

WATER SOURCES 2025

Most water supplies are rainfall dependent, and become limited in times of drought. As the District prepares for the future, it is increasing its portfolio of local, reliable supplies.



RELIABLE SINCE 1921
www.montecitowater.com



2025 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 2025 test results which show that **drinking water met, or was better than, State and federal water quality standards.**



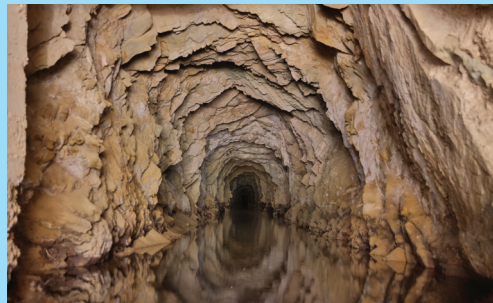
Water Supplied by the City of Santa Barbara, secured by Charles E. Meyer Desalination facility.



Jameson Lake, a District owned surface water facility.



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



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



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

Montecito Water District takes pride in the work we do. This annual report provides the opportunity for you to learn more about your water, and for us to reassure the community that the water delivered to your tap meets or exceeds the highest standards, year after year.

High Quality: Your drinking water is treated to comply with federal and State standards in accordance with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Federal Safe Drinking Water Act and the State of California's Water Resources Control Board requirements. In addition to round-the-clock monitoring, regularly scheduled and required programs further ensure water quality.

Rigorous Testing: The District's efforts to safeguard this community's drinking water include sampling at our local schools. In 2025 the District completed sampling at all school sites in accordance with the EPA's Lead and Copper Rule. These test results met all State and federal standards.

Reliable, Rain or Shine: The District's diverse water supply sources are projected to meet expected customer demands under various hydrologic conditions for the foreseeable future. Primary sources are now predominantly local and include the Water Supply Agreement with the City of Santa Barbara (desalination), the Cachuma Project, Jameson Lake, and groundwater.

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

A Note on PFAS: As reported last year, in 2024-2025 the District completed sampling for enhanced detection of PFAS (Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances).

PFAS were not detected in District water sources when testing in compliance with State and Federal requirements began in 2014-2015 and testing detected parts per billion (ppb or micrograms per liter - ug/L or one drop in 500 barrels of water).

In 2024-2025, PFAS were not detected in District water sources through advanced sampling completed for 29 types of PFAS using current EPA standards that can detect parts per trillion (ppt or nanogram per liter - ng/L or one drop in 500,000 barrels of water).

More information on PFAS may be found here: <https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/pfas>



Nick Turner,
General Manager



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



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



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

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.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Brian Goebel, *President*
Cori Hayman, *Vice President*
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Tobe Plough, *Director*
Floyd Wicks, *Director*
Nick Turner, P.E.,
General Manager & Board Secretary

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MONTECITO WATER DISTRICT

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Montecito Water District's Water Quality Summary 2025

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	0.07	0.03 - 0.20 100.0%	0.43	0.1 - 1.0	NA	ND - 0.09 100%	Soil runoff.
Radioactive Contaminants (2024)										
Gross Alpha Particle Activity	pCi/L	15	(0)	3.01	3.01	2.49	1.92 - 3.47	NA	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.
Inorganic Contaminants										
Aluminum	µg/L	1000	600	13.3	ND - 40	ND	ND	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits; residue from some surface water treatment processes.
Barium	mg/L	1	2	ND	ND	0.08	0.06 - 0.10	NA	NA	Discharges of oil drilling wastes: erosion of natural deposits.
Fluoride	mg/L	2	1	0.2	0.2	0.9	0.5 - 1.3	0.45	0.42-0.50	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from fertilizer.
Mercury	µg/L	2	1.2	ND	ND	0.05	ND - 0.09	ND	ND	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from landfills and cropland.
Nickel	µg/L	100	12	ND	ND	0.33	ND - 1.0	ND	NA	Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate as N (Nitrogen)	mg/L	10	10	ND	ND	3.2	0.8 - 6.3	ND	NA	Runoff or leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion from natural deposits
Nitrate as NO3	mg/L	45	2	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.25	0.14-0.49	
Perchlorate	µg/L	6	1	ND	ND	1.0	ND - 2.2	ND	ND	Perchlorate is an inorganic chemical used in solid rocket propellant, fireworks, explosives, flares, matches, and a variety of industries. It usually gets into drinking water as a result of environmental contamination from historic aerospace or other industrial operations that used or use, store, or dispose of perchlorate and its salts.
Selenium	µg/L	50	30	ND	ND	4.0	2.0 - 6.0	ND	NA	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive).
Synthetic Organic Contaminants										
Atrazine	µg/L	1	0.15	ND	ND	0.056	0.056	ND	ND	Herbicide runoff
Simazine	µg/L	4	4	ND	ND	0.059	0.059	ND	ND	Herbicide runoff

Nitrate as N (Nitrogen) Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. Such nitrate levels in drinking water can interfere with the capacity of the infant’s blood to carry oxygen, resulting in a serious illness; symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. Nitrate levels above 10 mg/L may also affect the ability of the blood to carry oxygen in other individuals, such as pregnant women and those with certain specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider.

MWD’s highest nitrate level in 2025 was 6.3 mg/L.

Primary Standards 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	0.81	0.20-1.79	Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment
Disinfection Byproducts (DBP)						
Total Trihalomethanes	µg/L	80	NA	Highest LRAA, 33.1	17-45	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Haloacetic Acids	µg/L	60	NA	Highest LRAA, 24.3	10-31	By-product 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	3.3	ND - 3.6	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection.
Total Organic Carbon (DBP Precursor)	mg/L	TT	NA	1.5	0.8 - 1.8	1.89	1.55 - 2.52 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 2025 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 - 900	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. 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 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 Montecito Water District at (805) 969-2271. 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>.

In 2024, the District completed a systemwide service line inventory as required by the 2021 Federal Lead and Copper Rule Revisions. With the completion of the systemwide service inventory, the District has confirmed that there are no lead service lines or galvanized service lines requiring replacement within the service area. For more information please visit our website at www.montecitowater.com/pipe-inventory.

Montecito Water District's Water Quality Summary 2025

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									
Chloride	mg/L	500	10	10	142	98 - 230	16	14 - 18	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.
Copper	mg/L	1	ND	ND	ND	ND	0.025	0.012 - 0.067	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.
Iron	µg/L	300	ND	ND	18	ND - 160	ND	NA	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Manganese	µg/L	50	2.3	2.3	10	ND - 50	ND	NA	Leaching from natural deposits.
Threshold Odor at 60 degrees celcius	Units	3	ND	ND	ND	ND	8	8 - 8	Naturally-occurring organic materials.
Specific Conductance	umhos/cm	1600	828	661 - 1236	1369	877 - 1994	975	964 - 1051	Substances that form ions in water; seawater influence.
Sulfate	mg/L	500	234	234	170	130 - 235	286	250 - 330	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/L	1000	580	580	983	640 - 1290	666	568 - 748	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits.
Zinc	mg/L	5	0.2	0.2	0.007	ND - 0.020	0.011	0.0074 - 0.020	Runoff or leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.

Secondary Standards	Units	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	7.47	6.90 - 8.12	6.89	6.60 - 7.41	7.72	7.54 - 7.89
Total Hardness	mg/L	NS	404	304 - 620	527	296 - 940	420	360 - 464
Total Alkalinity	mg/L	NS	199	120 - 252	211	172 - 240	189	173 - 204
Boron	ug/L	1 (AL)	ND	ND	0.2	ND - 0.6	0.38	0.37 - 0.39
Calcium	mg/L	NS	99	99	88	64 - 109	95.4	83.3 - 106
Magnesium	mg/L	NS	29	29	33	27 - 41	44	38 - 49
Sodium	mg/L	NS	31	31	95	60 - 149	51	48 - 53
Potassium	mg/L	NS	2	2	1.0	1.0	2.8	2.3 - 2.9
Vanadium	mg/L	NS	2	2	7.7	7.0 - 8.0	ND	ND

Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule 5 (2024) (5 year reporting requirement)								
	Units	Maximum Contaminant Level	Jameson Lake Average	Jameson Lake Range	Ground Water Average	Ground Water Range	Cachuma Lake Average	Cachuma Lake Range
Lithium	µg/L	NS	32.6	29.0 - 38.0	43.5	20.0 - 56.0	22.7	ND - 42.5

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 (U.S. EPA’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. 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.

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.

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

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.

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).

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.

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 (AL): 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. **ND:** Non-detected.

NS: No Standard. **DNQ:** Detected, not quantified.

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 18 to 36 grains per gallon, while groundwater has a hardness range of 17 to 55 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 60 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 0.20 NTU.