

PUBLISHED IN 2023



CITY OF SANTA PAULA

CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT 2022



MESSAGE FROM THE WATER OPERATIONS SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Customer:

On behalf of The City of Santa Paula's Water Division I am pleased to present our 2022 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for the third consecutive year in a primarily digital format. This approach aims to reduce costs for rate payers by eliminating the cost of printing and postage of nearly 8,500 reports. As mandated by the Safe Drinking Water Act, this annual report provides a snapshot view of the origin, composition, and adherence to regulatory standards of your water. Our dedicated staff continues working diligently to provide safe and reliable drinking water. This year alone we conducted hundreds of samples on numerous chemical compounds at various points throughout the distribution system, treatment plants, and wells. We are honored to serve you and express our gratitude for trusting us with one of earth's most precious resources. "Water is life's matter and matrix, mother and medium. There is no life without water." – Albert Szent-Gyorgyi.

Sincerely,

Frank Ramirez Almazan
Water Operations Superintendent

Should you have any additional questions about the report or any other water quality issues in the City of Santa Paula, please feel free to contact our water treatment/production staff at (805) 525-7870 Ext. 308.



OUR MISSION CONTINUES



The annual Consumer Confidence Report covers all water quality testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2022. Over the years, we have dedicated ourselves to producing potable (drinking) water that meets or exceeds all State and Federal drinking water quality standards. Our mission includes continually striving 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 on the information in this report.

IMPORTANT HEALTH INFORMATION

Drinking water quality standards exist to protect our general population. Immunocompromised people such as those with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, those who have undergone organ transplants, those with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants may be particularly at risk from low-level contaminants and infections. It is always recommended that these individuals seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers.

To ensure tap water is safe, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) Division of Drinking Water (DDW) prescribe regulations that limit the number of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Also, the USEPA and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention provide guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by microbial contaminants, e.g., *Cryptosporidium*. If you have questions, please contact the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791 or visit <http://water.epa.gov/drink/hotline>.

SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

The City of Santa Paula's (City) source water assessment was completed at each of our groundwater well sites (wells 1b, 11, 12, 13, & 14) in September 2002 with the assistance of the SWRCB DDW. The assessment was done using the default groundwater system method. This assessment indicated that the City's water 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.

ACQUIRING INFORMATION

A copy of the complete assessment may be viewed at either the DHS Drinking Water Field Operations Branch (1180 Eugenia Place, Suite 200, Carpinteria, CA 93013) or at the City's Public Works office (866 E Main St, 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 strict sampling schedule. The information in the data tables below indicate the concentration of substances that were detected between January 1 and December 31, 2022.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does NOT mean the water poses a health risk. Our goal is not only to provide data to the City's constituents, but also to ensure the concentration of all substances are below their respective maximum allowed levels. Additionally, the SWRCB recommends monitoring for certain substances less than once per year, because concentrations of these substances do not change on an annual basis. The data for these substances, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

The City participated in the 4th stage of the USEPA'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 USEPA with data on the occurrence of contaminants suspected to be in drinking water. The additional data helps determine if the USEPA needs to introduce new regulatory standards to improve drinking water quality. The monitoring data found in the UCMR4 study are available to the public. Please contact the City's Public Works office if you are interested in obtaining the study information. If you would like more information on the USEPA's UCMR4 program, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

The preceding 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.

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.

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.

Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS):

MCL's for the contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SWS do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

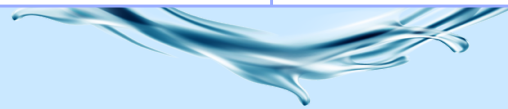
umhos/cm:

Micro mhos per centimeter

Primary Drinking Water Standards



Chemical or Constituents	Years Sampled	Average Level Detected	Range Low - High	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Violation	Typical Source	Health Effects Language
Arsenic (ug/L)	2020-2021	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 tanks and 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

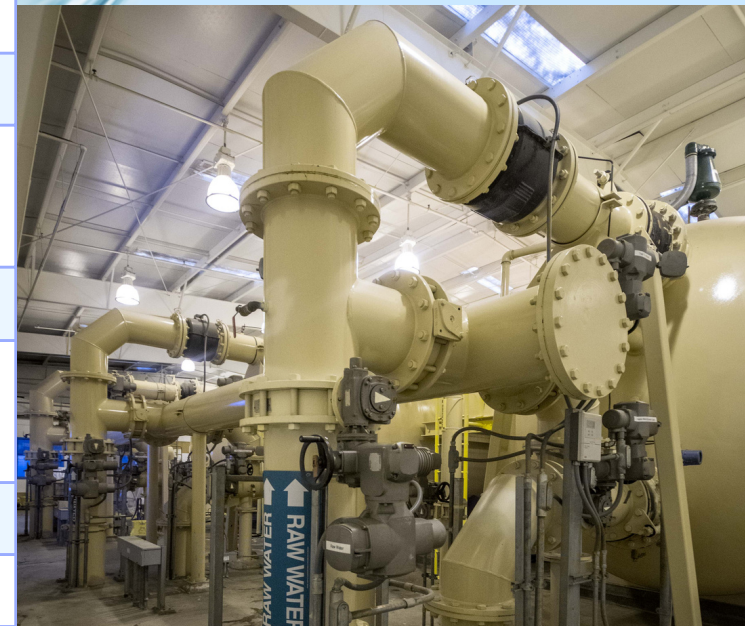
Chemical or Constituents	Years Sampled	Average Level Detected	Range Low - High	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Violation	Typical Source	Health Effects Language
Chloride (mg/L)	2020	49	44 - 53	500	n/a	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence	Note: There are no PHGs, MCLGs, or mandatory standard health effects language for these constituents because secondary MCLs are set on the basis of aesthetic concerns. *MCL violation is based on the average of four quarterly samples exceeding an MCL.
Color (Units)	2020	ND	N/A	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/L)	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	The TDS or Total Dissolved Solids in your water was found at levels that exceed the secondary MCL. The TDS MCLs was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic affects such as color, taste or hardness. Violating this MCL does not pose a risk to public health.
Turbidity (NTU)	2020	0.2	0.1 - 0.3	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.
Iron (ug/L)	2021-2022	ND	ND - ND	300	n/a	No	Leaching from natural deposits, Industrial waste	Iron was found at levels that exceed the secondary MCL. The Iron MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic affects such as color, taste, odor and the staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs and sinks), and clothing while washing. Violating this MCL does not pose a risk to public health.
Manganese (ug/L)	2022	ND	N/A	50	n/a	No	Leaching from natural deposits	Manganese was found at levels that exceed the secondary MCL. The Manganese MCL was set to protect you against unpleasant aesthetic affects such as color, taste, odor and the staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs and sinks), and clothing while washing. Violating this MCL does not pose a risk to public health.

Radioactive Contaminants

Chemical or Constituents	Years Sampled	Average Level Detected	Range Low - High	MCL [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) [MRDLG]	Violation	Typical Source	Health Effects Language
Gross Alpha (pCi/L)	2016 - 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)	2016 - 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	Typical Source
Aggressiveness 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	Boron exposures resulted in decrease fetal weight (developmental effects) in newborn rats.
Calcium (mg/L)	2020	145	144 - 146	n/a	n/a
Hardness (mg/L)	2020	539	525 - 553	n/a	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium are usually naturally occurring.
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	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	522	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	522	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.
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(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 2022

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 (mg/L)	34	0.24	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 (mg/L)	34	ND	0	.015	0.0	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	Major Sources in Drinking Water	Health Effects Language
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ug/L)	2022	16	13 - 16	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)	2022	8	4 - 8	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.



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.

Community Participation

The City of Santa Paula Water System is managed as an enterprise function by the City of Santa Paula. The Water Division of the Public Works Department operates and maintains the water system. 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 our water treatment/production staff at (805) 525-7870 Ext. 308.

Projects in the Pipeline

Well 12 Rehabilitation

The Public Works Department has partnered with a reputable engineering design firm to assist in rehabilitating and improving Well 12 to optimize the performance and functionality of the well, by integrating state-of-the-art design principles and cutting-edge technologies. With the firm's extensive experience and innovative approach, the rehabilitation will improve the overall resilience and sustainability of our water system to meet the evolving needs of the community.

SCADA System Update

SCADA stands for Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition. It is a programming and maintenance technology system that provides the City of Santa Paula's Water Department with a comprehensive and reliable window through which they can control and monitor and operate the water system. With the City's two water treatment plants, ten booster pump stations, ten storage facilities, and five groundwater wells, updating the SCADA system was a necessary investment. The City completed the upgrade of its antiquated SCADA system with the help of a professional engineering and programming firm. The City now benefits from improved reliability and is positioned to handle the changing needs of the city's water system and is currently working on upgrading its radio communications network working closely with IT.

Projects in the Pipeline



Mesa Tank Replacement Project

In mid-2020, the Public Works Department laid out plans for replacing Mesa Tank #1 and #2, which are 230,000-gallon water storage tanks at the end of Montclair Rd. The City of Santa Paula's Mesa Tanks Replacement Project is underway and is taking place at the location of the existing tanks. The project involves the construction of two 300,000-gallon, above-ground, welded steel tanks, in addition to modified appurtenances, and a retaining wall. The Mesa Tank Replacement Project will improve the water system's reliability and continue serve residents without interruption.

Canyon Booster Pump Upgrades

Design for the Canyon Booster Pump upgrades has begun. Located near Ojai Road on the northern edge of town, the current Canyon Booster Pump Station is over 20 years old with need of several improvements. The new designed station will include a secondary booster pump, an onsite emergency generator, updated instrumentation, a retaining wall, and general site improvements for ease of maintenance and operations. The Canyon Booster Pump upgrades will ensure the City's continued uninterrupted delivery of water to its 900 zone, which includes the areas of highest elevation in the city.

Harvard Boulevard Water and Sewer Main Replacement and Street Improvement Project

This project has begun and is in the process of replacing 9,000 linear feet of the water mainlines, some of which are over 100 years old, and 8,050 linear feet of the sewer line beneath designated road sections. Throughout the construction zone, there will be modifications to specific storm drains, replacement of fire hydrants, and improvements to two flashing crosswalks. The roadway and curbs will be replaced and modernized, creating a safer road for motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians. For an updated progress report on this project, visit the city website.

Educational Information

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)

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 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, agriculture and livestock operations and wildlife.
- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals that may be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides 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 applications, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

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. City of Santa Paula 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/lead>

The State Water Board regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water and water provided by public water systems to provide protection for public health. For more information, you may visit https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/DWSAP.html or contact the Health Department for the County of Ventura at 805-654-2813.