ANNUAL WATER QUALITY REPORT

REPORTING YEAR 2019

Presented By
City of Fillmore

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

PWS ID#: 5610002

Our Mission Continues

We are once again pleased to present our annual water quality report covering all testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2019. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing drinking water that meets all state and federal standards. We continually strive to adopt new methods for delivering the best-quality drinking water to you. As new challenges to drinking water safety emerge, we remain vigilant in meeting the goals of source water protection, water conservation, and community education while continuing to serve the needs of all our water users.

Please remember that we are always available should you ever have any questions or concerns about your water.

Source Water Assessment

A source water assessment was conducted on our wells in 2002. If you would like more information about the assessment results, please contact the district engineer at (805) 566-5339.

Important Health Information

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised 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 may be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (U.S. EPA/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 at (800) 426-4791 or http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline.

Community Participation

You are invited to participate in our city council meetings and voice your concerns about your drinking water. We meet the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 250 Central Avenue, Fillmore. Due to COVID-19, city council meetings will be held virtually during the normal time slots. Please visit www.fillmoreca.com for more information.

Water Treatment Process

The City of Fillmore draws all its water from underground aquifers. Chlorine is added as a precaution against any bacteria that may still be present. We carefully monitor the amount of chlorine, adding the lowest quantity necessary to protect the safety of your water without compromising taste.

Lead in Home Plumbing

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. We are responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, but we 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 at (800) 426-4791 or at www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

Questions?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call David Smallwood, Public Works Supervisor, at (805) 524-3701.

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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board (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. 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.

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; See March 2019 notice sent to users regarding elevated bacteria.

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, that can be naturally occurring or can 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, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production and which can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural applications, and septic systems;

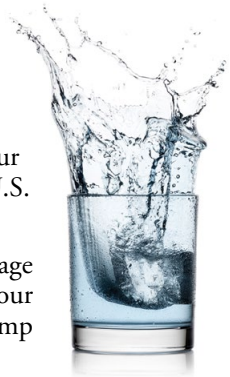
Radioactive Contaminants that can be naturally occurring or can be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Safeguard Your Drinking Water

Protection of drinking water is everyone's responsibility. You can help protect your community's drinking water source in several ways:

- Eliminate excess use of lawn and garden fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source.
- Pick up after your pets.
- If you have your own septic system, properly maintain your system to reduce leaching to water sources or consider connecting to a public water system.
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a recycling center.
- Volunteer in your community. Find a watershed or wellhead protection organization in your community and volunteer to help. If there are no active groups, consider starting one. Use U.S. EPA's Adopt Your Watershed to locate groups in your community.
- Organize a storm drain stenciling project with others in your neighborhood. Stencil a message next to the street drain reminding people "Dump No Waste – Drains to River" or "Protect Your Water". Produce and distribute a flyer for households to remind residents that storm drains dump directly into your local water body.



Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule, and the water we deliver must meet specific health standards. Here we only show those substances that were detected in our water (a complete list of all our analytical results is available upon request). Remember that detecting a substance does not mean the water is unsafe to drink; our goal is to keep all detects below their respective maximum allowed levels.

The state recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Fluoride (ppm)	2017–2019	2.0	1	0.8	0.7–1.0	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive that promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	2018	15	(0)	9.3	4.53–14.3	No	Erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate [as nitrogen] (ppm)	2018-2019	10	10	1.8	0.7–3.4	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate + Nitrite as N (ppm)	2017–2019	10	10	1.8	0.7–3.7	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Selenium (ppb)	2016–2019	50	30	7	ND–16	No	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2019	80	NA	12	2–12	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Uranium (pCi/L)	2015–2018	20	0.43	6.4	3.62–10.3	No	Erosion of natural deposits

Tap water samples were collected for lead and copper analyses from sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH %ILE)	SITES ABOVE AL/TOTAL SITES	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2018	1.3	0.3	0.42	0/30	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2015	15	0.2	2.7	0/30	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES [1]

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	PHG (MCLG)	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Chloride (ppm)	2017–2019	500	NS	69	52–90	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Iron (ppb)	2017-2019	300	NS	ND	ND–140	No	Leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	2017-2019	49	NS	ND	29–80	No	Leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (µS/cm)	2017–2019	1,600	NS	1,410	1,080–1,830	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	2017–2019	500	NS	445	294–668	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	2017-2019	1,000	NS	1,007	690–1,430	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (Units)	2016-2019	5	NS	0.2	0.1–0.3	No	Soil runoff

UNREGULATED AND OTHER SUBSTANCES [2]

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Boron[3] (ppm)	2017–2019	1.2	0.9–1.5	Naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	2017–2019	596	386–893	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium; naturally occurring
Sodium (ppm)	2017–2019	84	71–109	Naturally occurring

[1] Secondary contaminants are regulated to protect the aesthetics of drinking water like taste, appearance, and odor. Exceedances of SMCLs do not pose a risk to public health.
[2] Unregulated contaminant monitoring helps U.S. EPA and the State Water Resources Control Board determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated.
[3] Notification Level = 1 ppm. The babies of some pregnant women who drink water containing boron in excess of the notification level have an increased risk of developmental effects based on studies on laboratory animals.

BY THE NUMBERS

34 BILLION The number of gallons of water produced daily by public water systems in the U.S.

1 MILLION The number of miles of drinking water distribution mains in the U.S.

135 BILLION The amount of money spent annually on maintaining the public water infrastructure in the U.S.

300 MILLION The number of Americans who receive water from a public water system.

2 BILLION The age in years of the world's oldest water found in a mine at a depth of nearly two miles.

151 THOUSAND The number of active public water systems in the U.S.

199 THOUSAND The number of highly trained and licensed water professionals serving in the U.S.

Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Fillmore water customers are fortunate because we enjoy an abundant water supply from three groundwater wells. Wells 5, 7, and 8 are located along Sespe River and supply the City of Fillmore with potable water. We do not sell or buy any water from outside sources. The City of Fillmore produces and treats all of its own water supply.

Definitions

90th %ile: The levels reported for lead and copper represent the 90th percentile of the total number of sites tested. The 90th percentile is equal to or greater than 90 percent of our lead and copper detections.

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

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): 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 (SMCLs) are set to protect the odor, taste, and appearance of drinking water.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): 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. EPA.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): 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.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): 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.

ND (Not detected): Indicates that the substance was not found by laboratory analysis.

NS: No standard

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

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

PHG (Public Health Goal): 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 EPA.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter): A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

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

Fillmore Water Department Has Levels of Coliform Bacteria Above the Drinking Water Standard

Our water system recently violated a drinking water standard. Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we did to correct this situation.

We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants. We took 16 samples to test for the presence of coliform bacteria during March 2019. Two of those samples showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than 1 sample per month/5.0 percent of samples may do so.

What should I do?

- **You do not need to boil your water or take other corrective actions.**
- **This is not an emergency.** If it had been, you would have been notified immediately. Total coliform bacteria are generally not harmful themselves. *Coliforms are bacteria which are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially-harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems.*
- Usually, coliforms are a sign that there could be a problem with the system's treatment or distribution system (pipes). Whenever we detect coliform bacteria in any sample, we do follow-up testing to see if other bacteria of greater concern, such as fecal coliform or *E. coli*, are present. **We did not find any of these bacteria in our subsequent testing, and further testing shows that this problem has been resolved.**
- People with severely compromised immune systems, infants, and some elderly may be at increased risk. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. General guidelines on ways to lessen the risk of infection by microbes are available from U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1(800) 426-4791.
- If you have other health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

What happened? What was done?

We routinely monitor for drinking water contaminants. We took 16 samples to test for the presence of coliform bacteria during March 2019. Two of those samples showed the presence of total coliform bacteria. The standard is that no more than 1 sample per month/5.0 percent of samples may do so.

The well and distribution system has been disinfected and additional samples do not show presence of coliform bacteria.

For more information, please contact City of Fillmore at 805-524-3701 or 250 Central Avenue, Fillmore CA 93015

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

Secondary Notification Requirements

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- SCHOOLS: Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).
- RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.
- BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS: Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

This notice is being sent to you by Fillmore Water Department.

State Water System ID#: 5610002. Date distributed: April 22, 2019