

California drinking water regulations require that water delivered by public water systems be, at all times, pure, wholesome and potable, as required by the Federal and State Safe Drinking Water Acts. To accomplish this mandate, domestic water must meet strict standards, as established in the California Domestic Water Quality and Monitoring Regulations. This regulation includes primary and secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL) and monitoring frequencies for specified microbiological, chemical and radionuclide contaminants. Primary contaminants are those that may have an adverse health effect. Secondary contaminants are those that may adversely affect the aesthetic quality of the drinking water. The regulation includes the provisions adopted by the federal Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974. The state has direct enforcement responsibility for all public water systems with 200 or more service connections.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) establishes monitoring requirements and maximum contaminant levels. As the EPA develops new standards, California will amend state regulations, which establish water quality requirements for local water supplies. The domestic water supplied by the City of Gilroy meets all current regulations. This report includes the respective Public Health Goal (PHG), or the federal Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) for chemicals that do not yet have a PHG.

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 City of Gilroy 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/regulatory-information-topic/regulatory-information-topic-cross-cutting-issues#lead>

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 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 SWRCB requires us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

TABLE 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA 2019

Microbiological Contaminants (to be completed only if there was a detection of bacteria)	Highest No. of detections (in a month)	No. of months in violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	1	0	More than 5% samples in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. coli	(in a year) 0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or E. coli	0	Human and animal fecal waste

TABLE 2 - CUSTOMER TAP LEAD/COPPER SAMPLING

Lead and Copper (to be completed only if there was a detection of lead or copper in the last sample set)	No. of samples collected	90th percentile level detected	Schools that have requested lead sampling	No. Sites exceeding AL	AL	MCLG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb) 6/1/2018	30	5.4	24	0	15	2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm) 6/1/2018	30	0.350	N/A	0	1.3	0.3	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives

TABLE 3 - SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Data	Avg. Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	5/3/2018	26.44	17-58	none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water
Hardness (ppm)	5/3/2018	236	174-271	none	none	Generally found in ground and surface water

TABLE 4 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Data	Avg. Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Fluoride (ppm)	2018	0.07	ND-0.12	2	1 (NA)	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Nitrate (N) (ppm)	Quarterly 2019	5	2.5-8.8	10	10 (NA)	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Tetrachloroethylene [PCE] (ppb)	Monthly 2019	0.011	ND-2.4	5	0.06 (NA)	Leaching from PVC pipes; discharge from factories, dry cleaners and auto shops (metal degreaser)
Total trihalomethanes [THMs] (ppb)	Quarterly 2019	4.81	1.2-13.5	80	NA (NA)	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Haloacetic Acids [HAA5] (ppb)	Quarterly 2019	103	ND-2.7	60	NA (NA)	By-product of drinking water chlorination

TABLE 5 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Data	Avg. Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Chloride (ppm)	5/3/2018	31.89	21-59	500	NA (NA)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Specific Conductance (micromhos/cm)	5/3/2018	548.89	450-630	1600	NA (NA)	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	5/3/2018	38.56	31-54	500	NA (NA)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes
Total dissolved solids [TDS] (ppm)	5/3/2018	346	300-400	1000	NA (NA)	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits

TABLE 6 - DETECTION OF UNREGULATED CONTAMINANTS

Chemical or Constituent	Sample Date	Level Detected	Action Level	Health Effects Language
Vanadium (ppb)	7/8/03	Avg. 1.19 (ND-5.0)	50	The babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing vanadium in excess of the action level may have an increased risk of developmental effects, based on studies in laboratory animals

* Any violation of an MCL or AL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided below.



Presented By
The City of Gilroy
Water Department



Annual Water Quality Report 2019

The report contains important information about your drinking water. Translate it or speak with someone who understands it.

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

Chi tiết này thật quan trọng. Xin nhờ người dịch cho quý vị.

此份有關你的食水報告,內有重要資料和訊息,請找他人為你翻譯及解釋清楚。

The City of Gilroy tests it's water for many constituents as required by State and Federal Regulations. This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 – December 31, 2019.

The City of Gilroy is committed to providing a safe and reliable supply of excellent quality drinking water that meets Federal and State regulations. This brochure is a snapshot of the quality of water that we provided in 2019. Included are the details about the source of the City's water, what it contains, and how it compares to State standards. We are committed to providing you with information because informed customers are the best allies. The City encourages public interest and participation in decisions affecting the community's drinking water supply. Our City Council generally meets at 6:00 P.M. on the first and third Monday of each month at City Hall. The Santa Clara Valley Water District Board (SCVWD) of Directors meetings are on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 9:30 a.m. (and the fifth Tuesday at 7:30 p.m. when applicable). The City of Gilroy will take any steps necessary to ensure that your water continues to meet safe drinking water standards.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), Drinking Water Field Operations Branch, requires water agencies to annually notify their customers of the constituents or elements in their drinking water. This is not the result of punitive action, nor is it indicative of any violation of treatment practices. It is strictly a



mandated public information service legislated to keep you informed each year of the facts about your drinking water.

Water System

The City of Gilroy obtains its municipal water supply from ground-water well sources within the Llagas Basin Aquifer. The City currently operates nine water wells that vary in depth that are located throughout the City. In 2019, these wells supplied 57,302 residents with water for personal and industrial use. Gilroy treats our water with chlorine disinfection to remove or reduce harmful contaminants that may come from the source water. The City has performed a Source Water Assessment of our water which identifies possible impacts to water quality. Our source water is considered most vulnerable to the following activities: gas stations, dry cleaners, and metal plating/finishing/fabricating. A copy of the Source Water Assessment is available by contacting Engineering at (408) 846-0450. If you have any questions regarding this report or the water system, please contact Jeff Castro at (408) 846-0270.

As the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) develops new standards, California will amend state regulations that establish water quality requirements for local water supplies. The domestic water supplied by the City of Gilroy meets all current regulations. This report includes the respective public health goal (PHG), or the federal maximum contaminant level goal (MCLG) for chemicals that do not yet have a PHG.

System Improvements

To meet the growing needs of our customers, the City of Gilroy is continually evaluating, maintaining and improving our water system. The City has installed variable frequency drive (VFD's) on three of our wells in an effort to reduce energy costs and maintain system pressure during high demand. The City is also in the design stage of a new well at McCarthy Ranch on the south side of the City and is scheduled to go online July 2021. The City is also in the design stage of a new reservoir that will supply our Zone 2 South Pressure Zone located in the southwest quad of the City.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) required all cities in California to do an inventory of service lines containing lead, or lead containing materials, in their water system. In June of 2018 the city completed the inventory and identified 450 steel services out of 15,167 services with materials containing small amounts of lead in our distribution system. The city has begun systematically removing and replacing these services as required, in fact the City has already

reduced the inventory of its steel services to 390 as of March 2020. It is important to note that the groundwater that makes up 100% of Gilroy's supply does not have the corrosive properties found in other parts of the country that has resulted in elevated amounts of lead in the water. Gilroy participates in the mandatory tri-annual testing and reporting on lead and copper in our water. The levels observed in that specialized testing are extremely low. In fact, the levels are so low that SWRCB has allowed the City to reduce the frequency of testing from annually to tri annually. The City will be submitting a timeline to SWRCB in 2020 regarding the plan for removal of all of the remaining steel services.

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 EPA's Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

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 the 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).

Water Conservation

State agencies, led by the State Water Resources Control Board, has executed a statewide water conservation campaign to make all Californians aware and encourage personal actions to reduce water usage. More information is available about water conservation and actions at the following website: cityofgilroy.org/water-conservation_portal/

Water conservation measures not only save our water supply, but can also cut the cost of water. Conserving water reduces the energy costs of pumping water to our facilities as well as the chemical costs

for treating the water. There are several measures you, as the water consumer, can do to conserve on water usage.

Conservation measures you can use inside your home include:

1. Fix leaky faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
2. Install water-saving devices in faucets, toilets and appliances. Simply replacing old fixtures with a new one will reduce water consumption by nearly one-half. (See Santa Clara Valley Water District web site for rebates available for water saving devices at <http://www.valleywater.org/savingwater/rebates>)
3. Wash only full loads of laundry.
4. Don't use the toilet for trash disposal.
5. Take shorter showers. Do not let the water run while shaving, washing, brushing teeth, or cleaning fruits and vegetables.
6. Soak dishes before washing. Run the dishwasher only when full.
7. Purchase an energy efficient washing machine and dishwasher and receive a rebate.



You can conserve outdoors as well:

1. Water the lawn and garden as little as possible. Outdoor watering is more efficient between 7 p.m. and 3 a.m., and also reduces demand during peak use periods. From November-March water 1 day a week or less. From April-October watering 3 days per week.
2. Use mulch around plants and shrubs or choose plants that don't need much water. Get a rebate for replacing your lawn at www.valleywater.org/landscaperebateprogram.
3. Repair leaks in faucets and hoses. Use water-saving nozzles.
4. Wash your car at a commercial carwash that recirculates its water.
5. Sweep clippings, leaves, and dirt from walks and driveways rather than using the hose.

6. Obey any and all water use restrictions and regulations. Consult the City of Gilroy website at www.cityofgilroy.org/water-conservation for the latest water conservation regulations.

Contaminants

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, picks up chemicals and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.



Contaminants that may be present in source water before we treat it 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, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agricultural, 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, which 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 US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the SWRCB prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 mg/L is a health risk for infants 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.

Definitions

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.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment that may not be exceeded at the consumer's tap.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG): The level of a disinfectant added for water treatment below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs are set by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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

NA: not applicable

ND: not detectable at testing limit

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

ppb: parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

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

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

Regulatory Action Levels (AL): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.