



# Water Quality

## REPORT 2020



PWS ID#:CA5610011

### 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, 2020. 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. Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to serve you and your family. We encourage you to share your thoughts with us on the information contained in this report. After all, well-informed customers are our best allies.

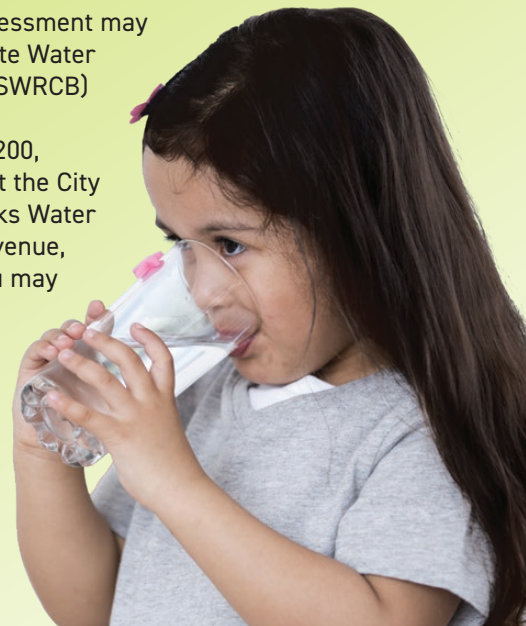
### Important Health Information

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. EPA/ CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) 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>.**

### Source Water Assessment

The City of Santa Paula's source water assessment was completed in September 2002, with the assistance of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water. Our source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: Sewer collection systems, wells-agricultural/irrigation, NPDES/WDR permitted discharges, automotive body shops, machine shops, metal plating/finishing/ fabricating, historic gas stations, and underground storage tanks--confirmed leaking tanks.

A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at either the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water, 1180 Eugenia Place, Suite 200, Carpinteria, CA 93013, or at the City of Santa Paula, Public Works Water Division, 180 South Palm Avenue, Santa Paula, CA 93060. You may request that a summary of the assessment be sent to you by contacting Jeff Densmore, SWRCB District Engineer, at (805) 566-1326.



# Test Results

Our water is monitored for many different kinds of substances on a very strict sampling schedule. The information in the data tables shows only those substances that were detected between January 1 and December 31, 2020. 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 often 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.

We participated in the 4th stage of the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule (UCMR4) program by performing additional tests on our drinking water. UCMR4 sampling benefits the environment and public health by providing the EPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water, in order to determine if the EPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. Unregulated contaminant monitoring data are available to the public, so please feel free to contact us if you are interested in obtaining that information. If you would like more information on the U.S. EPA's Unregulated Contaminant Monitoring Rule, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

## Primary Drinking Water Standards

Chemical or Constituents	Years Sampled	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Violation	Typical Source	Health Effects Language
Arsenic	2020	2	n/a	10	0.004	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes	Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years may experience skin damage or circulatory system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Fluoride (mg/L)	2020	0.5	0.4 - 0.5	2	1	No	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories	Some people who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the federal MCL of 4 mg/L over many years may get bone disease, including pain and tenderness of the bones. Children who drink water containing fluoride in excess of the state MCL of 2 mg/L may get mottled teeth.
Nitrate as N (mg/L)	2020	2.2	1.8 - 2.5	10	10	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tank-sand sewage; erosion of natural deposits	Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrate in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die because high nitrate levels can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. High nitrate levels may also affect the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood of pregnant women.
Nitrate + Nitrite as N (mg/L)	2020	2.2	1.8 - 2.5	10	10	No	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks and sewage; erosion of natural deposits	Infants below the age of six months who drink water containing nitrite in excess of the MCL may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin.
Selenium (ug/L)	2020	11	10 - 12	50	30	No	Discharge from petroleum, glass, and metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits; discharge from mines and chemical manufacturers; runoff from livestock lots (feed additive)	Selenium is an essential nutrient. However, some people who drink water containing selenium in excess of the MCL over many years may experience hair or fingernail losses, numbness in fingers or toes, or circulation system problems

## Secondary Drinking Water Standards

Chloride (mg/L)	2020	49	44 - 53	500	n/a	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence	<p>Note: There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetic concerns.</p> <p>*MCL violation is based on the average of four quarterly samples exceeding an MCL.</p>
Color (Units)	2020	ND	ND - 8	15	n/a	No	Naturally-occurring organic materials	
Specific Conductance (umhos/cm)	2020	1475	1450 - 1500	1600	n/a	No	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence	
Sulfate (mg)	2020	446	425 - 466	500	n/a	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes	
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	2020	1060	1030 - 1090	1000	n/a	No*	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits	
Turbidity (NTU)	2020	0.1	ND - 0.7	5	n/a	No	Soil runoff	Turbidity has no health effects. However, high levels of turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea, and associated headaches.

## Radioactive Contaminants

Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2020	5.68	3.75 - 8.96	15	(0)	No	Erosion of natural deposits	Certain minerals are radioactive and may emit a form of radiation known as alpha radiation. Some people who drink water containing alpha emitters in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Uranium (pCi/L)	2020	3.99	3.55 - 4.61	20	0.43	No	Erosion of natural deposits	Some people who drink water containing uranium in excess of the MCL over many years may have kidney problems or an increased risk of getting cancer.



## Regulated Contaminants with no MCL's

Chemical or Constituents	Years Sampled	Average Level Detected	Range Low-High	Notification Level	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source
Aggressive Index	2020	12.4	12.3 - 12.5	n/a		n/a
Alkalinity (mg/L)	2020	235	230 - 240	n/a		n/a
Boron (mg/L)	2020	0.6	0.5 - 0.6	1		Naturally occurring element found in rocks, soil, water and seawater
Calcium (mg/L)	2020	145	144 - 146	n/a		n/a
Hardness (mg/L)	2020	539	525 - 553	n/a	none	n/a
Langelier Index	2020	0.5	0.4 - 0.6	n/a		n/a
Magnesium (mg/L)	2020	43	39 - 47	n/a		n/a
pH (units)	2020	7.5	7.4 - 7.6	n/a		n/a
Sodium (mg/L)	2020	92	89 - 94	n/a	none	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring



## Microbial Contaminants

Chemical or Constituents	Number of Samples Collected	Average Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Violation	Typical Source	Health Effects Language
Total Coliform Bacteria	510	0	0	-	(0)	No	Naturally present in the environment	Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other, potentially harmful, bacteria may be present. Coliforms that are found in more samples than allowed would be a warning of potential problems.
(State Total Coliform Rule) MCL: Systems that collect 40 or more samples/month: 5.0% of monthly samples are positive: Systems that collect less than 40 samples/month: 1 positive monthly sample								
Fecal Coliform and E.coli	510	0	0	-	(0)	No	Human and animal fecal waste	Fecal coliforms and E. coli are bacteria whose presence indicates that the water may be contaminated with human or animal wastes. Microbes in these wastes can cause short-term effects, such as diarrhea, cramps, nausea, headaches, or other symptoms. They may pose a special health risk for infants, young children, some of the elderly, and people with severely compromised immune systems.
(State Total Coliform Rule) MCL: A routine sample and a repeat sample are total coliform positive and one of these is also fecal coliform or E.coli positive								

## Lead and Copper Monitoring 2019

Chemical or Constituents	Number of Samples	Level Detected 90th %ile	Number of Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG (MCLG)	Violation	Major Sources in Drinking Water	Health Effects Language
Copper	42	0.32	0	1.3	0.3	No	Internal corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives	Copper is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time may experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years may suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's Disease should consult their personal doctor.
Lead	42	1.4	0	15	0.2	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers, erosion of natural deposits	Infants and children who drink water containing lead in excess of the action level may experience delays in their physical or mental development. Children may show slight deficits in attention span and learning abilities. Adults who drink this water over many years may develop kidney problems or high blood pressure

## Disinfection/Disinfectant Byproduct Rule

Chemical or Constituents	Years Sampled	Average Level Detected	Range Low-High	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG)	Violation	Health Effects Language
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ug/L)	2014 - 2020	14	5.0 - 14	80	n/a	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection Some people who drink water containing trihalomethanes in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver, kidney, or central nervous system problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.
Haloacetic Acids (five) (ug/L)	2014 - 2020	2	1 - 2	60	n/a	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection Some people who drink water containing haloacetic acids in excess of the MCL over many years may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

### DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS: The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation.

**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% of our lead and copper detections.

**AL (Regulatory Action Level):** The concentration of a contaminant that, 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.

**NA: Not applicable**

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

**NS:** No standard

**NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units):** Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

**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.

**ug/l:** Micrograms per liter or one part per billion

**mg/l:** Milligrams per liter or one part per million

**TT (Treatment Technique):** A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

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



## 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.

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 Hotline at 800-426-4791.

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, 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 agriculture or urban storm water runoff.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or 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.

## Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Santa Paula's source of water is 100% groundwater, pumped from the Santa Paula Basin. The basin is made up of hundreds of feet of sands and gravels deposited in the Santa Clara Valley and the mouth of the Santa Paula Canyon, which contain millions of gallons of water between the sand and gravel particles. The Santa Paula Basin extends from the Hallock Drive area on the east to the Wells Road area on the west. The City of Santa Paula owns and operates five deep wells: Well 1-B, Well 11, Well 12, Well 13, and Well 14. With these five wells, the water system can produce up to 5.1 million gallons of potable water per day.

The City operates two water conditioning facilities: the Well 12 Water Conditioning Facility and the Steckel Water Conditioning Facility. Both facilities remove iron and manganese from the water. Although neither iron nor manganese is itself a health concern, water containing high levels of iron will look rusty and stain fixtures and laundry. Similarly, water with high levels of manganese will contain black particles that may stain laundry and fixtures and plug appliance screens. The Well 12 Water Conditioning Facility treats water produced by Well 12. The Steckel Water Conditioning Facility treats water produced from Wells 11, 13, and 14.

## Testing for Radon

Radon is a radioactive gas that you cannot see, taste, or smell. It is found throughout the U.S. Radon can move up through the ground and into a home through cracks and holes in the foundation. Radon can build up to high levels in all types of homes. Radon can also get into indoor air when released from tap water from showering, washing dishes, and other household activities. Compared to radon entering the home through soil, radon entering the home through tap water will in most cases be a small source of radon in indoor air. Radon is a known human carcinogen. Breathing air containing radon can lead to lung cancer. Drinking water containing radon may also cause increased risk of stomach cancer. If you are concerned about radon in your home, test the air in your home. Testing is inexpensive and easy. You should pursue radon removal if the level of radon in your air is 4 pCi/L of air or higher. There are simple ways to fix a radon problem that are not too costly. For additional information, call California's Radon Program at (800) 745-7236, the U.S. EPA Safe Drinking Water Act Hotline at (800) 426-4791, or the National Safety Council Radon Hotline at (800) 767-7236.

## COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION

The City of Santa Paula Water System is managed as an enterprise function by the City of Santa Paula. The Water Operation and Water Distribution Divisions of the Public Works Department conduct operations. Comments about the water system can be forwarded to the City Council, which meets on the first and third Wednesday evenings of each month at 6:30 p.m., in the City Council Chambers, 970 Ventura Street, Santa Paula, California.



## Questions?

For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to your drinking water, please call the acting Chief Water Operator, at (805) 933-4282.

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