

# Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report

## 2020 Annual Water Quality Report for City of Oxnard Water Customers

**This report contains important information about your drinking water.**

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. El informe está disponible en Español en el sitio web de la Ciudad en [www.oxnard.org/CCR](http://www.oxnard.org/CCR) o contáctenos al (805) 385-8136 para recibir asistencia en Español.

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*Councilmember, District 5*

**Vianey Lopez**

*Councilmember, District 6*

**City Council Office**

300 West Third Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

**Public Information**

You are invited to participate in or view any of the regularly scheduled City Council meetings.

**When:** 1st and 3rd Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

**Where:** City Council Chambers  
305 West Third Street, Oxnard, CA 93030

Meetings can be watched live and are taped for later viewing. If the City Council Chambers are temporarily closed due to public health directives, remote viewing may be necessary but expanded public participation options are available. For details, visit [www.oxnard.org/city-meetings](http://www.oxnard.org/city-meetings).

*For more information about this report:*

Visit [www.oxnard.org/CCR](http://www.oxnard.org/CCR) or (805) 385-8136

*For additional information:*

Environmental Protection Agency Safe Drinking Water Hotline  
(800) 426-4791

California Division of Drinking Water, District 06-Santa Barbara  
(805) 566-1326

*Dear Valued Customer,*

I am pleased to share the 2020 Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report. This report contains important water quality testing results, background on our water resources, and health information for sensitive populations. **As you will read, the City has successfully met strict water quality guidelines set by the California Division of Drinking Water (CDDW) and the US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).**

During this challenging time, the Water Division team continues to work hard, each and every day, to deliver safe, clean and reliable drinking water to more than 200,000 residents. More than ever, tap water is vital to our community's health and safety. Please rest assured that our water treatment processes - as they always have - will continue to protect you and your family by removing or killing harmful organisms and viruses, including COVID-19. In addition, I am proud that our entire staff has taken all necessary actions to maintain essential water operations during this public health emergency.

Thank you for reading this important report because informed customers are our best allies. We truly appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Omar Castro

*Water Division Manager*



Please share this information with others at your location by posting this notice in a public place or common area. This Drinking Water Consumer Confidence Report is available in English and Spanish (Español) on the City's website at [www.oxnard.org/CCR](http://www.oxnard.org/CCR). For any questions about this report, please contact the Water Division Manager, Omar Castro, at (805) 385-8136.

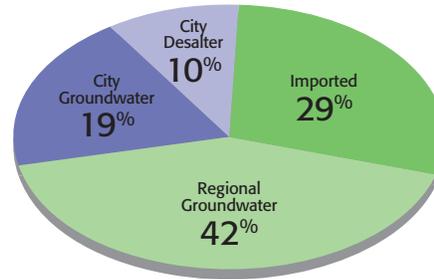
# DRINKING WATER SOURCES AND TREATMENT

Oxnard’s drinking water is a blend of sources. Our water supplies include imported water from the Calleguas Municipal Water District (Calleguas), regional groundwater purchased from the United Water Conservation District (United), and water pumped from City groundwater wells, a portion of which is treated by the City’s Desalter Facility.

## IMPORTED WATER: *Calleguas Municipal Water District*

Calleguas is a member agency of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Metropolitan), the major water importer and wholesale agency for Southern California. Water supplied to Oxnard from Calleguas originates in Northern California via the State Water Project: a system of reservoirs, aqueducts and pump stations. This water is treated either by Metropolitan’s Jensen Water Treatment Plant or by Calleguas’ Lake Bard Water Filtration Plant. Both Metropolitan and Calleguas perform routine watershed surveys, source water quality sampling and analyses, and operational and treatment

OXNARD WATER SUPPLY



activities to ensure the water supplied maintains a high quality.

## REGIONAL GROUNDWATER: *United Water Conservation District*

United manages, stores and may periodically release water from Lake Piru into the Santa Clara River. During

high flows (during and after storms), United may also divert Santa Clara River water into spreading ponds near El Rio, capturing water that would have otherwise been lost to the ocean. This river water infiltrates and recharges the Oxnard Plain groundwater aquifer. Later the groundwater is extracted, treated, and delivered to several retail water agencies in the region including Oxnard. Groundwater from United is blended with water from Calleguas or water from the City’s Desalter Treatment Facility before delivery into the water distribution system. United performs regular watershed surveys as well as routine sampling and water quality analyses to ensure that water stored, treated, and delivered to its customers maintains a consistent quality.

## LOCAL GROUNDWATER: *Oxnard*

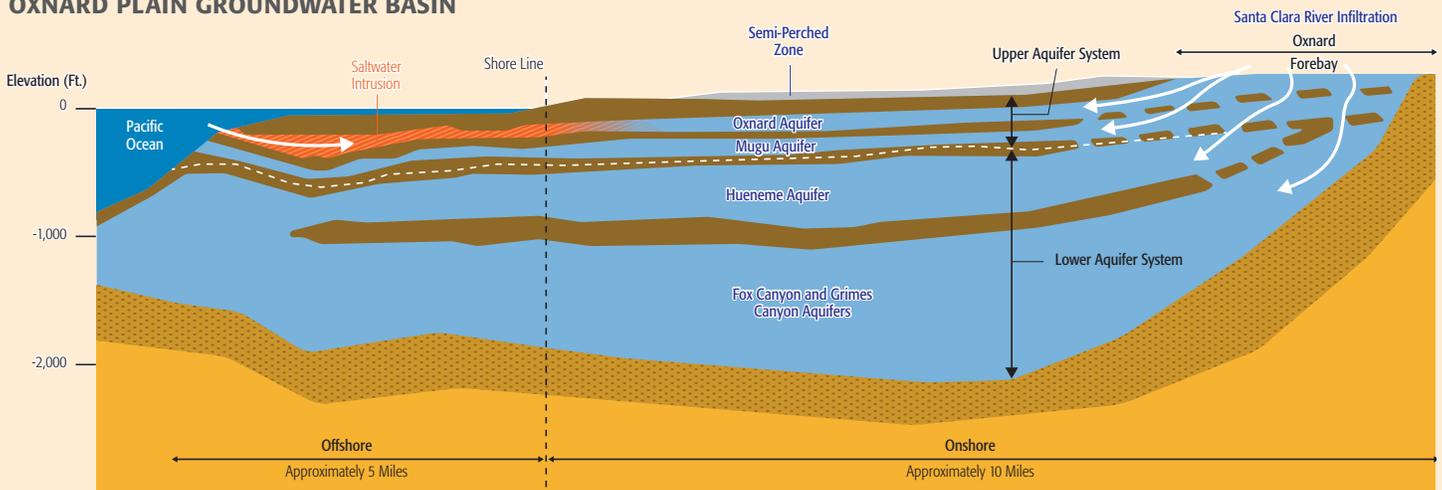
The Water Division operates ten groundwater wells that are tested and monitored on a regular basis to meet all drinking water standards. Oxnard’s treatment process includes disinfection using chloramines which removes and kills viruses, including coronaviruses, as well as bacteria and other pathogens.

To produce an aesthetically pleasing drinking water quality, City well water is blended with water from Calleguas or treated water from the City’s Desalter Treatment Facility. The Desalter, fed by City wells, improves water quality by using reverse osmosis

treatment to remove dissolved minerals and is capable of processing up to 7.5 million gallons of water per day.

The City’s Water Division also conducts routine source water assessments in order to detect potential contaminants in the groundwater before they become a problem. This includes possible contaminants from local gas stations, private septic systems, drainage from agriculture, and industrial facilities such as chemical and petroleum processing and storage facilities, dry cleaners, metal plating, finishing and fabricating facilities.

## OXNARD PLAIN GROUNDWATER BASIN



## WATER QUALITY MONITORING

All of the monitoring conducted is necessary to ensure that your water is safe to drink and also aesthetically pleasing. Monitoring is a result of prescribed regulations from the USEPA as well as the CDDW. These regulations limit the amount of certain health-based and aesthetic contaminants in water provided by all public water systems. Many of the monitoring, treatment, and water quality requirements that are placed upon local drinking water supplies are actually more stringent than for bottled water.

Here is some additional information that may provide assistance in interpreting information in the 2020 Water Quality Tables:

- Some of the parameters measured will change very infrequently in their environment. For these parameters, the State allows the City to monitor them less than once a year. Therefore, some of the City's data - although representative - is more than one year old.

- Unregulated contaminant monitoring is conducted every five years in order to assist USEPA and CDDW to determine where certain contaminants occur and whether the contaminants need to be regulated. During 2018-2020, the City monitored 30 unregulated contaminants from its wells along with a corresponding sampling from the distribution system reflecting water from each well. The testing data is collected nationally and used to evaluate if new drinking water regulations would increase public health protection.
- There are many more contaminants that were monitored than what is reported in the included water quality table; however, they were never detected in your drinking water so they are not listed.
- The sources of drinking water (both tap 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 materials, 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, which 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, which 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.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the USEPA and State Water Resources Control Board prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. USEPA regulations 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 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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1- 800-426-4791).



## IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

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.

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).

Nitrate (as Nitrogen) 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 (as Nitrogen) 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.

In 2018, the City's water supply was tested for lead and copper. Lead and copper sampling shows levels are below regulatory limits. A new round of lead and copper samples will be conducted in 2021.

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. Oxnard 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 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>.

# City of Oxnard Summary of Water Quality Results for 2020

The following water quality tables describe the parameters measured in the various water supply sources and the results of those measurements from January through December 2020, unless otherwise indicated. Please note that the results represent a blend of water quality which is delivered to customers through the water distribution system, unless otherwise indicated.

## PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS - Mandatory Health-Related Standards

Parameter	MCL	PHG (MCLG) MRDLG	Calleguas (Jensen Plant)	Calleguas (Lake Bard)	Year Tested	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Combined Filter Effluent Turbidity (NTU)	Highest Single Value		0.04	0.06	2020	Soil runoff
	TT = % of samples ≤0.3 NTU		100%	100%		

Parameter	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG) MRDLG	Range	Average	Year Tested	Major Sources in Drinking Water
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### INORGANIC CHEMICALS

Arsenic (ppb)	10	0.004	ND - 2.9	0.725	2020	Erosion of natural deposits, orchard runoff
Fluoride (ppm)	2.0	1.0	0.48 - 0.65	0.58	2020	Water additive that promotes strong teeth, naturally occurs in groundwater
Nitrate (as N) (ppm)	10	10	2.9 - 4.2	3.62	2020	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer and sewage
Selenium (ppb)	50	30	8.8 - 11	9.92	2020	Erosion of natural deposits; discharge from refineries

### RADIOLOGICALS (a) (b)

Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/L)	15	0	2.12 - 3.4	2.67	2020	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Beta Particle Activity (pCi/L)	50	0	2.43 - 3.02	3.6	2020	Decay of natural and manmade deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	20	0.43	4.7 - 6.1	5.25	2020	Erosion of natural deposits

## SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARDS - Aesthetic Standards

Parameter	Secondary MCL	Notification Level	Range	Average	Year Tested	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Chloride (ppm)	500		52 - 59	56	2020	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits, seawater influence
Odor Threshold (units)	3.0		1.0 - 1.0	1.0	2020	Naturally-occurring organic material
Specific Conductance (uS/cm)	1,600		1,190 - 1,290	1,235	2020	Substances that form ions when in water, seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	500		390 - 480	427.5	2020	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	1,000		900 - 1,100	975	2020	Runoff and leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU)	5.0		0.13 - 0.19	0.165	2020	Soil runoff
United Groundwater Turbidity (NTU)	5		0.01 - 0.33	0.12	2020	Well corrosion byproducts. Microscopic soil particles

## ADDITIONAL PARAMETERS (UNREGULATED)

Parameter	Secondary MCL	Notification Level	Range	Average	Year Tested	Major Sources in Drinking Water
Alkalinity (ppm)	NS	NS	180 - 200	187.5	2020	Erosion of natural material
Calcium (ppm)	NS	NS	110 - 150	127.5	2020	Erosion of natural material
Hardness (Total Hardness) (ppm)	NS	NS	430 - 570	492.5	2020	Erosion of natural material
Magnesium (ppm)	NS	NS	39 - 48	43.5	2020	Erosion of natural material
pH (pH units)		NS	7.46 - 7.72	7.61	2020	
Potassium (ppm)	NS	NS	3.7 - 3.9	3.8	2020	Erosion of natural material
Sodium (ppm)	NS	NS	76 - 87	82.2	2020	Erosion of natural material, seawater influence

**ADDITIONAL PARAMETERS (UNREGULATED) noted in the source water prior to blending**

Chlorate (ppb)	NS	800	7.6 - 40	25.6	2020	By-product of water disinfection
Total Organic Carbon (ppm)	NS	50	1.2 - 1.6	1.475	2020	Various natural and manmade sources

Parameter	State MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Range	Average	Greatest RAA	Major Sources in Drinking Water
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**DISINFECTION RELATED MONITORING**

Disinfectant Residual Total Chlorine, as residual (ppm)	[4.0]	[4.0]	0.20 - 2.5	1.64	1.72	Disinfectant added to control microbiological parameters
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Parameter	State MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Range	Average	Greatest LRAA	Major Sources in Drinking Water
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Disinfection By-Products Haloacetic acids (HAA5) (ppb)	60	N/A	ND - 8.1	4.86	6.725	By-products of drinking water disinfection using chlorine
Total Trihalomethanes TTHM (ppb)	80	N/A	ND - 42	21.57	31	By-products of drinking water disinfection using chlorine

**DISINFECTION-RELATED MONITORING**

Source water prior to blending Bromate (ppb)	10	0.1	ND	ND		By-product of drinking water disinfection
Metropolitan (Jensen Plant) Bromate (ppb) (c)	10	0.1	1.4 - 6.0	4.4		By-product of drinking water disinfection

**LEAD AND COPPER MONITORING 2018**

Copper (d) (ppb)	1,300 (AL)	300	90th percentile value	580	Erosion of natural materials and corrosion of household plumbing fixtures
			No. of sites sampled	52	
			Sites exceeding AL	0	
Lead (d) (ppb)	15 (AL)	0.2	90th percentile value	6.1	Erosion of natural materials and corrosion of household plumbing fixtures
			No. of sites sampled	52	
			Sites exceeding AL	3	

**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 USEPA.

**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 Standards (PDWS)**

MCLs, MRDLs, and treatment techniques (TTs) for contaminants that affect health, along with their monitoring and reporting requirements.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)**

The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of 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.

**Regulatory 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.

**Abbreviations**

<b>CDDW</b>	California Division of Drinking Water
<b>LRAA</b>	Locational Running Annual Average
<b>NA</b>	Not Applicable
<b>ND</b>	Not Detected
<b>NS</b>	No Standard
<b>NTU</b>	Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
<b>pCi/L</b>	picoCuries per liter

**ppb**

Parts per billion - Micrograms per liter (ug/l)

**ppm**

Parts per million - Milligrams per liter (mg/l)

**RAA**

Running Annual Average

**SWRCB**

State Water Resources Control Board

**uS/cm**

microSiemen per centimeter

**References**

- a SWRCB DDW considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles; the gross beta particle activity MCL is 4 millirem/year annual dose equivalent to the total body or any internal organ.
- b Radionuclides are sampled over a range from throughout a given year to every 6 years.
- c Bromate is an ozonation treatment by-product. Bromate values shown are solely contributed by the Jensen Plant and only occur in the system when water originates from that location.
- d Lead and Copper monitoring was last conducted throughout the City's distribution system in 2018 and is scheduled to be sampled again in 2021.

# Water Conservation is an Oxnard Way of Life

OxnardWater.org

## WATER CONSERVATION MEASURES



- **All water waste is prohibited.**



- **Water outdoors no more than twice a week** between the hours of 4 pm and 9 am (or 6 pm and 9 am during daylight savings time).



- **No watering 48 hours after a rain event.**



- **No water runoff from sprinklers** or other uses (no wet pavement).

## FIND AND FIX LEAKS

The average household loses more than 10,000 gallons of water each year through leaks. Fortunately, most leaks are easy to find if you know where to look.



- Check your meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used in the home. If the meter numbers change at all, you probably have a leak.
- Look for dripping faucets, showerheads, hoses, spigots, and broken sprinkler heads. You may just need to tighten the connection, or maybe it's time to replace some of your fixtures with water efficient EPA WaterSense labeled devices.
- Identify silent toilet leaks by placing drops of food coloring in the tank. If any color shows up in the bowl after 15 minutes, you have a leak. Flush the toilet to prevent staining. It's time to replace the flapper.
- If you need more information on how to detect and repair the most common leaks, check out our web page for DIY videos and other helpful tips.

## BE IN THE KNOW ABOUT H2O



Check out our water conservation programs and water efficiency rebates.



Learn about California Friendly Landscaping techniques.



Report water waste on our 311 app.

(805) 385-8154  
OxnardWater.org

CITY OF  
**OXNARD**  
CALIFORNIA