

# 2011 Consumer Confidence Report

Water System Name: **Monterey Park Tract**

Report Date: 03/16/12

*We test the drinking water quality for many constituents as required by State and Federal Regulations.  
This report shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 - December 31, 2011*

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

Type of water source(s) in use: Groundwater Well

Name & location of source(s): Main Well #2 @ 7519 Foy Ave. Ceres, CA

Drinking Water Assessment information: Performed in August of 2002 - See Last Page

For more information, contact: Sebastian Jones Phone #: (209) 204-4353

## ***TERMS USED IN THIS REPORT:***

**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.

**Primary Drinking Water Standards (PDWS):** MCLs for contaminants that affect health along with their monitoring and reporting requirements, and water treatment requirements.

**Secondary Drinking Water Standards (SDWS):** MCLs for contaminants that affect taste, odor, or appearance of the drinking water. Contaminants with SDWSs do not affect the health at the MCL levels.

**ND:** not detectable at testing limit

**ppm:** parts per million or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

**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.

**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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

**Regulatory Action Level (AL):** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

**ppb:** parts per billion or micrograms per liter (ug/L)

**ppt:** parts per trillion or nanograms per liter (ng/L)

**pCi/L:** picocuries per liter (a measure of radiation)

**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.
- *Pesticides and herbicides*, which 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 byproducts of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- *Radioactive contaminants*, which 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 U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and the State Department of Public Health (Department) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. Department regulations also establish limits for contaminants in bottled water that must provide the same protection for public health.

Tables 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 list all of the drinking water contaminants that were detected during the most recent sampling for the constituent. The presence of these contaminants in the water does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. The Department allows us to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative of the water quality, are more than one year old.

**TABLE 1 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF COLIFORM BACTERIA**

Microbiological Contaminants	Highest No. of Detections	No. of Months in Violation	MCL	MCLG	Typical Source of Bacteria
Total Coliform Bacteria	(In a mo.) 8*	3	More than 1 sample in a month with a detection	0	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	(In the year) 0	0	A routine sample and a repeat sample detect total coliform and either sample also detects fecal coliform or <i>E. coli</i>	0	Human and animal fecal waste

**TABLE 2 - SAMPLING RESULTS SHOWING THE DETECTION OF LEAD AND COPPER**

Lead and Copper (and reporting units)	No. of Samples Collected (Date)	90 <sup>th</sup> Percentile Level Detected	No. Sites Exceeding AL	AL	PHG	Typical Source of Contaminant
Lead (ppb)	5 (01/31/08)	5	0	15	2	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; discharges from industrial manufacturers; erosion of natural deposits.
Copper (ppm)	5 (01/31/08)	0.16	0	1.3	0.17	Internal corrosion of household water plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives.

**TABLE 3 - SAMPLING RESULTS FOR SODIUM AND HARDNESS**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Sodium (ppm)	02/02/10	121		None	None	Salt present in the water and is generally naturally occurring
Hardness (ppm)	02/02/10	171		None	None	Sum of polyvalent cations present in the water, generally magnesium and calcium, and are usually naturally occurring

\*Any violation of an MCL or AL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided later in this report.

**TABLE 4 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A PRIMARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Nitrate as NO <sub>3</sub> (ppm)	2011	46*	43 - 50*	45	45	Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	2008	4	3 - 4	20	0.4	Erosion of natural deposits
Arsenic (ppb)	2011	38*	32* - 45*	10	0.004	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; glass and electronics production wastes
Barium (ppm)	02/02/10	0.2		1	2	Discharge of oil drilling wastes and from metal refineries; erosion of natural deposits

**TABLE 5 - DETECTION OF CONTAMINANTS WITH A SECONDARY DRINKING WATER STANDARD**

Chemical or Constituent (and reporting units)	Sample Date	Level Detected	Range of Detections	MCL	PHG (MCLG)	Typical Source of Contaminant
Total Dissolved Solids (ppm)	02/02/10	538		1000	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits
Specific Conductance (umho/cm)	02/02/10	831		1600	N/A	Substances that form ions when in water; seawater influence
Chloride (ppm)	02/02/10	97		500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; seawater influence
Sulfate (ppm)	02/02/10	22		500	N/A	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; industrial wastes
Manganese (ppb)	02/02/10	67*		50	N/A	Leaching from natural deposits

\*Any violation of an MCL or AL is asterisked. Additional information regarding the violation is provided on the next page.

### Additional General Information On Drinking Water

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 the 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).

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.

Infants and young children are typically more vulnerable to lead in drinking water than the general population. It is possible that lead levels at your home may be higher than at other homes in the community as a result of materials used in your home's plumbing. If you are concerned about elevated lead levels in your home's water, you may wish to have your water tested and/or flush your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using tap water.

## **Summary Information for Contaminants Exceeding an MCL or AL, or a Violation of any Treatment or Monitoring and Reporting Requirements**

In April, May, and August of 2011, total coliform bacteria was detected in the drinking water distribution system. 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 were found in more samples than allowed and this was a warning of potential problems. In response, the public was notified, and the entire drinking water system was disinfected, flushed, and re-tested. Follow-up testing confirmed that the problem had been resolved.

In 2011, the nitrate levels in the drinking water ranged from 43 to 50 parts per million (ppm). The State has set the maximum allowable limit for nitrate at 45 ppm. The overall average level detected was 46 ppm. Nitrate is a naturally occurring molecule in drinking water. It can concentrate when nitrates from fertilizers and dairy wastes percolate down through the ground and into the groundwater table. Nitrate 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 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 specific enzyme deficiencies. If you are caring for an infant, or you are pregnant, you should ask advice from your health care provider. 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.

In 2011, the arsenic levels in the drinking water exceeded the maximum allowable limit. The arsenic standard balances the current understanding of arsenic's possible health effects against the cost of removing arsenic from drinking water. The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency continues to research the health effects of low levels of arsenic, which is a mineral known to cause cancer in humans at high concentrations and is linked to other health effects such as skin damage and other circulatory problems. Some people who drink water containing arsenic in excess of the MCL over many years could experience skin damage or problems with their circulatory system, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer.

In 2010, manganese was detected in the drinking water above the maximum allowable limit. The manganese secondary MCL is set to protect you from unpleasant aesthetic effects such as color, taste, odor, and the staining of plumbing fixtures (e.g., tubs and sinks), and clothing while washing. A violation of this MCL does not pose a risk to public health.

In response to the contaminants found in the drinking water, Monterey Park Tract will continue to monitor for these contaminants, and is currently investigating the possibilities of providing a new source of drinking water that hopefully will lower the levels to within acceptable limits.

### **Vulnerability Assessment Summary**

A source water assessment was conducted for both wells of the Monterey Park Tract water system in August of 2002. The source is considered most vulnerable to the following activities not associated with any detected contaminants: concentrated animal feeding operations, septic systems - high density, and underground storage tanks - confirmed leaking tanks. For more information regarding the assessment summary, contact: Sebastian Jones at (209) 204-4353.