'S SUMMIT	2	3
84323	LOGAN	2	5
85303	GLENDALE	1	6
91105	PASADENA	1	7
94002	BELMONT	2	9
94010	BURLINGAME	2	11
94019	HALF MOON BAY	1	12
94022	LOS ALTOS	2	14
94025	MENLO PARK	11	25
94044	PACIFICA	1	26
94061	REDWOOD CITY	3	29
94062	REDWOOD CITY	5	34
94063	REDWOOD CITY	3	37
94064	REDWOOD CITY	2	39
94065	REDWOOD CITY	1	40
94070	SAN CARLOS	2	42
94080	SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO	2	44
94086	SUNNYVALE	1	45
94087	SUNNYVALE	1	46
94103	SAN FRANCISCO	1	47
94112	SAN FRANCISCO	1	48
94116	SAN FRANCISCO	1	49
94127	SAN FRANCISCO	1	50
94132	SAN FRANCISCO	2	52
94301	PALO ALTO	1	53
94302	PALO ALTO	3	56
94303	EAST PALO ALTO	477	533
94306	EAST PALO ALTO	2	535
94403	SAN MATEO	2	537
94502	ALAMEDA	1	538
94513	BRENTWOOD	1	539
94537	FREMONT	1	540
94550	NEWARK	1	541
94560	NEWARK	5	546
94587	UNION CITY	4	550
94588	PLEASANTON	1	551
95032	LOS GATOS	2	553
95050	SANTA CLARA	2	555
95051	SANTA CLARA	1	556
95052	SANTA CLARA	1	557
95111	SAN JOSE	1	558
95127	SAN JOSE	1	559
95129	SAN JOSE	1	560
95156	SAN JOSE	3	563
95164	SAN FRANCISCO	1	564
95330	LATHROP	1	565
95358	MODESTO	1	566

STATEMENTS: Active, Sorted: Location
Printed: 06/30/2021 18:15

Zip Code	City	Count	Total
95377	TRACY	4	570
95409	SANTA ROSA	1	571
95946	PENN VALLEY	1	572
96815	HAWAII	3	575
98155	SHORELINE	1	576