SIERRA PARK WATER COMPANY

2023 Consumer Confidence (Water Quality) Report

Importance of this report

This report provides important information about your drinking water and provides the results of water quality monitoring for the period January 1 – December 31, 2023

En Español

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua para beber. Favor de comunicarse Sierra Park Water Company a (209) 533-7998 para asistirlo en español.

Iron and Manganese

Information included with quarterly billing statements to rate-paying customers conveys the results of routine monitoring that shows levels of these contaminants exceeding the Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCL), a secondary standard that affects the color and taste of the water. The State Water Resources Control Board is considering a revision to these standards. For more information go the State's website here: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/NotificationLevels.html

For most consumers, an alternative water supply such as bottled water is not necessary. However, if you have health concerns about consuming this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

Sierra Park Water Company (SPWC) is actively developing a Water Treatment Plant to remove these contaminants from the water supply.

The treatment plant is scheduled to begin construction in Summer 2024 and is expected to be in service by the end of Summer 2025.

In the meantime, you may experience discoloration in your water. Manganese appears black and Iron appears brown or rust colored. If you experience discolored water at your home, SPWC recommends that you flush the lines at your home by opening the faucets and the outside hose bib and allowing the water to run for a few seconds or up to a minute until the water runs clear.

If you still have concerns, please call the number below or send a message to SPWC: message@sierraparkwater.com

Lead in Drinking Water

The US EPA has determined that there is no safe limit for lead in drinking water because it is harmful to human health. Lead can enter drinking water when plumbing materials that contain lead become corroded. The most common sources of lead in drinking water are lead pipes, faucets and fixtures. In homes with lead pipes that connect to the main water line, also known as lead service lines, these pipes are typically the most significant source of lead in the water. Lead pipes are more likely to be found in homes built prior to 1986.

SPWC is seeking your assistance to collect information about these service lines and will be reporting it to the State by October 2024 as part of a national survey. A copy of the survey is enclosed or available at www.sierraparkwater.com

What Else is Happening?

In addition to constructing a water treatment plant, SPWC will begin the process of installing meters to all customers. Meters are required for water management and more information about the timeline and what to expect will be provided as soon as it becomes available.

Also on tap is maintenance of the storage tanks and another project to begin replacing the distribution pipelines. Tank maintenance will be scheduled after the treatment plant is completed. Pipeline replacement will be conducted in phases and planned over multiple years.

It's likely you will encounter more contractors in Sierra Park. A friendly wave is welcome but please send all your questions to: message@sierraparkwater.com

2023 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: **Sierra Park Water 5510016** Report Date: January 25, 2024

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, 2023 and may include earlier monitoring data.

Type of water source(s) in use: Groundwater

Name & general location of source(s): Wells No 5 (-006) & No 6 (-007)

Drinking Water Source Assessment information:
The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities associated with contaminants in the water supply; Historic waste dumps/landfills. (Iron and Manganese are associated with historic waste dumps/landfills, junk/scrap/salvage yards and naturally occurring).The sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: Septic systems/high density (>1/acre). A copy of the complete assessment is available or you may request a summary by contacting Merced District SWRCB-Division of Drinking Water (559) 447-3300

For more information, contact: Dave Roy Phone: 770-0109

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 7 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
E. coli (state Total Coliform Rule)	(In the year) 0	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	90th Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	No. of Schools Requesting Lead Sampling	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	2021	5	ND	0	15	0.2	None	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits
Copper (ppm)	2021	5	.26	0	1.3	0.3	Not applicable	Internal corrosion of household 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 Date**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**MCL**	**PHG (MCLG)**	**Typical Source of Contaminant**
Sodium (ppm)	2021	12.6	12.3-12.8	None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2021	121	111-130	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**
Nitrate (ppm)	2023	ND	ND	10	10	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (ppm)	2021	.11	.10-.12	2	1	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2018	1.3	1.2-1.3	15	1	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**
Turbidity (Units)	2021	3.3	3.2-3.4	5	NA	Soil runoff
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2021	240	230-250	1000	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (micromhos)	2021	299	284-313	1600	NA	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Chloride (ppm)	2021	1.1	1.1-1.2	500	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2021	5.7	2.1-9.3	50	NA	Leaching from natural deposits
Manganese (ppb)	2023	221*	109-320	50	NA	Leaching from natural deposits
Iron (ppb)	2023	482*	297-924	300	NA	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes

Summary Information for Violation of a Secondary MCL

*Iron and Manganese were found at levels that exceed the secondary MCL of 300µg/L and 50µg/L respectively. The MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic effects (e.g., color, taste and odor) and the staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs and sinks) and clothing while washing. The high level is due to leaching from natural deposits.

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. 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. 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. Sierra Park Water 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 do so, you may wish to collect the flushed water and reuse it for another beneficial purpose, such as watering plants. 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	(In the year) 0	2023	0	(0)	Human and animal fecal waste
Enterococci	(In the year) 0	2023	TT	N/A	Human and animal fecal waste
Coliphage	(In the year) 0	2023	TT	N/A	Human and animal fecal waste

Summary Information for Federal Revised Total Coliform Rule Level 1 and Level 2 Assessment Requirements

Level 1 or Level 2 Assessment Requirement not Due to an *E. coli* MCL Violation

Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, waterborne pathogens may be present or that a potential pathway exists through which contamination may enter the drinking water distribution system. We found coliforms indicating the need to look for potential problems in water treatment or distribution. When this occurs, we are required to conduct assessment(s) to identify problems and to correct any problems that were found during these assessments.

During the past year we were not required to conduct Level 1 or Level 2assessments.