

# 2021 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: City of Exeter

Report Date: June 16, 2022

*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 to December 31, 2021 and may include earlier monitoring data.*

**Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse City of Exeter a PO Box 237 Exeter, CA 93221 (559)592-3318 para asistirlo en español.**

**这份报告含有关于您的饮用水的重要讯息。请用以下地址和电话联系 City of Exeter 以获得中文的帮助: PO Box 237 Exeter, CA 93221 (559)592-3318**

**Ang pag-uulat na ito ay naglalaman ng mahalagang impormasyon tungkol sa inyong inuming tubig. Mangyaring makipag-ugnayan sa City of Exeter PO Box 237 Exeter, CA 93221o tumawag sa (559) 592-3318 para matulungan sa wikang Tagalog.**

**Báo cáo này chứa thông tin quan trọng về nước uống của bạn. Xin vui lòng liên hệ City of Exeter tại địa chỉ PO Box 237 Exeter, CA 93221 được hỗ trợ giúp bằng tiếng Việt.**

**Tsab ntawv no muaj cov ntsiab lus tseem ceeb txog koj cov dej haus. Thov hu rau City of Exeter ntawm PO Box 237 Exeter, CA 93221 rau kev pab hauv lus Askiv.**

Type of water source(s) in use: Ground Water Wells

For more information, contact: Daymon Qualls, Director of Public Works Phone: (559) 592-3318

## TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT

**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 (U.S. EPA).

**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 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.

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

**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.

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

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

**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.

**ND:** not detectable at testing limit

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

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

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

**ppq:** parts per quadrillion or picogram per liter (pg/L)

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

**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 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. 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 regulations and California law also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

**Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 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 State Board 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 data, though representative of the water quality, are 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 THE 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 (In a month)	0	1 positive monthly sample	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i> (state Total Coliform Rule)	0 (In the year)	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one of these is also fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i> positive	0	Human and animal fecal waste
<i>E. coli</i> (federal Revised Total Coliform Rule)	0 (In the year)	0	(a)	0	Human and animal fecal waste

(a) 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 THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER**

Lead and Copper (complete if lead or copper detected in the last sample set)	Sample Date	No. of Samples Collected	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	No. of Schools Requesting Lead Sampling	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	2020	30	0.0015	1	15	0.2	6	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2020	30	0.208	4	1.3	0.3	Not applicable	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural

								deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
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**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)	2019	51	40-75	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2021	290	90-290	None	None	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
Dibromochloropropan (DBCP) ug/L	2020	.036 - .043 .018 - ND .038 - ND .051 - .056 .066	ND -.0 66	200ppt	0.004	Banned nematocide that may still be present in soils due to runoff/leaching from former use on soybeans, cotton, vineyards, tomatoes, and tree fruit
Barium (ppm)	2019	0.199	0.051-0.700	1	2	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2019	0.102	ND-.031	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2019	2.93	0-7.52	15	(0)	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (ppm)	2021	5.2,8.4,8.7,8.9 5.3,6.6,7.1 5.1,5.6,6.0,6.1 3.6,4.7,4.2,5.0 3.7,4.6,4.7,4.3 3.5,4.0,4.1,4.3	3.5-8.9	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits

**TABLE 5 – DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Bicarbonate (mg/L)	2019	212	110-290	NA	NA	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
Calcium (ppm)	2019	47.3	27-74	NA	NA	Abundant naturally occurring element
Chloride (mg/L)	2019	43.2	10-93	500	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Color (units)	2019	5.8	5-10	15	NA	Naturally occurring organic material
Conductivity (umhos/cm)	2019	565	460-700	NA	NA	NA
Iron (mg/L)	2020 2021	12 3	0– 12 3	0.3	NA	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Magnesium (mg/L)	2019	15.1	5.126	NA	NA	Abundant naturally occurring element

Manganese (ug/L)	2019	3.3	ND-14	50	NA	Leaching from natural deposits
pH (units)	2019	7.72	7.6-7.8	6.5-8.5	NA	Measure of corrosivity of water
Sulfate (mg/L)	2019	30.7	15-52	500	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	2019	173	90-240	NA	NA	Naturally occurring soluble mineral salts
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	2019	367	230-640	1000	NA	Runoff/Leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (units)	2019	.925	0.1-3.6	5	NA	Soil runoff

### Disinfection Byproducts, Disinfectant Residuals, and Disinfection Byproduct Precursors

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	Violation Y/N	Typical Source of Contaminant
TTHM [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2021	3.0	ND – 0-3.0	80	N	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
HAA5 (DBP) sum of 5 Haloacetic acids Sites: 1,2,4,6	2021	0	ND	60	N	
		ND				

### Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	Violation Y/N	Typical Source of Contaminant
1,2,3-Trichloropropane	2019	ND	ND	5.0	N	Discharge from industrial and agricultural chemical factories; leaching from hazardous waste sites; used as cleaning and maintenance solvent, paint and varnish remover, and cleaning and degreasing agent; byproduct during the production of other compounds and pesticides

### Additional General Information on Drinking Water

## 2021 Annual Drinking Water Quality Report

The City of Exeter is pleased to share this report with you. This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide our customers. The analysis covers January 1 through December 31, 2020 and was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and California Department of Public Health (CDPH) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

### Where Do We Get Our Drinking Water?

The City of Exeter receives its water from underground aquifers that flow in a southwestern direction from the Sierra Nevada Mountains.

### **Source Water Assessment**

Assessments of the drinking water sources for the City of Exeter have been completed on the following wells: E-6W, E-9W, and E-11W, in September 2001, E-12W in June 2004, E-13W in August 2007, and E-14W in February 2010 in compliance with local and state regulations. The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: fertilizer/ pesticide/herbicide applications. In addition, the sources are considered most vulnerable to these activities not associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: septic systems in high-density areas, agricultural/ irrigation wells, injection wells/drywells/sumps, metal plating/finishing fabricating, and automobile gas stations.

### **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.

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 by-products 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.

### **All Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants**

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide *the* same protection for public health. In order for the City of Exeter to ensure it supplies a safe product for its consumers we continually test our water to ensure we exceed U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Public Health standards. 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 Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

### **Important Health Information**

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-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).

### **Lead and Drinking Water**

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 Exeter 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/safewater/lead>.

### **Nitrate in Drinking Water**

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.

### **What can I do to conserve water?**

There are many things you can do to conserve water. Running your clothes washer and dishwasher only when they are full can save up to 1,000 gallons a month. Watering your lawn and garden in the morning or evening when temperatures are cooler will help minimize evaporation. Shortening your shower by a minute or two can save up to 150 gallons per month.

Turning off the water while you are brushing your teeth can save up to 25 gallons per month. Also, take time to review your water bill on a regular basis as this can help you quickly realize if there are leaks in your system.

**If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Daymon Qualls, Director of Public Works by one of the following.**

- **Call the office at (559) 592-3318**
- **Write to: PO Box 237 Exeter, CA 93221**
- **Send email to: [marroyo@exetercityhall.com](mailto:marroyo@exetercityhall.com)**