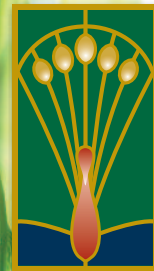




CITY OF ARCADIA

WATER QUALITY REPORT 2011



The City of Arcadia is committed to keeping you informed on the quality of your drinking water and is dedicated to providing you with a safe and reliable supply of high quality water.

This annual report provides information describing drinking water sources, the constituents found in your drinking water and how the water quality compares with the regulatory standards. To ensure that your drinking water is safe to drink, public water systems must comply with all Federal and State drinking water standards. Trained City personnel regularly collect water samples throughout the water system, which are delivered to a State-certified laboratory for analysis. The drinking water served by the City of Arcadia in 2011 complied with all the State and Federal drinking water standards.

City Council meetings provide an opportunity for public participation in decisions that may affect the quality of your water. Regularly scheduled meetings of the City Council are held on the first and third Tuesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the City Council Chambers located at 240 West Huntington Drive in Arcadia.

Where Does My Drinking Water Come From?

The water supply for the City of Arcadia comes from groundwater wells which pump the water from natural underground aquifers referred to as "basins." These basins are replenished with local rainwater and imported water when available. The City of Arcadia pumps groundwater from two basins: the Main San Gabriel Basin and the Raymond Basin. More than 30 local retail water systems pump from these basins to provide water to residents and businesses.

What are Water Quality Standards?

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. CDPH regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water standards established by USEPA and CDPH set limits for substances that may affect consumer health or aesthetic qualities of drinking water. The chart in this report shows the following types of water quality standards:

- **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 Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL):** 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 pathogens.
- **Primary Drinking Water Standard:** MCLs and MRDLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.
- **Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements that a water system must follow.
- **Notification Level (NL):** An advisory level which, if exceeded, requires the drinking water system to notify the governing body of the local agency in which users of the drinking water reside (i.e. city council, board of directors, and county board of supervisors).

What is a Water Quality Goal?

In addition to mandatory water quality standards, USEPA and CDPH have set voluntary water quality goals for some contaminants. Water quality goals are often set at such low levels that they are not achievable in practice and are not directly measurable. Nevertheless, these goals provide useful guideposts and direction for water management practices. The chart in this report includes three types of water quality goals:

- **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 USEPA.

- **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.
- **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.

What Contaminants may be Present in Sources of Drinking 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.

Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

- **Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, that may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.
- **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.

Continued on page 4

City of Arcadia 2011 Water Quality Table

Constituent and (units)	MCL or [MRDL]	PHG (MCLG) or [MRDLG]	DLR	LOCAL GROUNDWATER		Typical Origins
				Result (a)	Range (Min-Max)	
Primary Drinking Water Standards - Health-Related Standards						
Disinfectant and Disinfection Byproducts (b)						
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM) (µg/l)	80	NA	0.5	6.1	ND - 11	Byproduct of drinking water chlorination
Haloacetic acids (five) (HAA5) (µg/l)	60	NA	1	1.2	ND - 4.0	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Chlorine Residual (mg/l)	[4]	[4]	NA	0.7	0.1 - 1.8	Drinking water disinfectant
Organic Chemicals						
Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) (µg/l)	5	0.06	0.5	<0.5	ND - 3.0	Discharge from industrial activities
Trichloroethylene (TCE) (µg/l)	5	1.7	0.5	<0.5	ND - 3.2	Discharge from industrial activities
1,1-Dichloroethylene (1,1-DCE) (µg/l)	6	10	0.5	<0.5	ND - 0.61	Discharge from industrial activities
Inorganic Chemicals						
Arsenic (µg/l)	10	.004	2	<2	ND - 5	Erosion of natural deposits
Chromium, total (µg/l)	50	(100)	10	<10	ND - 13	Industrial discharge or erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (mg/l) Naturally-occurring	2	1	0.1	0.73	0.34 - 1.4	Erosion of natural deposits
Nickel (µg/l)	100	12	10	<10	ND - 24	Industrial discharge or erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate as NO3 (mg/l)	45	45	2	11	ND - 31	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use
Radioactivity (c)						
Gross Alpha Particle Activity (pCi/l)	15	(0)	3	<3	ND - 4.9	Erosion of natural deposits
Combined Radium (pCi/l)	5	(0)	1	<1	ND - 1.4	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/l)	20	0.43	1	2.9	ND - 5.4	Erosion of natural deposits
Secondary Drinking Water Standards - Aesthetic Standards, Not Health-Related						
Chloride (mg/l)	500	NA	NA	18	8.5 - 30	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Iron (µg/l)	300	NA	100	<100	ND - 190	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Odor (threshold odor number) (d)	3	NA	1	1	1	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sulfate (mg/l)	500	NA	0.5	36	13 - 81	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (µmho/cm)	1,600	NA	NA	470	280 - 690	Substances that form ions in water
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/l)	1,000	NA	NA	300	170 - 420	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Turbidity (NTU) (d)	5	NA	NA	0.06	ND - 0.4	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Unregulated Constituents of Interest						
Boron (µg/l)	NL = 1,000	NA	100	180	ND - 380	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Chromium, Hexavalent (µg/l)	NA	NA	1	3.6	3.6	Industrial discharge or erosion of natural deposits
Hardness as CaCO3 (mg/l)	NA	NA	NA	180	34 - 330	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Sodium (mg/l)	NA	NA	NA	33	13 - 63	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Vanadium (µg/l)	NL = 50	NA	3	10	3.4 - 25	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Lead and Copper Testing at Residential Taps						
Lead/Copper	Action Level (AL)	PHG	90th Percentile Value		Typical Origins	
Copper (mg/l) (e)	1.3	0.3	0.35		Corrosion of household plumbing system	
Lead (µg/l) (e)	15	0.2	<5		Corrosion of household plumbing system	
Notes						
mg/l µg/l ng/l pCi/l µmho/cm NTU AL DLR MCL MCLG MRDL MRDLG ND NA NL PHG NR <	(a) The results reported in the table are average concentrations of the constituents detected in your drinking water during year 2011 or from the most recent tests done in compliance with regulations (2004-2011), except for TTHM, HAA5, lead and copper which are described below. Coliform bacteria were not detected in 2011. (b) Twelve (12) locations in Arcadia's distribution system are tested quarterly for disinfection byproducts. The highest running annual averages for TTHM and HAA5 are reported as "Result." The maximum and minimum of the individual results for TTHM and HAA5 are reported as "Range." Twenty (20) locations are tested weekly for chlorine residual. (c) Not all sources were sampled for radioactivity in 2011; sources were sampled between 2004 to 2011. The most recent results are included. (d) Twenty (20) locations in the distribution system are tested monthly for color, odor and turbidity. Color was not detected in 2011. (e) Thirty (30) residences were sampled in August and September 2010. Concentrations were measured at the tap. Copper was detected at twenty-nine (29) locations; none exceeded the copper Action Level. Lead was detected at two (2) locations; one (1) sample exceeded the lead Action Level but lead was not detected in a confirmation sample collected later at the same location. The next round of lead and copper samples will be collected in 2013.					

Groundwater Facts

Groundwater is the part of precipitation that seeps down through the soil until it reaches rock material that is saturated with water. Water in the ground is stored in the spaces between rock particles. Groundwater slowly moves underground, generally at a downward angle (because of gravity), and may eventually seep into streams, lakes, and oceans.



About 30 percent of California's total annual water supply comes from groundwater in normal years, and up to 60 percent in drought years. In 2011, the City of Arcadia relied 100%

exclusively on groundwater pumped from the Main San Gabriel and Raymond Basins.

Source Water Protection

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

- Eliminate and/or reduce excess use of fertilizers and pesticides – they contain hazardous chemicals that can reach your drinking water source
- Pick up after your pets
- Dispose of chemicals properly; take used motor oil to a collection center

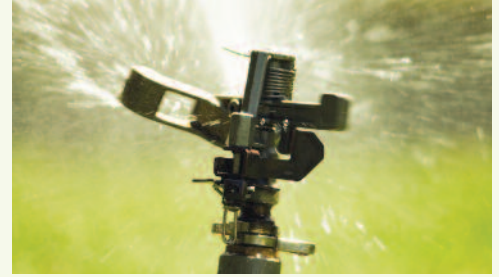
Water Conservation Tips

Water is essential to our everyday lives. Our supplies are limited so please use water wisely. Reducing water use inside and outside our homes is really important. If each of us changed our water-use habits, we could save billions of gallons of water. Here's how you can help:

- Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes
- Fix household leaks promptly
- Turn off the water while you brush your teeth
- Spend only 5 minutes in the shower
- Check your sprinkler system for leaks, overspray and broken sprinkler heads and repair promptly
- Use a broom instead of a hose to clean driveways and sidewalks

Stormwater Quality

Excessive irrigation runoff is not only wasteful; it can also lead to stormwater pollution. This type of pollution is caused when water picks up pollutants in our streets and carries it through the storm drain system to the Rio Hondo, a tributary of the Los Angeles River and eventually to the Pacific Ocean. Residents can help reduce stormwater pollution by keeping pollutants out of the street and preventing water from running off their yards. Small changes in our behavior will ensure that we continue to have a safe drinking water supply for many years to come.



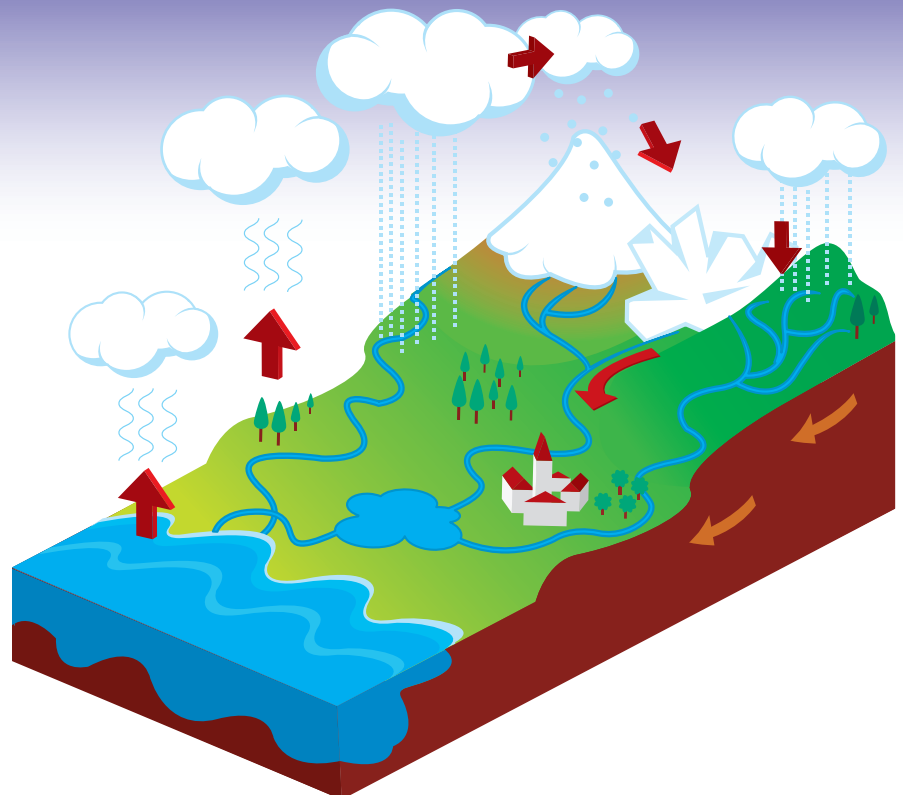
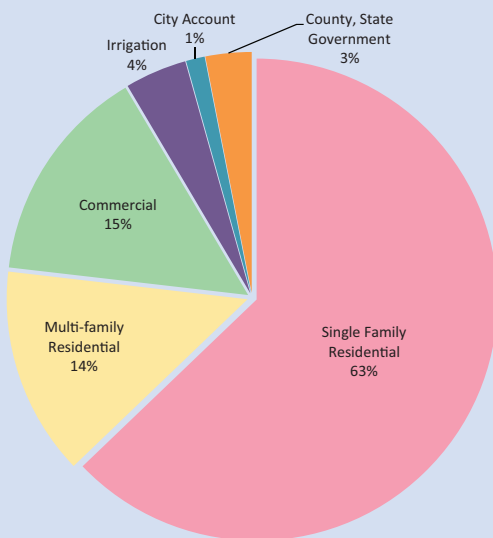
Landscape Audits

The City of Arcadia offers free residential irrigation audits to its customers. Irrigation audits provide a careful evaluation of your irrigation system to identify water waste. To schedule a residential irrigation audit, call the City of Arcadia, Public Works Services Department at (626) 256-6554.

Improving on Utility

The City recently completed the construction of a pressure reducing station on Colorado Place to increase the reliability of the water system by providing a secondary source of water supply to local customers. This project incorporated the use of photovoltaic (solar) panels to supply the electrical power needed to operate the communication controls. The use of solar power eliminates the cost to construct electrical conduits and service meters, as well as the on-going electrical service charges. This project adds reliability to the supply of water to the area that it serves, as well as meeting goals set by the City to incorporate alternative energy sources into the design of projects whenever feasible.

City's Distribution of Water Usage



Earth's Natural Water Cycle

Earth's water is always in movement, and the natural water cycle, also known as the hydrologic cycle, describes the continuous movement of water on, above, and below the surface of the Earth. Water is always changing states between liquid, vapor, and solid (ice).



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- **Pesticides and herbicides**, that may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- **Radioactive contaminants**, that can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.
- **Organic chemical contaminants**, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, that are byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, agricultural application and septic systems.

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 USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

Are There Any Precautions the Public Should Consider?

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 (800) 426-4791.

What is in My Drinking Water?

Your drinking water is regularly tested using CDPH-approved methods to ensure its safety. The table in this report lists all the constituents detected in your drinking water that have Federal and State drinking water standards. Detected unregulated constituents and other constituents of interest are also included.

About Nitrate

The maximum level of nitrate measured in the City of Arcadia's drinking water was 31 milligrams per liter (mg/l) in 2011. Although nitrate in your drinking water never exceeds the MCL of 45 mg/l, nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 45 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 levels above 45 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 for advice from your health care provider.

Lead in Tap Water

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 Arcadia is dedicated to 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>.

Drinking Water Source Assessment

In accordance with the Federal Safe Drinking Water Act, an assessment of the drinking water sources for the City of Arcadia was completed in December 2002. The purpose of the drinking water source assessment is to promote source water protection by identifying types of activities in the proximity of the drinking water sources which could pose a threat to the water quality.

The assessment concluded that the City of Arcadia's sources are considered vulnerable to the following activities or facilities associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: gas stations, automobile repair shops, chemical/petroleum pipelines, utility stations, electrical/electronic manufacturing, waste dumps/landfills, high density housing and dry cleaners. In addition, the sources are considered most vulnerable to the following activities or facilities not associated with contaminants detected in the water supply: sewer collection systems, car washes, transportation corridors, junk/scrap/salvage yards and above or below ground storage tanks. A copy of the complete drinking water source assessment is available at the City of Arcadia, Public Works Services Department located at 11800 Goldring Road, in Arcadia. You may request a summary of the assessment to be sent to you by contacting the City of Arcadia, Public Works Services Department at (626) 256-6554.

Drinking Water Flouridation

Our local groundwater is not supplemented with fluoride; however small amounts of fluoride are naturally occurring in local groundwater. Fluoride levels in drinking water are limited under California state regulations at a maximum dosage of 2 parts per million (ppm).

Questions?

For more information or questions regarding this report, please contact Mr. Michael Thai at the City of Arcadia, Public Works Services Department at (626) 256-6554.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Para mas información ó traducción, favor de contactar the City of Arcadia, Public Works Services Department. Telefono: (626) 256-6554.

此份有關你的食水報告,內有重要資料和訊息,請找他人為你翻譯及解釋清楚。

City of Arcadia, Public Works Services Department 電話: (626) 256-6554