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CITY OF SANTA PAULA

# CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT 2023



# MESSAGE FROM THE WATER DIVISION

Dear Customer:

On behalf of the City of Santa Paula Water Division, we are pleased to present the 2023 Consumer Confidence Report (CCR). This annual report aims to provide an overview of the origin, composition, and strict adherence to regulatory standards. We hope to engage you, our customer so you can feel confident in the quality of your drinking water and confident in the dedicated staff responsible for producing, treating and delivering it. This year we conducted hundreds of water quality samples on numerous chemical compounds at various points throughout the distribution system, treatment facilities, and wells; we responded to hundreds of customer inquiries, performed over a hundred repairs on mainlines, service lines, valves, and upgraded several hundred water meters. We hope to connect with you soon. Thank you all for your continued trust and support.

Sincerely,

Your Santa Paula Water Division



# OUR MISSION CONTINUES



The 2023 Consumer Confidence Report covers all water quality testing performed between January 1 and December 31, 2023. 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. We aim to stay at the forefront as new challenges to drinking water safety emerge: we are committed to 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. But some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the 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 can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their healthcare providers. The USEPA and 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).

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. The State Water Board regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

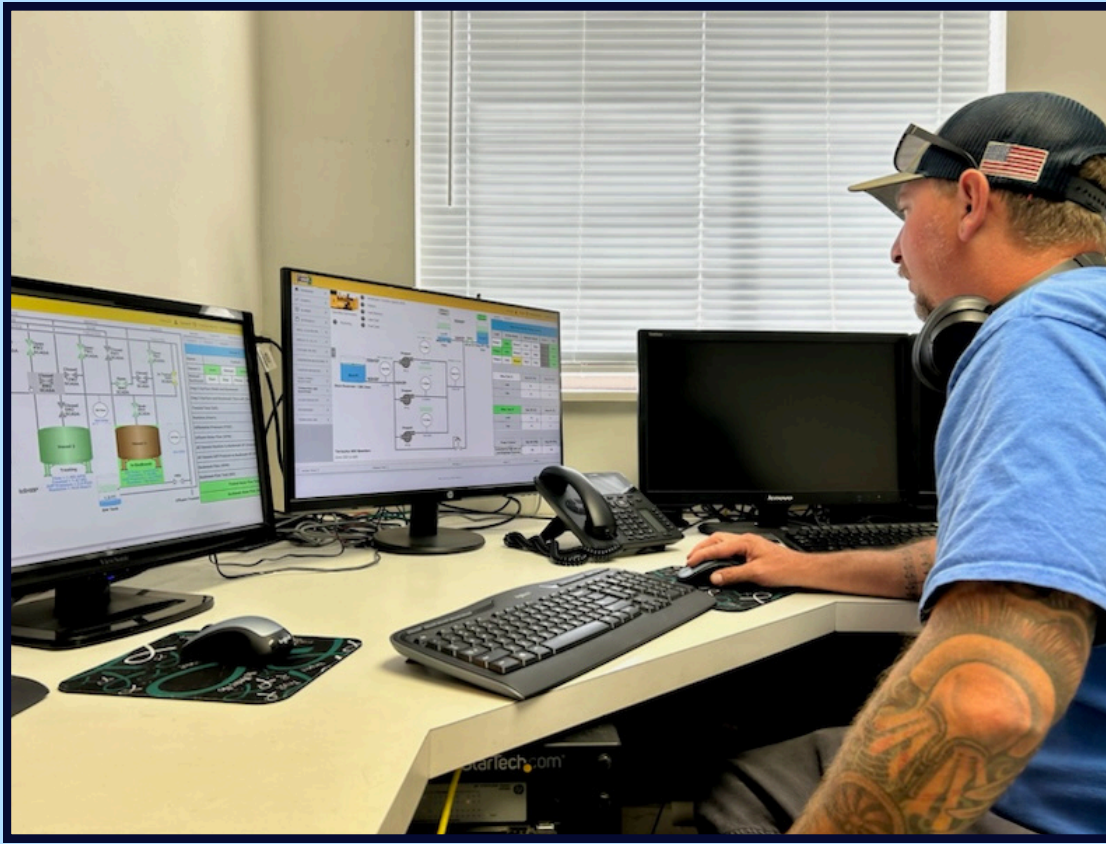
# SOURCE WATER ASSESSMENT

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, 2023. 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, can be 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 or contaminants and their potential health effects, please call the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (1-800-426-4791).

# DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

The data tables contain scientific terms and units of measure, 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.

## **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.

## **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.

## **mg/L:**

Milligrams per liter or one part per million (ppm).

## **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 (Non detect):**

Indicates when a substance is not detectable at the laboratory analysis testing limits.

## **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 radiation.

## **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.

## **SDWS (Secondary Drinking Water Standards):**

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

## **TT (Treatment Technique):**

A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

## **ug/L:**

Micrograms per liter or one part per billion (ppb).

## **umhos/cm:**

Micro mhos per centimeter.

## **µS/cm (microsiemens per centimeter):**

A unit expressing the amount of electrical conductivity of a solution.

# 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	2	NA	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)	2023	0.4	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 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 may get mottled teeth.
Nitrate as N (mg/L)	2023	3.4	1.0 - 4.8	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)	2023	2.6	1.0 - 4.7	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)	2023	11	ND - 38	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	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source	Health Effects Language
Chloride (mg/L)	2023	48	45 - 53	500	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence.	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	NA	15	NA	Naturally-occurring organic materials.	Same as above.
Specific Conductance (umhos/cm)	2023	1364	1210 - 1480	1600	NA	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence.	Same as above.
Sulfate (mg/L)	2023	420	351 - 478	500	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes.	Same as above.
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	2023	1038	890 - 1130	1000	NA	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. <b><u>Violating this MCL does not pose a risk to public health.</u></b>
Turbidity (NTU)	2023	0.11	ND - 0.55	5	NA	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.
Zinc (mg/L)	2023	0.01	ND - 0.03	5	NA	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits.	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.
Iron (ug/L)	2022-2023	ND	NA	300	NA	Leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes.	Iron was found at raw water 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)	2022-2023	1	ND - 20	50	NA	Leaching from natural deposits.	Manganese was found at raw water 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.



## Regulated Contaminants with no MCL's

Chemical or Constituents	Years Sampled	Average Level Detected	Range Low - High	Notification Level	PHG/ MCL (MCLG)	Typical Source
Aggressiveness Index	2023	12.5	12.3 - 12.6	NA	NA	NA
Alkalinity (mg/L)	2023	254	230 - 290	NA	NA	NA
Boron (mg/L)	2023	0.5	0.4 - 0.6	1	NA	Boron exposures resulted in decreased fetal weight (developmental effects) in newborn rats.
Calcium (mg/L)	2023	152	128-176	NA	NA	NA
Hardness (mg/L)	2023	551	459-628	NA	NA	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, that are usually naturally occurring.
Langelier Index	2023	0.5	0.4 - 0.6	NA	NA	NA
Magnesium (mg/L)	2023	42	34 - 47	NA	NA	NA
pH (units)	2023	7.47	7.3 - 7.62	NA	NA	NA
Sodium (mg/L)	2023	91	87 - 92	NA	NA	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring.
Vanadium (ug/L)	2023	1	ND - 2	50	NA	Vanadium exposures resulted in developmental and reproductive effects in rats.



# Microbial Contaminants

Chemical or Constituents	Number of Samples Collected	Average Level Detected	Range Low - High	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Violation	Typical Source	Health Effects Language
Total Coliform Bacteria	571	0	0	State Total Coliform Rule states that violation of the MCL for systems that collect 40 or more samples/month is if more than 5% of their monthly samples are coliform positive.	(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.
Fecal Coliform and E. Coli	571	0	0	State Total Coliform Rule states that violation of the MCL is if a routine and repeat sample are total coliform positive and if one of these samples are also fecal coliform or E. Coli positive.	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.

# Lead and Copper Monitoring from 2022

Chemical or Constituents	Number of Samples Collected	Level Detected 90th %ile	Number of Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Violation	Typical Source	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	0.015	0	No	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers, erosion of natural deposits.	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. The 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: <a href="http://www.epa.gov/lead">http://www.epa.gov/lead</a> .



## Disinfection/Disinfectant Byproduct Rule

Chemical or Constituents	Years Sampled	Average Level Detected	Range Low - High	MCL (MRDL)	PHG (MCLG)	Violation	Typical Source	Health Effects Language
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHMs) (ug/L)	2023	15	12.0 - 15.0	80	NA	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 (HAA5) (ug/L)	2023	ND	ND - ND	60	0	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.

## 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	.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.

## Where Does My Water Come From?

The City of Santa Paula's source water is 100% pumped groundwater 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 Hallock Drive on the east to Wells Road on the west. The City owns and operates 5 deep water wells: Well 1-B, Well 11, Well 12, Well 13, and Well 14. With these 5 wells, the Water Division produces up to 5.1 million gallons of potable water per day.

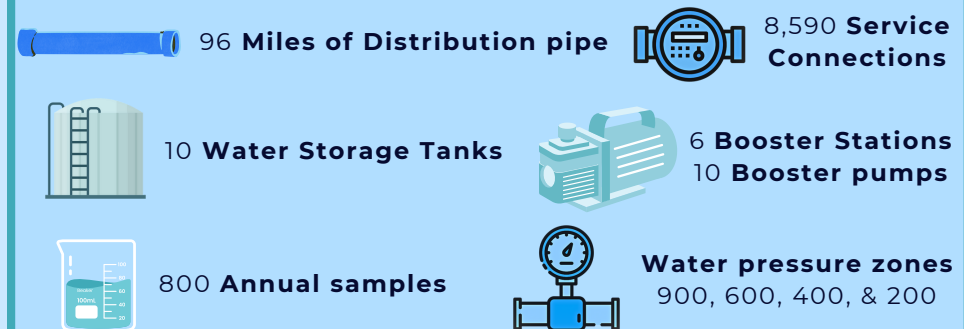
The City operates 2 water conditioning facilities: the Well 12 Water Conditioning Facility and the Steckel Water Conditioning Facility. Both facilities specialize in removal of iron and manganese from the water. Although iron and manganese do not pose immediate health concerns, water containing high 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.

## Santa Paula Water System



## Additional Educational Information

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, 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 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.

For more information, you may visit [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking\\_water/certlic/drinkingwater/DWSAP.html](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.

**Billing Questions:**  
**(805) 933-4211 ext. 1**  
**Monday through Friday**  
**9am to 4:30pm**  
**Closed Every other Friday**

**Non Emergency Business hours**  
**(805) 933-4282**  
**After-Hours/ Water**  
**Emergency:**  
**(805) 340-5669**



For more information about this report, or for any questions relating to the quality of your Santa Paula drinking water, please call us at: (805) 525-7870 Ext. 308.



[www.spcity.org](http://www.spcity.org)



[cityofsantapaula\\_official](https://www.instagram.com/cityofsantapaula_official)