

## WATER SOURCES 2023

Most water supplies are rainfall dependent, and become limited in times of drought. As the District looks to the future, it aims to increase its portfolio of local, reliable supplies.



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A Reliable Supply Since 1921

## 2023 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

This report explains where your water comes from, provides information on water quality and how it is measured, and presents the District's 2023 test results which show that **drinking water met, or was better than, state and federal water quality standards.**

Providing high quality water is a vital part of Montecito Water District's responsibility and commitment to customer service. The District prides itself on water treatment, which is done locally to the highest of standards using the most current methods and technology.

The pipelines that carry water also play a role in the quality of the water that arrives at the tap. The Environmental Protection Agency requires all public water systems to complete a Lead Service Line Inventory by October 16, 2024, with the goal of identifying any potential sources of lead in tap water associated with water service lines. This inventory applies to both the District-owned pipelines which bring water to the meter, and the customer-owned pipelines that deliver water from the meter onto individual properties. No lead was identified during a comprehensive inventory of the District's pipes completed in 2018. From March through August 2024, an inventory of customers' pipes is being conducted by the District's qualified staff using a State approved sampling process with an emphasis on properties built before 1986. If any lead service lines are detected, the customer will be notified immediately.

The District is constantly working to improve water quality and extend supplies with infrastructure projects ranging from replacing aging pipelines and improving reservoir storage to updating meters and treatment facilities. Ample rain for the second winter in a row combined with the District's successful efforts to procure drought resilient options, such as desalinated water, have increased our local, reliable supplies. Thanks to a combination of good planning and precipitation, the three-year water supply outlook is secure.

To help ensure that these abundant water supplies last as intended, the District continues to focus on building community partnership to improve water use efficiency. In 2023, implementing Smart Meters and launching a Rebate Program significantly expanded the water efficiency tools and resources available to customers. If you would like to learn more about water quality and / or water use efficiency, please contact us.

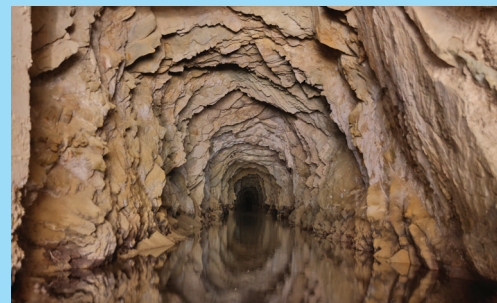
**Reliability. Service. Quality. District tradition for more than a century.**



Nick Turner,  
General Manager



**Reliable water service is essential for our health and safety, fire protection and to preserve the community's unique character.**



Doulton Tunnel, a horizontal well, source of groundwater and conveyance from Jameson Lake.



Cachuma Project (Lake Cachuma), a federally owned surface water facility.



Jameson Lake, a District owned surface water facility.



Groundwater wells, source from the Montecito Groundwater Basin.



Conservation - Water efficiency.



State Water Project & Supplemental Water Purchase.

## FACILITIES

The District's water source portfolio and array of facilities is highly diversified. The combination of its own assets and collaboration with many partners provides added resiliency.

Conservation — water supply that is attained through efficiency of use — is unique in that it is dependent on people rather than rainfall. The District will continue to look to its customers for their partnership in using water wisely.



2 Surface Water Treatment Plants



7 Pumping Stations



9 Storage Reservoirs



12 Groundwater Wells



114 (approximate) Miles of Pipeline



1 Surface Water Reservoir, Dam and Groundwater Conveyance Tunnel



943 Fire Hydrants



Water Supplied by the City of Santa Barbara, secured by Charles E. Meyer Desalination facility.



For more information please contact  
**Chad Hurshman**,  
Water Treatment and Production  
Superintendent,  
at 805.969.7924



**We encourage public participation.**

For meeting times, agendas, and additional resources: [www.montecitowater.com](http://www.montecitowater.com)

*Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien. Para información en español llame al 805.969.2271.*

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Water quality meets or exceeds all State and Federal standards



Certified/Licensed Distribution Staff and Engineers maintain and repair infrastructure



Certified/Licensed Treatment Staff and Engineers ensure testing and compliance



Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report published annually



Monitoring and sampling occur 24 hours/day, 365 days/year

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Montecito Water District’s Water Quality Summary 2023

Primary Standards (PDWS)	Units	Maximum Contaminant Level	Public Health Goal (MCLG)	Jameson Lake Average	Jameson Lake Range	Ground Water Average	Ground Water Range	Cachuma Lake Average	Cachuma Lake Range	Common Sources of Contamination in Drinking Water
Water Clarity										
Treated Turbidity	NTU	TT = 1 NTU TT = 95% of Samples ≤ 0.3	NA	0.05	0.03 - 0.26 100.0%	NA	NA	NA	ND - 0.09 100%	Soil runoff.
Radioactive Contaminants (2020)										
Gross Alpha Particle Activity	pCi/L	15	(0)	1.33	1.33	2.63	1.22 - 3.86	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.
Uranium	pCi/L	20	0.43	NA	NA	1.10	0.82 - 1.56	0.76	0.76	Erosion of natural deposits.
Inorganic Contaminants										
Aluminum	µg/L	1000	600	6	ND - 60	ND	ND	11	ND - 26	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes.
Arsenic	µg/L	10	0.004	ND	ND	0.33	ND - 1	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards.
Barium	mg/L	1	2	ND	ND	0.08	0.06 - 0.09	0.067	0.067	Discharges of oil drilling wastes: erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	mg/L	2	1	0.2	0.2	0.8	0.5 - 1.0	0.44	0.39 - 0.51	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer.
Mercury	µg/L	2	1.2	ND	ND	0.13	0.09 - 0.20	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from landfills and cropland.
Nickel	µg/L	100	12	ND	ND	1	ND - 2.0	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate as N (Nitrogen)	mg/L	10	10	ND	ND	0.92	0.5 - 2.90	0.30	ND-0.50	Runoff or leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion from natural deposits
Selenium	µg/L	50	30	ND	ND	4	2.0 - 6.0	ND	ND	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive).

Primary Standards for Distribution System	Units	Maximum Contaminant Level	Public Health Goal (MCLG)	Distribution System Average	Distribution System Range	Common Sources of Contamination in Drinking Water
Microbiological Contaminant Samples						
Fecal Coliform Bacteria and E. Coli	% Tests Positive	0	0	0.00%	0	Naturally present in the environment.
Disinfectant						
Free Chlorine Residual	mg/L	MRDL, 4.0	MRDLG, 4.0	0.79	0.20 - 2.10	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment.
Disinfection Byproducts (DBP)						
Total Trihalomethanes	µg/L	80	NA	Highest LRAA, 55.7	6 - 58	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Haloacetic Acids	µg/L	60	NA	Highest LRAA, 45.5	ND - 74	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.

	Units	Maximum Contaminant Level	Public Health Goal (MCLG)	Jameson Lake Average	Jameson Lake Range	Cachuma Lake Average	Cachuma Lake Range	Common Sources of Contamination in Drinking Water
Bromate	µg/L	10	NA	NA	NA	3.0	1.9 - 5.0	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Total Organic Carbon (DBP Precursor)	mg/L	TT	NA	1.3	1.1 - 1.5	1.89	1.42 - 2.35	Various natural and manmade sources. Total Organic Carbon (TOC) has no health effects. However, it provides a medium for the formation of disinfection byproducts.

Lead and Copper Rule (2023)	Units	AL	PHG	Samples collected	Above AL	90th Percentile	Schools (range)	Schools tested in 2022 Common Sources of Contamination in Drinking Water
Lead	µg/L	15	0.2	34	0	ND	ND	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper	µg/L	1300	300	34	0	470	ND - 1580	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

**Lead and Copper Rule** Every three years, a minimum of 30 residences are tested for lead and copper levels at the tap. The most recent set of 34 samples was collected in 2023. All of the samples were well below the regulatory action level (RAL). Copper was detected in 26 samples. The 90th percentile value was at 470 ug/L. Lead was not detected in any of the samples. The 90th percentile value was Non-Detect. 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. Montecito Water District 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 or at <http://www.epa.gov/lead>.

Secondary Standards	Units	Maximum Contaminant Level	Jameson Lake Average	Jameson Lake Range	Ground Water Average	Ground Water Range	Cachuma Lake Average	Cachuma Lake Range	Common Sources of Contamination in Drinking Water
Aesthetic Standards									
Color	Units	15	ND	ND	ND	ND	5	ND - 10	Naturally-occurring organic materials.
Chloride	mg/L	500	12	12	148	89 - 198	18.4	14 - 26	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Iron	µg/L	300	ND	ND	1	ND - 30	ND	NA	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Manganese	µg/L	50	ND	ND	6	ND - 40	ND	NA	Leaching from natural deposits.
Threshold Odor at 60 degrees celcius	Units	3	ND	ND	ND	ND	4	2 - 8	Naturally-occurring organic materials.
Specific Conductance	umhos/cm	1600	840	835 - 1054	1175	899 - 1445	948	776 - 1148	Substances that form ions in water; seawater influence.
Sulfate	mg/L	500	213	213	149	128 - 195	269	200 - 360	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	1000	610	610	710	560 - 890	622	502 - 772	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits.
Zinc	mg/L	5	ND	ND	0.017	ND - 0.030	ND	ND	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.

Montecito Water District’s Water Quality Summary 2023

		Maximum Contaminant Level	Jameson Lake Average	Jameson Lake Range	Ground Water Average	Ground Water Range	Cachuma Lake Average	Cachuma Lake Range
Additional Constituents Analyzed								
pH	pH units	NS	7.84	6.98 - 8.20	7.3	7.0 - 7.7	7.54	7.45 - 7.67
Total Hardness	mg/L	NS	400	392 - 408	411	284 - 528	383	304 - 472
Total Alkalinity	mg/L	NS	215	180 - 244	195	176 - 204	191	157 - 224
Boron	mg/L	1 (AL)	ND	ND	0.2	ND - 0.6	ND	ND
Calcium	mg/L	NS	177.5	124 - 231	78	57 - 117	93	71 - 107
Magnesium	mg/L	NS	24	24	28	20 - 41	40	31 - 52
Sodium	mg/L	NS	29	29	97	72 - 137	50	43 - 57
Potassium	mg/L	NS	2	2	0.7	ND - 1.0	2.9	2.4 - 3.4
Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 4 (2019-20)								
HAA5	µg/L	NS	32.87	23.98 - 44	NA	NA	13	ND - 32
HAA6Br	µg/L	NS	8.03	4.24 - 14.09	NA	NA	14	ND - 24
HAA9	µg/L	NS	39.95	32.57 - 48.94	NA	NA	24	ND - 51
Bromochloroacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	3.29	1.89 - 5.45	NA	NA	3.9	ND - 8.2
Bromodichloroacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	2.95	2.15 - 4.05	NA	NA	3.5	ND - 5.8
Chlorodibromoacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	0.85	0 - 1.9	NA	NA	2.2	ND - 3.3
Dibromoacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	0.71	0 - 1.9	NA	NA	2.3	ND - 4.2
Dichloroacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	12.34	7.75 - 20	NA	NA	6.0	ND - 16
Monobromoacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	0.24	0 - 0.8	NA	NA	2.3	ND - 4.9
Monochloroacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	1.17	ND - 1.6	NA	NA	2.3	ND - 4.9
Trichloroacetic Acid	µg/L	NS	18.41	10.75 - 26	NA	NA	4.2	ND - 12

This Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) reflects changes in drinking water regulatory requirements during 2021. These revisions add the requirements of the federal Revised Total Coliform Rule, effective since April 1, 2016, to the existing state Total Coliform Rule. The revised rule maintains the purpose to protect public health by ensuring the integrity of the drinking water distribution system and monitoring for the presence of microbials (i.e., total coliform and E. coli bacteria). The U.S. EPA anticipates greater public health protection as the rule requires water systems that are vulnerable to microbial contamination to identify and fix problems. Water systems that exceed a specified frequency of total coliform occurrences are required to conduct

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 storm water runoff,

an assessment to determine if any sanitary defects exist. If found, these must be corrected by the water system. The state Revised Total Coliform Rule became effective July 1, 2021.

Monitoring source water for specific contaminants is required on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether your drinking water meets health standards. During the month of March 2024, one sample for coliform bacteria was not completed prior to treatment. During the same month, all other required samples collected during and after water treatment showed no bacteria present, indicating that water delivered to customers was, and continues to be, in full compliance with state and federal drinking water standards.

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 storm water 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 storm water 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.

People with Sensitive Immune Systems

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).

Drinking Water Info

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. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (USEPA’s) Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the Division of Drinking Water prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. CDPH regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

**Source Water Assessment:** A comprehensive source water assessment of the District's drinking water sources was adopted in June 2021. A copy of this report is available for public inspection at the District Office.

Last year, as in years past, your tap water met all EPA and State drinking water health standards. Montecito Water District vigilantly safeguards its water supplies and once again we are proud to report that our system has never violated a maximum contaminant level or any other water quality standard. This brochure is a snapshot of last year’s water quality. Included are details about where your water comes from, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. We are committed to providing you information because informed customers are our best allies.

WATER QUALITY TERMINOLOGY

**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.

**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.

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

**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.

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

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

**mg/L:** Milligrams per liter, or parts per million. 1 mg/L is equal to about one drop in 17 gallons of water.

**µg/L:** Micrograms per liter, or parts per billion. 1 ug/L is equal to about one drop in 17,000 gallons of water.

< : Less than.

**NA:** Not applicable.

**NS:** No Standard.

**ND:** Non-detected.

**pCi/L:** Pico curies per liter, a measure of radiation.

**umhos/cm:** Micromhos per centimeter (an indicator of dissolved minerals in water).

**NTU:** Nephelometric turbidity unit.

**LRAA:** Locational Running Annual Average

**For Water Softeners:** MWD's surface water has a hardness range of 23 to 24 grains per gallon, while groundwater has a hardness range of 17 to 31 grains per gallon. One grain per gallon equals 171 mg/L.

**Footnotes:** The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data, though representative, are more than one year old.

Surface water sources include the District’s Jameson Lake and Lake Cachuma. The District’s Amapola Well, Paden Well No. 2, Ennisbrook Well No. 5, Ennisbrook Well No. 2 and T Mosby Well No. 2 were used as groundwater supply sources.

An average number of 52 coliform samples were collected each month at 12 District sampling stations in compliance with the Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule . All sample results were negative.

Turbidity is a measure of the cloudiness of the water. Montecito Water District monitors for it continuously because turbidity is a good indicator of water quality. High turbidity can hinder the effectiveness of disinfectants. 100% of the District’s samples met the Turbidity Performance standard. The highest single surface water turbidity measurement during the year was 0.26 NTU.