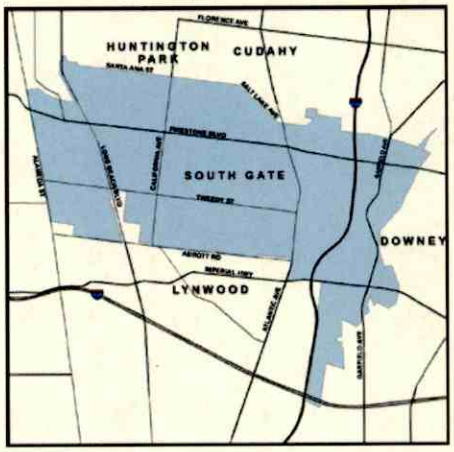
# CITY OF SOUTH GATE
# WATER DIVISION

# CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT
## For The Year Of
## 2012

# CITY OF SOUTH GATE
# 2012 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT

Since 1991, California water utilities have been providing information on water served to its consumers. This report is a snapshot of the tap water quality that we provided last year. Included are details about where your water comes from, how it is tested, what is in it, and how it compares with state and federal limits. We strive to keep you informed about the quality of your water, and to provide a reliable and economic supply that meets all regulatory requirements.




## Where Does My Tap Water Come From?

Your tap water comes from local, deep groundwater wells that supply our service area shown on the adjacent map. The quality of groundwater delivered to your home is presented in this report.

## How is My Drinking Water Tested?

Your drinking water is tested regularly for unsafe levels of chemicals, radioactivity and bacteria at the source and in the distribution system. We test weekly, monthly, quarterly, annually or less often depending on the substance. State and federal laws allow us to test some substances less than once per year because their levels do not change frequently. All water quality tests are conducted by specially trained technicians in state-certified laboratories.

## What Are Drinking Water Standards?

The U.S Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) limits the amount of certain substances allowed in tap water. In California, the State Department of Public Health (CDPH) regulates tap water quality by enforcing limits that are at least as stringent as the USEPA's. Historically, California limits are more stringent than the Federal ones.

There are two types of these limits, known as standards. Primary standards protect you from substances that could potentially affect your health. Secondary standards regulate substances that affect the aesthetic qualities of water. Regulations set a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) for each of the primary and secondary standards. The MCL is the highest level of a substance that is allowed in your drinking water.

Public Health Goals (PHGs) are set by the California Environmental Protection Agency. PHGs provide more information on the quality of drinking water to customers, and are similar to their federal counterparts, Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs). PHGs and MCLGs are advisory levels that are nonenforceable. Both PHGs and MCLGs are concentrations of a substance below which there are no known or expected health risks.

## How Do I Read the Water Quality Table?

Although we test for over 100 substances, regulations require us to report only those found in your water. The first column of the water quality table lists substances detected in your water. The next columns list the average concentration and range of concentrations found in your drinking water. Following are columns that list the MCL and PHG or MCLG, if appropriate. The last column describes the likely sources of these substances in drinking water.

To review the quality of your drinking water, compare the highest concentration and the MCL. Check for substances greater than the MCL. Exceedence of a primary MCL does not usually constitute an immediate health threat. Rather, it requires testing the source water more frequently for a short duration. If test results show that the water continues to exceed the MCL, the water must be treated to remove the substance, or the source must be removed from service.

## Why Do I See So Much Coverage in the News About the Quality Of Tap 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, including 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, agricultural application, 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 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 must provide the same protection for public health.

All 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 (1-800-426-4791). You can also get more information on tap water by logging on to these helpful web sites:

- **http://water.epa.gov/drink/standards/hascience.cfm** (USEPA's web site)
- **www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater** (CDPH web site)

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problem, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with services lines and home plumbing. The City of South Gate 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/safewater/lead**.

## Should I Take Additional Precautions?

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 can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The USEPA/Centers for Disease Control guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection of *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

## Source Water Assessment

The City of South Gate conducted an assessment of its groundwater supplies in 2003. Groundwater supplies are considered most vulnerable to water supply wells. A copy of the approved assessment may be obtained by contacting South Gate Water Operations Foreman, Ramiro Hernandez at (323) 563-5796.

## How Can I Participate in Decisions On Water Issues That Affect Me?

The public is welcome to attend City Council meetings on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, South Gate City Hall at 8650 California Avenue, South Gate, CA 90280.

## How Do I Contact My Water Agency If I Have Any Questions About Water Quality?

If you have specific questions about your tap water quality, please contact Ramiro Hernandez, South Gate Water Operations Foreman, at (323) 563-5796.

## Some Helpful Water Conservation Tips

- Fix leaky faucets in your home – save up to 20 gallons every day for every leak stopped
- Save between 15 and 50 gallons each time by only washing full loads of laundry
- Adjust your sprinklers so that water lands on your lawn/garden, not the sidewalk/driveway – save 500 gallons per month
- Use organic mulch around plants to reduce evaporation – save hundreds of gallons a year

**Visit us on the web at: www.sogate.org**

# CITY OF SOUTH GATE
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**Results are from the most recent testing performed in accordance with state and federal drinking water regulations. The State allows the City to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of the data, though representative, are more than one year old.**

## *PRIMARY STANDARDS MONITORED AT THE SOURCE-MANDATED FOR PUBLIC HEALTH*

| ORGANIC CHEMICALS (µg/l) | GROUNDWATER AVERAGE | GROUNDWATER RANGE | PRIMARY MCL | MCLG or PHG | MAJOR SOURCES IN DRINKING WATER |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tetrachloroethylene (PCE) | 3 | ND - **8.8** | 5 | 0.06 **(a)** | Discharge from factories, dry cleaners, and auto shops (metal degreaser). Some people who use water containing tetrachloroethylene in excess of the MCL over many years may experience liver problems, and may have an increased risk of getting cancer. The City has taken action using an appropriate treatment technique (TT). Water after treatment is in compliance and below the MCL. |
| Trichloroethylene (TCE) | 1.1 | ND - 3.4 | 5 | 1.7 **(a)** | Discharge from metal degreasing sites and other factories |

| **INORGANICS** Sampled from 2010 to 2012 | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Aluminum (mg/l) | ND | ND | 1 | 0.6 **(a)** | Erosion of natural deposits; residue from surface water treatment processes |
| Arsenic (µg/l) | 1.31 | ND - 3.1 | 10 | 0.004 **(a)** | Erosion of natural deposits; glass/electronics production wastes; runoff |
| Barium (mg/l) | 0.043 | ND - 0.12 | 1 | 2 **(a)** | Oil drilling waste and metal refinery discharge; erosion of natural deposits |
| Fluoride (mg/l) | 0.34 | 0.30 - 0.42 | 2.0 | 1 **(a)** | Erosion of natural deposits, water additive that promotes strong teeth |
| Nitrate (mg/l as NO3) | 6.89 | 2.0 - 8.3 | 45 | 45 **(a)** | Runoff and leaching from fertilizer use/septic tanks/sewage, natural erosion |

| **RADIOLOGICAL - (pCi/l)** (Results are from 2009 to 2012) | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Gross Alpha | 3.15 | ND - 8.18 | 15 **(b)** | 0 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 226 | 0.1 | ND -0.2 | 5 **(c)** | 0.05 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Radium 228 | 0.04 | ND - 0.51 | | 0.019 | Erosion of natural deposits |
| Uranium | 2.05 | ND - 3.6 | 20 **(b)** | 0.43 **(a)** | Erosion of natural deposits |

## *PRIMARY STANDARDS MONITORED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM - MANDATED FOR PUBLIC HEALTH*

| **MICROBIALS** | DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AVERAGE % POSITIVE | DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM RANGE % POSITIVE | PRIMARY MCL | MCLG or PHG | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Coliform Bacteria **(i)** | 0.01% | 0 - 0.01% | 5% | 0% | Naturally present in the environment. |
| Fecal Coliform and *E.Coli* Bacteria | 0% | 0% | 0% | 0% | Human and animal fecal waste |
| No. of Acute Violations | 0 | 0 | - | - | |

| **MICROBIALS** | DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AVERAGE | DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM RANGE | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Turbidity (NTU) | 1.65 | 0.09 - 3.2 | TT | - | Soil runoff |

| **DISINFECTION BY-PRODUCTS (d) AND DISINFECTION RESIDUALS** | DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM HIGHEST RUNNING ANNUAL AVERAGE | DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM RANGE | PRIMARY MCL | MCLG or PHG | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Trihalomethanes-TTHMS (µg/l) | 3.88 | ND - 5.7 | 80 | - | By-product of drinking water chlorination |
| Haloacetic Acids (µg/l) | 1.5 | ND - 5.4 | 60 | - | By-product of drinking water disinfection |
| Chlorine/chloramine Residual (mg/l) | 1 | ND - 2.2 | 4.0 **(e)** | 4.0 **(f)** | Drinking water disinfectant added for treatment |

| **AT THE TAP PHYSICAL CONSTITUENTS 32 sites sampled in 2012** | DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM 90TH PERCENTILE | DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM NUMBER OF SITE ABOVE AL | ACTION LEVEL AL | MCLG or PHG | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Copper (mg/l) | 0.19 **(g)** | 0 | 1.3 AL | 0.3 **(a)** | Internal corrosion of household plumbing, erosion of natural deposits |
| Lead (µg/l) | 1.0 **(g)** | 0 | 15 AL | 0.2 **(a)** | Internal corrosion of household plumbing, industrial manufacturer discharges |

## SECONDARY STANDARDS MONITORED AT THE SOURCE-FOR AESTHETIC PURPOSES

Sampled from 2010 to 2012

| | GROUNDWATER | | SECONDARY | MCLG | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | AVERAGE | RANGE | MCL | or PHG | |
| Aggressiveness Index (corrosivity) | 12.4 | 12.0-13.0 | Non-corrosive | - | Natural/industrially-influenced balance of hydrogen/carbon/oxygen in water |
| Aluminum (µg/l) (h) | ND | ND | 200 | 600 **(a)** | Erosion of natural deposits, surface water treatment process residue |
| Chloride (mg/l) | 46.3 | 36 - 54 | 500 | - | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, seawater influence |
| Color (color units) | ND | ND | 15 | - | Naturally-occurring organic materials |
| Iron (µg/l) **(b)** | ND | ND | 300 | - | Leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes |
| Manganese (µg/l) **(i)** | 5.5 | ND-34 | 50 | - | Leaching from natural deposits |
| Odor (threshold odor number) | 0.33 | ND-2 | 3 | - | Naturally-occurring organic materials |
| Specific Conductance (uS/cm) | 646.7 | 600 - 730 | 1,600 | - | Substances that form ions when in water, seawater influence |
| Sulfate (mg/l) | 94.3 | 86 - 110 | 500 | - | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits, industrial wastes |
| Total Dissolved Solids (mg/l) | 425 | 380 - 480 | 1,000 | - | Runoff/leaching from natural deposits |
| Turbidity (NTU) | ND | ND | 5 | - | Soil runoff |

## SECONDARY STANDARDS MONITORED IN THE DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM-FOR AESTHETIC PURPOSES

| GENERAL | DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM | | SECONDARY | MCLG | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| PHYSICAL CONSTITUENTS | AVERAGE | RANGE | MCL | or PHG | |
| Color (color units) | 2.0 | 1.0 - 3.0 | 15 | - | Naturally-occurring organic materials |
| Odor (threshold odor number) | 1.5 | 1.0 - 2.0 | 3 | - | Naturally-occurring organic materials |

## ADDITIONAL CHEMICALS OF INTEREST

Sampled from 2010 to 2012

| | GROUNDWATER | |
|---|---|---|
| | AVERAGE | RANGE |
| Alkalinity (mg/l) | 172.5 | 160 - 200 |
| Calcium (mg/l) | 70.8 | 66 - 83 |
| 1,4 - Dioxane (ug/l) **(k)** | **1.2** | **ND - 2** |
| Magnesium (mg/l) | 14.7 | 13.0 - 16.0 |
| Perchlorate (ug/l) | ND | ND |
| pH (standard unit) | 8.02 | 7.9 - 8.2 |
| Potassium (mg/l) | 2.9 | 2.7 - 3.3 |
| Sodium (mg/l) | 46.7 | 45 - 48 |
| Total Hardness (mg/l) | 240 | 230 - 270 |

## FOOTNOTES

**(a)** California Public Health Goal (PHG). Other advisory levels listed in this column are federal Maximum Contaminant Level Goals (MCLGs).

**(b)** MCL compliance based on 4 consecutive quarters of sampling.

**(c)** Combined Radium 226 + Radium 228 has a Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 5 pCi/L.

**(d)** Running annual average used to calculate average, range, and MCL compliance.

**(e)** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL)

**(f)** Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG)

**(g)** 90th percentile from the most recent sampling at selected customer taps.

**(h)** Aluminum and copper have primary and secondary standards.

**(i)** The secondary MCL for manganese was exceeded in two wells in 2012 and have been taken out of service. The manganese secondary MCL is set to protect against unpleasant effects such as color, taste, odor, & staining of laundry/plumbing fixtures. A manganese secondary MCL exceedance does not pose a health risk.

**(j)** A Total Coliform positive was detected in one sample in 2012. The City received a Total Coliform Rule Monitoring Violation & a Groundwater Rule Violation because they failed to collect the required number of repeat samples after the initial positive detection. The City increased the dosage of disinfection and all subsequent samples have been negative.

**(k)** The Notification Level of 1 ug/l for 1,4-Dioxane was exceeded in several wells in 2012. Some people who use water containing 1,4-dioxane in excess of the Notification Level over many years may experience liver or kidney problems and may have an increased risk of getting cancer, based on studies in laboratory animals. This well system monitors samples quarterly for 1,4-Dioxane.

## ABBREVIATIONS

< = less than
SI = saturation index
NA = constituent not analyzed
pCi/l = picoCuries per liter
uS/cm = microSiemens per centimeter
ND = constituent not detected at the reporting limit
NTU = nephelometric turbidity units
**mg/l** = milligrams per liter or parts per million (equivalent to 1 drop in 42 gallons)
**ng/l** = nanograms per liter or parts per trillion (equivalent to 1 drop in 42,000,000 gallons)
**µg/l** = micrograms per liter or parts per billion (equivalent to 1 drop in 42,000 gallons)

## DEFINITIONS

***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 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.

***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 microbial contaminants.

***Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):*** The level of a 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.

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

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

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

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

***Variances and Exemptions***: Department permission to exceed an MCL or not comply with a treatment technique under certain conditions.

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

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

# Monitoring Requirements Not Met for City of South Gate, Water Department

Our water system failed to monitor as required for drinking water standards during the past year and, therefore, was in violation of the regulations. Even though this failure was not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what you should do, what happened, and what we did to correct this situation.

*We are required to monitor your drinking water for specific contaminants on a regular basis. Results of regular monitoring are an indicator of whether or not our drinking water meets health standards. On August 30, 2012, we collected the repeat bacteriological samples from the distribution system; however, we failed to collect repeat bacteriological samples from our wells according to the City approved Groundwater Rule Amendment to Coliform Sample Siting Plan and therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of our drinking water during that time.*

**What should I do?**

- There is nothing you need to do at this time.
- The table below lists the contaminant(s) we did not properly test for during the last year, how many samples we are required to take and how often, how many samples we took, when samples should have been taken, and the date on which follow-up samples were (or will be) taken.

| *Contaminant* | *Required Sampling Frequency* | *Number of Samples Taken* | *When All Samples Should Have Been Taken* | *When Samples Were or Will Be Taken* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Total Coliform Bacteria | Repeat source triggered samples following total coliform positive in the distribution system | None | August 30, 2012 | September 4,2012<br>September 6, 2012 |

- If you have health issues concerning the consumption of this water, you may wish to consult your doctor.

**What happened?**

The City of South Gate was in violation of the Federal Groundwater Rule because it failed to collect the triggered source water samples within 24 hours of being notified of a routine total coliform positive sample. Coliforms are bacteria that are naturally present in the environment and are used as an indicator that other potentially-harmful bacteria may be present.

In August 2012, a sample was collected that tested positive for total coliform. Within 24 hours, the City collected three repeat samples from upstream and downstream of the original site but failed to collect repeat source water samples at the wells.

**What is being done?**

As a result of the violation, the City was directed by the California Department of Public Health to take the following actions:

1. Institute internal control mechanism(s) to ensure all compliance samples are collected in a timely manner. By December 30, 2012, the City shall develop a plan to improve its water quality monitoring program and submit the plan to the Department. The City has complied with this action;
2. City staff responsible for overseeing the compliance of Title 22 monitoring and reporting and collecting samples are required to receive training on carrying out their duties. By June 30, 2013, the City shall submit a letter listing the names of the trainees, contents of the training courses and dates and locations of the training. If conducted In-house, the experience and qualifications of the instructors shall also be provided;
3. Under the Public Notification Rule, the trigger source monitoring violation is categorized as a Tier 3 violation. Under Tier 3 violation, the City is required to conduct public notifications within one year after the public water system learns of the violation. This notification may be part of the Consumer Confidence Report.

As part of the corrective actions, the City of South Gate has complied with developing the monitoring plan and will conduct the training in-house. As part of the required public notification, the City has included this information as part of the 2012 Consumer Confidence Report and will post the notification on the City's website.

For more information, please contact Mr. Ramiro Hernandez, Water Operations Foreman, at (323) 563-5796 or City of South Gate, 4244 Santa Ana Street, South Gate, California 90280.

*Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this public notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.*

**Secondary Notification Requirements**

Upon receipt of notification from a person operating a public water system, the following notification must be given within 10 days [Health and Safety Code Section 116450(g)]:

- SCHOOLS: Must notify school employees, students, and parents (if the students are minors).
- RESIDENTIAL RENTAL PROPERTY OWNERS OR MANAGERS (including nursing homes and care facilities): Must notify tenants.
- BUSINESS PROPERTY OWNERS, MANAGERS, OR OPERATORS: Must notify employees of businesses located on the property.

This notice is being provided to you by City of South Gate

State Water System ID#: 1910152 . Date distributed: June 30, 2013 .

# CIUDAD DE SOUTH GATE
# INFORME DE CONFIANZA DE CONSUMIDOR de 2012

Desde 1991, las agencias proveedoras de servicious publicos del Agua de California han emitido información sobre el agua que se provee a sus consumidores. Este informe es una copia del informe sobre la calidad del agua potable que le proveímos el año pasado. Incluímos detalles sobre el origen del agua que toma, cómo se analiza, que contiene, y cómo se compara con los límites estatales y federales. Nos esforzamos por mantenerle informado sobre la calidad de su agua, y de proporcionarle un abastecimiento confiable y económico que cumpla con todos los requisitos reglamentarios.

**¿De Dónde Proviene Mi Agua Potable?**

Su agua portable proviene de pozos profundos subterráneos que abastecen nuestra área local de servicio que muestra el mapa adjunto. En este informe se presenta la calidad del agua que llega a su hogar.

**¿Cómo Se Analiza Mi Agua que Portable?**

Su agua potable se analiza regularmente revisando niveles peligrosos de sustancias químicas, radioactividad y de bacteria en la fuente y en el sistema de distribución. Hacemos estas pruebas cada semana, cada mes, cada trimestre, y cada ano o con menos frecuencia, dependiendo de la sustancia. Las leyes estatales y federales nos permiten hacer menos pruebas a algunas sustancia porque sus niveles no cambian frecuentemente. Todos los ańalisis de calidad de agua se llevan a cabo por técnicos especialmente entrenados en laboratorios certificados estatales.

**¿Cuales Son Las Normas del Agua Potable?**

La Agencia federal de Protección al Medio Ambiente (USEPA) impone los límites de las cantidades de ciertas substancias permitidas en el agua potable. En California, el Departmento Estatal de la Salud Pública (CDPH) regula la calidad de agua de la llave haciendo cumplir límites que son al menos tan rigurosos como los de USEPA'S. Históricamente, los límites de California son más rigurosos que los Federales.

Hay dos tipos de límites conocidos como normas. Las normas primarias lo protegen de sustancias que potencialmente podrían afectar su salud. Las normas secundarias regulan las substancias que afectan la calidad estética del agua. Los reglamentos establecen un Nivel Máximos de Contaminantes (MCL, en inglés) para cada una de las normas tanto primarias como secundarias. El MCL es el nivel mas alto de substancia permitida en su agua potable.

Las Metas para la Salud Pública (MSP [o PHGs, en inglés]) son establecidas por la Agencia de Protección Ambiental de California (EPA). Las PHGs proporcionan más información con respecto a la calidad del agua potable a clientes, y son similares a los reglamentos equivalentes federales nombrados Metas de Niveles de *Maximos* de Contaminante (MCLGs, en inglés]). Las PHGs y MCLGs son metas a nivel recomendable que no se pueden hacer cumplir. Ambos niveles PHG y MCLG son concentraciones de una sustancia en las que no se conoce o se espera haya riesgos a la salud.

**¿Cómo Interpreto Mi Tabla de Información de Calidad del Agua?**

Aunque analizamos más de 100 sustancias, las reglamentos nos requireren que reportemos solo aquellas que se encuentran en su agua. La primer columna en la tabla de la calidad de agua muestra la lista de las sustancias detectadas en el agua. Las siguientes columnas muestran la lista de la concentracion promedio y el rango de concentraciones que se hayan encontrado en su agua potable. Las siguientes columnas muestran una lista del MCL y el PHG o MCLG, si estos son apropiados. La última columna describe las probables fuentes y origen de las sustancias detectadas en el agua potable.

Para revisar la calidad de su agua potable, compare la concentración más alta y el MCL. Revise todos los químicos que se encuentran mas altas que las del MCL. Por lo general, si las substancias sobrepasan el Nivel Contaminante Máximo (MCL) esto no significa una amenaza inmediata para la salud. Más bien, se requiere que se realicen análisis más frecuentemente en el abastecimiento del agua por un corto período. Si los resultados de tales análisis continúan mostrando que las substancias sobrepasen el MCL, el agua debe ser tratada para remover esa sustancia, o el abastecimiento debe de prestar servicio al público.

**¿Por Qué Hay Tanta Publicidad Sobre La Calidad Del Agua Potable?**

Las fuentes del agua potable (ambas agua de la llave y agua embotellada) incluye ríos, lagos, arroyos, lagunas, presas, manantiales, y pozos. Conforme el agua viaja sobre la superficie de la tierra o a través del suelo, se disuelve naturalmente y ocurren minerales y en algunas ocasiones, material radioactivo, y pueden levantar sustancias generadas por la presencia de animales o por actividades humanas.

Entre los contaminantes que pueden existir en las fuentes de agua se incluyen:

- Contaminantes microbianos incluyendo los virus y la bacteria, los que pueden venir de las plantas de tratamiento de aguas negras, de los sistemas sépticos, de las operaciones de ganadería, y de la vida salvaje;
- Contaminantes inorgánicos, como las sales y los metales, los cuales pueden ocurrir naturalmente o como resultado del desagüe pluvial, industrial, o de alcantarillado, producción de gas natural y petróleo, minas y agricultura.

- Pesticidas y herbicidas, los cuales pueden venir de varias fuentes tales como la agricultura, del desagüe pluvial, y de usos residenciales;
- Contaminantes de otras sustancias químicas orgánicas, incluyendo químicos orgánicos volátiles y sintéticos que son productos de procesos industriales y de la producción de petróleo, y que pueden provenir de las estaciones de gasolina, desagües pluviales urbanos, y aplicación de agricultura y de sistemas sépticos;
  - Contaminantes radioactivos, los cuales pueden ocurrir naturalmente o que pueden ser resultados de las actividades de la producción de gas natural y minería.

A fin de asegurar que el agua de la llave es segura para beber, la Agencia de Protección Ambiental (USEPA) y el Departamento de Salud Pública de California (CDPH) prescriben regulaciones que limitan la cantidad de ciertos contaminantes en el agua proporcionado por sistemas de echar agua públicos. Los reglamentos de CDPH también establecen límites para contaminantes en el agua embotellado que debe proporcionar la misma protección para la salud pública.

Es muy probable que toda el agua potable, incluyendo el agua embotellada, puede contener cantidades pequeñas de ciertos contaminantes. La presencia de contaminantes no necesariamente indica que haya algún riesgo de salud. Usted puede obtener más información acerca de contaminantes y riesgos a la salud llamando a la línea Especial de Seguridad de Agua Potable al teléfono (1-800-426-4791). También puede usted obtener más información sobre el agua potable al conectarse al Internet en los siguientes domicilios:

- **http://water.epa.gov/drink/standards/hascience.cfm** (página federal de la USEPA)
- **www.cdph.ca.gov/certlic/drinkingwater** (sitio Web de CDPH)

Si los niveles elevados del estuvieran presentes, pueden causar serios problema de salud, sobre todo para mujeres embarazadas y niños. El plomo en el agua potable es principalmente de materiales y componentes asociados con líneas de servicios y plomería residencial. La Ciudad de South Gate es responsable de proporcionar el agua potable de alta calidad, pero no puede controlar la variedad de materiales usados en los componentes de plomeria. Cuando su agua ha estado asentada durante varias horas, usted puede minimizar el potencial para la exposición de plomo dejando correr su agua de su llave durante 30 segundos a 2 minutos antes de usar el echar agua para beber o cocinarse. Si usted está preocupado por el plomo en su agua, puede ser usted elija que le hagan pruebas a su agua. Información acerca del plomo en el agua potable, métodos de hacer las pruebas, y pasos que usted puede tomar para minimizar la exposición están disponibles de la Línea directa de Agua Potable Segura o en http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.

**¿Debería de Tomar Precauciones Adicionales?**

Algunas personas pueden ser más vulnerables que otros a los contaminantes en el agua potable. Las personas que tienen problemas inmunológicos, tales como personas que estén en tratamiento para el cáncer como la quimoterapia, personas que han tenido transplantados de órganos, o personas con SIDA u otros desordenes inmunológicos, personas de edad avanzada, y los bebés pueden ser particularmente suseptibles a correr riesgo a ciertas infecciones. Estas personas deben de consultar a sus proveedores de salud médica para que les guien sobre que agua beber. Los centros de la USEPA para el Control de Enfermedades tienen una guía acerca de los medios adecuados para disminuir los riesgos de infección de Cryptosporidium y otros contaminantes microbianos y está disponibles por la USEPA en la linea Especial de Seguridad de Agua Potable en el teléfono (1-800-426-4791).

**Valoración de su Abastecimiento de Agua**

En el 2003, la Ciudad de South Gate condujo una valoración de su abastecimiento de aguas subterráneas. El abastecimiento de agua subterránea es considerado más vulnerable a pozos de agua. Una copia de la evaluación aprobado puede ser obtenido a través de la Puerta del Agua del Sur de Operaciones Foreman, Ramiro Hernández al (323) 563-5796.

**¿Cómo Puedo Participar en las Decisiones Sobre Asuntos Acerca del Agua Que Me Afectan?**

Se le invita al publico a asistir a reuniones del Concejo Municipal cada segundo y cuarto martes de cada mes a las 6:30 P.M. en la sala principal del Concejo en el Ayuntamiento en el 8650 California Avenue, South Gate, CA 90280.

**¿Cómo Me Pongo En Contacto Con Mi Agencia del Agua Si Tengo Preguntas Sobre La Calidad del Agua?**

Si tiene preguntas específicas sobre la calidad del agua potable, por favor póngase en contacto con Ramiro Hernández, SouthGate Agua Capataz de Operaciones, al (323) 563-5796.

**¿Cómo Puedo Conservar Agua en Casa?**

- Arregle las llaves que goteen en su casa - ahorre hasta 20 galones de agua cada dia por cada goteo evitado
- Ahorran entre 15 y 50 galones cada vez que lave porciones máximas al lavar su ropa
- Ajuste su sistema de rociadores para que el agua caiga en su jardin o cesped y no en la acera o area de estacionamiento - ahorre 500 gallones de agua por mes
- Use el pajote orgánico alrededor de plantas para reducir la evaporación – ahorre cientos de galones un año

**Visítenos en la pagina: www.sogate.org**

## INFORMACIÓN IMPORTANTE ACERCA DE SU AGUA POTABLE

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

# No se Han Cumplido Los Requisitos de Control Para el Departamento de Agua de la Ciudad de South Gate

Durante este año pasado, nuestro sistema de agua tuvo fallas de control tal como se requiere con las normas y por lo tanto, estuvo en violación de los reglamentos. Aunque esta falla no fue una emergencia, como clientes nuestros, tienen derecho a saber que deben hacer, que sucedió, y que hicimos para corregir esta situación.

*Se nos requiere que llevemos el control de su agua potable con regularidad de ciertos contaminantes específicos. Los resultados de un control regular indican si nuestra agua potable cumple con las normas de salud o no. El 30 de agosto de 2012, fallamos en colectar muestras bacteriológicas de nuestros pozos y de repetir muestras bacteriológicas del sistema de distribución de acuerdo a la Enmienda de la Regla de Agua Subterránea de la Ciudad del Plan Coniforme de Localización de Muestras y por lo tanto, no podemos estar seguros de la calidad de nuestra agua potable durante ese tiempo.*

**¿Qué debería yo hacer?**

- No hay nada que usted necesite hacer ahora.
- La tabla abajo muestra el contaminante(s) al que no hicimos las pruebas apropiadamente durante el año pasado, cuantas muestras se nos requiere que nos llevemos y que tan seguido, cuantas muestras nos llevamos, cuando se deberían haber llevado las muestras, y la fecha de cuando se llevaron (o se llevarán) las muestras.

| Contaminante | *Frecuencia de Muestras Requerida* | *Numero de Muestras que se Llevaron* | *Cuando se Deberían Haber Llevado Las Muestras* | *Cuando Se Llevaron o se Llevarán las Muestras* |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Bacteria Coliforme Total | Muestras repetidas después de coliforme total positivo en el sistema de distribución | ninguna | 30 de agosto, 2012 | 04 de septiembre, 2012<br>06 de septiembre, 2012 |

- Si tiene usted problemas de salud relacionadas con el consumo de esta agua, puede ser que desee consultar a su doctor.

**Que pasó?**

La Ciudad de South Gate estuvo en violación de la Regla Federal de Agua Subterránea porque fallo al no cumplir con los requisitos de control dentro de las 24 horas después de haber sido notificados de un positivo en la muestra de rutina de coliforme total. Coliformes son bacteria que están

presentes por naturaleza en el ambiente y se usan como indicadores que otra bacteria potencialmente dañina puede estar presente.

En agosto 2012, se colectó una muestra que resultó positiva para coliforme total. La Ciudad colectó tres muestras de repetición en el sitio original de coliforme total positivo de la corriente del agua hacia arriba y hacia abajo del sitio original, pero falló al no colectar muestras de repetición en los pozos.

**Que se está haciendo?**

Como resultado de esta violación, el Departamento de Salud Publica de California le ha dirigido a la Ciudad que tome las siguientes medidas:

1. Instituir un mecanismo de control interno para asegurar que todas las muestras conforman a su tiempo. El 30 de diciembre, 2012, la ciudad debería desarrollar un plan para mejorar la calidad de su programa de colectar muestras y presentar el plan al Departamento. La ciudad ha cumplido con esta acción.
3. Requiera que todos los empleados de muestras de calidad de agua reciban entrenamiento relacionado al requisito de control de las Normas Principales de Agua Potable – Calidad Bacteriológica. El entrenamiento debe ser cumplido para Junio 2013.
4. Bajo la Regla de Notificación Publica, las violaciones de los requisitos de control son clasificadas como Violaciones de Nivel 3. Bajo la violación de Nivel 3, se requiere que la Ciudad envié notificaciones publicas dentro del año después que el sistema de agua publica se entere de esta violación. Esta notificación puede ser parte del Reporte de Confianza del Consumidor

Para más información, favor de comunicarse con el Sr. Ramiro Hernandez, Jefe de Operaciones de Agua al (323) 563-5796 o a la Ciudad de South Gate, 4244 Santa Ana Street, South Gate, California 90280.

*Favor de compartir esta información con toda la gente que beba esta agua, especialmente aquellos que no hayan recibido esta notificación directamente (por ejemplo, gente en apartamentos, casas de convalecientes, escuelas y empresas). Usted puede hacer esto publicando esta notificación pública en un lugar público o distribuyendo copias personalmente o por correo.*

**Requisitos Secundarios de Notificación**
Una vez recibida una notificación de una persona operando un sistema de agua pública, la siguiente notificación debe ser entregada dentro de los siguientes 10 días [Código del Departamento de Salud y Seguridad Sección 116450(g)]:

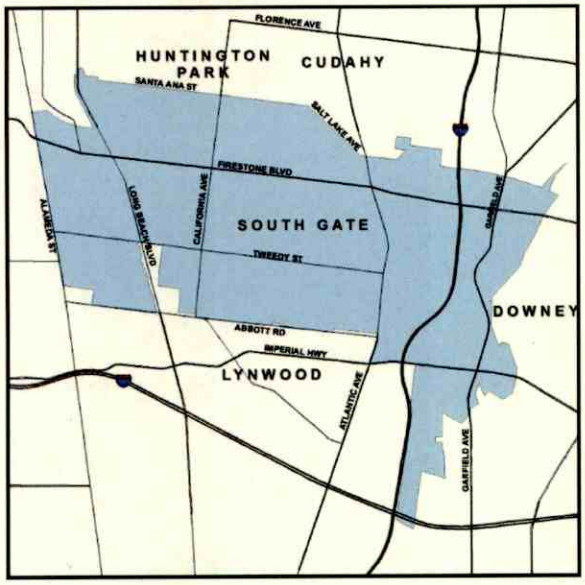
- ESCUELAS: Deben de notificar a los empleados de las escuelas, estudiantes, y padres (si los estudiantes son menores de edad).
- DUEÑOS DE PROPIEDADES RESIDENCIALES O GERENTES DE RENTA (incluyendo a casas de convalecientes y lugares de cuidado): Deben de notificar a los inquilinos.
- DUEÑOS DE PROPIEDAD DE EMPRESAS, GERENTES, Ú OPERADORES: Deben de notificar a los empleados de las empresas localizadas en la propiedad.

Este aviso se le es enviado a usted por la Ciudad de South Gate

Número de Identificación del Sistema de Agua Estatal: 1910152.
Fecha distribuida: 30 de junio, 2013.

CITY OF SOUTH GATE
8650 CALIFORNIA AVENUE
SOUTH GATE, CA 90280

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo ó hable con alguien que entienda bien. Para obtener una copia en Español, llame a (323) 563-5796.




CITY OF SOUTH GATE 2012 CONSUMER CONFIDENCE REPORT